

ITEM C.209
FOR INFORMATION

PRESBYTERIAN COUNCIL FOR CHAPLAINS AND MILITARY PERSONNEL (PCCMP)

The Presbyterian Council for Chaplains and Military Personnel (PCCMP) serves four denominations: the PCUSA, the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, the Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America, and the Korean Presbyterian Church Abroad. The Council has two functions:

- 1) **Vocationally**, it endorses clergy seeking to serve as chaplains in either the military, the Department of Veterans Affairs, or the Civil Air Patrol. In this role, it acts on behalf of the Stated Clerks of its four member denominations. The Department of Defense and the Department of Veterans Affairs *require* that all clergypersons seeking to become a chaplain receive an endorsement from the religious group to which they belong. Presbyteries must approve the request of any clergyperson to seek a call to chaplaincy; that approval becomes part of the clergyperson's application to seek endorsement from the PCCMP.
- 2) **Pastorally**, the PCCMP provides ongoing care for chaplains and their families. In the PCUSA, the PCCMP is a part of the Presbyterian Mission Agency and is in relationship with Evangelism and Church Growth. In their capacity, the Director and the Associate Director of PCCMP visit chaplains and their families all over the world, provide personal and professional counseling, and oversee an annual retreat that offers an opportunity for chaplains and their families to connect with other and receive training.

The PCCMP has a board of directors consisting of representatives from all four of its denominations. Its office is located at the National Presbyterian Church in Washington, DC.

The past few months have been a time of transition for the PCCMP. Ed Brogan retired after 13 years of distinguished service. His last day was May 31, 2014; the Council and the four denominations served by the PCCMP are grateful for the service he provided during a time when the demands placed upon military personnel and their families were many and varied.

On June 1, 2014, Dr. Lawrence Greenslit became the Director of the PCCMP. He retired from the Navy in 2013 after serving 27 years as a chaplain. Dr. Donald Wilson, a retired Air Force chaplain, continues as the Associate Director for the Council.