



Lighthouse News



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A Commander's Message — by Chaplain Bill Weimer

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FM: CINCUNIV

TO: ALL MILITARY CHRISTIANS

SUBJ: SERVING IN A SECULAR INSTITUTION

1. Our world today is characterized by shifts in national power relationships and by turbulent change in the lives of military personnel. Many of you have executed PCS moves, or will soon do so, and others are uncertain about your future or that of your family.

2. I want you to know this: not only did I permit your current assignments, but I personally detailed and had orders cut for each one of you. Where you are now is not—repeat, not—because of some admin mix-up or powerful “political” person or nameless bureaucrat. Instead, by My word and authority, I commissioned you to serve Me while you serve in the Armed Forces. Therefore, I address this message to all of you, wherever I have placed you. Where I send you, you are to go and to act according to My instructions, with My authority. Here are My guidelines for you:

(A) Move into government housing if this is available and your wait is not too long; otherwise buy or rent a residence in the area. But I want you to settle down there, as integral members of your military command and community—physically, socially, emotionally and spiritually. I have called you (for a few years or indefinitely) to the military—and I have plans to use you uniquely while you are there. The world, the military and I need to have an increasing number of individuals and families who serve under My command and who will live their lives among others according to My guidelines and standards.

(B) If you have a family, I want husbands to love your wives as My Son loved the Church. Wives, respect your husbands and honor them in all you do. Work together to build My kingdom on earth. Guide your sons



MCPO Penny Koons and Vic Primeaux at the commissioning ceremony for CGC SEA FOX (WPB 87374) held at NUWC Keyport, WA. MCPO Koons is the Command Master Chief for Maritime Force Protection Unit—Bangor which is the parent unit for SEA FOX. The 13th District Commander, **RADM Gary Blore**, presided at the ceremony where the patrol boat's official sponsor, **Mrs. Janet Bowen**, wife of **MCPO-CG Charles Bowen**, joined **CWO3 Michael Lemay**, CO of SEA FOX, at the podium to pass the official order to “bring the ship to life.” (Photo below courtesy U.S. Coast Guard by PA2 Eric J. Chandler)



and daughters spiritually and morally as they grow up. Counsel and assist them as they seek out their own wives or husbands in Christian marriage. Then they, too, will establish Christian homes that will demonstrate my love in action.

(C) A point I want to emphasize concerns how you fit into your command. I instruct you—I expect you—to work hard for the morale, the esprit de corps, the cooperation, the teamwork and the mission accomplishment of the command to which I have sent you. Pray regularly for it, for its leaders, and for its personnel—especially for individuals by name—for in your unit's performance, prosperity and peace, you too will benefit.

(D) As you become established in your home and in your specific duties, I expect you to identify yourself as one of My people by your actions and words. Since I have commissioned you as My ambassador to the military, seek those at your place of duty who

are like-minded and worship Me with them. Practice hospitality with them for the purpose of fellowship, prayer and continued study of My Word. As you meet and pray, listen to Me carefully, and I will lead you to those with whom you work and live, whom I desire to draw to Myself through you. Reach out to them with My love as you show them My redemption through My Son and teach them to obey My commandments. The Holy Spirit has given you special gifts for this purpose. Use these gifts and opportunities with all wisdom, love and diligence.

(E) I caution you: do not allow non-believers, skeptics, cynics, critics or complainers to deceive you by their views and values. Do not let their false philosophies or their daydreams to misdirect you. They may even speak in religious language to misrepresent Me and My instructions to you. But I have not authorized them; they are not loyal to Me. In order for you to discern such false perspectives, you need to review regularly the principles and policies I have previously promulgated.

(F) When My appointed time for you in the military is up, I will fulfill My commitment to you and bring you back into a civilian community. I know the plans I have for you—plans for you to be effective and productive where you are now and where I will lead you in the future.

(G) My purpose for you is neither failure nor for you to feel isolated or useless. My word of encouragement to you is this: always have hope, and work by faith in the present and toward the future. Call upon Me and communicate with Me directly, and be assured I will listen to you and will respond. Seek Me out with all your heart, and you will find Me. My grace, peace and authority are with you wherever you go.

3. Released personally by CINCUNIV.

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COMM CTR REF—JER 29:1-13; EPH 5

Masthead photo of the National Coast Guard Coast Memorial Service at the annual Coast Guard Festival held at Escanaba Park in Grand Haven, Michigan, with CGC MACKINAW in the background. Photo courtesy of Geoffrey D'Aria, Coast Guard Auxiliary.

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