



Kirk Stevens
Chairman, HCMA

Dear HCMA Chaplains:

This year's conference is now "in the books" as being one of the more memorable times spent with our chaplains. The Holy Spirit was evident throughout the conference and through our speaker, Rob Lloyd. The sharing time at our last meeting was filled with testimonials of chaplain hearts being touched significantly by the scriptures shared from Rob. It was clear that the "word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit..." Terry Gott led us in singing hymns that ministered to our soul and spirit. A big "THANK YOU" goes out to our conference committee, competently guided by Nancy Anderson, Fred Ouderkerken, Warren Rich, Anne Miller, and Diane Sprengel.

I would like to brief you on a few announcements that were made at the conference that impacts HCMA:

Don Jentes has formally announced his resignation from the HCMA Board of Directors. He has served on the Board for over 17 years as Vice Chairman, Nomination Chairman and Area Vice President Liaison during his service to the Board. Don's experience as a chaplain over the past 34 years, along with his history of HCMA, has made him an invaluable resource to the Board. Don has graciously allowed us to retain him in an advisory role on the Board, for which we are grateful. Thank you, Don, for your service and appreciation for HCMA!

Larry Montgomery announced that he is stepping down as President/CEO of HCMA and will resume his role on the Board. Larry approached me on the subject of becoming an interim CEO during our November, 2021 in-person board meeting since the position had been vacant from the departure of Jeff Funk. Since that time, Larry has volunteered his time at the HCMA office for almost three years. Earlier this year in February, Larry and Julie were married and are currently living in Mesa, Arizona. Larry will fill the position of Vice Chairman that was vacated by Don Jentes. I have shared a wonderful friendship with Larry during the course of this transition period. I wish Larry and Julie much happiness.

Nonetheless, the Lord has graciously led HCMA to Fred Ouderkerken as our next President and CEO. Fred is no stranger to our organization. He has put in a lot of time and energy on the Conference Committee towards the goal of making our conference a success.

Fred became a chaplain in 2015 as a result of one of our former board members, Ken Heuer. Ken was Fred's mentor and was one of the main reasons Fred's joined HCMA and became a chaplain. Fred and his wife, Mitzi, are now ministering at Calvary Community Church in Brea, where Fred serves on the elder board and has been commissioned to shepherd and pastor the people in the community.

One of the things that impressed me about Fred is that he really loves doing the work of a chaplain. Fred explained, "Throughout my time as a chaplain, God has continued to reveal His gracious nature to me and those with whom I interact. I have received the amazing privilege of watching and participating in God's loving pursuit of the people He cares for so much."

Based on the decision of the Nominating Committee, chaired by Don Jentes, and the unanimous decision of the Board of Directors, it is my pleasure to announce to you our next President/CEO, Fred Ouderkerken. Please keep Fred and Mitzi in your prayers as he transitions to his new position on behalf of HCMA.

