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For to us a Child is born, to us a Son is given; and the government shall be upon His shoulder, and His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of His government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over His kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this. *Isaiah 9:6-7*

Directors Message

Greetings Chaplains,

As we enter this sacred season of Advent, Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries pauses with deep gratitude for each of you. Your ministry of presence, compassion, and spiritual guidance bring light to individuals and families navigating some of life's most challenging moments. Thank you for the sacred work you do, often quietly, faithfully, and unseen, yet always profoundly impactful.

Advent invites us to reflect on the enduring promise spoken more than two millennia ago: "Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel," which means, "God with us." (Matthew 1:23, NKJV). This declaration is far more than a theological affirmation; it is the foundation of our hope, the anchor of our calling, and the assurance that sustains us in times of uncertainty.

As chaplains, you have walked beside others through grief and joy, crisis and recovery, doubt and renewal. You know well that the peaks and valleys experienced by those you serve often parallel your own journey of ministry. Yet through every season, one truth remains unshaken: God has been with us.

In moments when the path was unclear, when the weight of responsibility pressed upon you, or when you poured out more than you felt you had left to give, God was there. His presence has been your strength, your wisdom, and your peace.

Advent also reminds us that uncertainty is not new to God's people. Joseph, too, faced deep uncertainty when he learned that Mary would bear a Son conceived by the Holy Spirit. Though he could not see the full picture, he chose to trust, and in doing so encountered the profound reality that the Child to come would be the Savior, Immanuel, God with us.

As we embrace this season, may we be encouraged that the God who has walked with us thus far will continue to walk with us in the days ahead.

May God abundantly bless you and your families this Christmas season. And as we look toward the new year, may we also lift our eyes in joyful anticipation of the great day when Christ will return as King of kings and Lord of lords.

Washington Johnson II



Announcements

You are invited to send and share with us any job opportunities and special highlights in your ministry.

Please send us any prayer requests as we dedicate a special time on Mondays for our chaplains and their families.

Please enjoy watching “Expanding Roles of Chaplains”. More shows can be viewed from the NAD Public Affairs and Religious Liberty YouTube channel and Hope TV starting Sunday evening at 6pm. Please share and subscribe.

<https://youtu.be/-mpDypCoRQg?si=LsXGKf05mLDcwY3c>

If you would like to further connect with your Conference and receive an introductory letter from our office, email us with your name, place of employment, current church you are attending, and the Conference you are residing in.

With humility and gratitude, our department praises God for the following accomplishments over the past four years

Ecclesiastical Endorsements processed				Chaplains Commissioned & Ordained By Local Conferences			
2022	2023	2024	2025	2022	2023	2024	2025
78	94	72	81	4	5	7	2

Together we move forward under the leading of the Holy Spirit in serving others and sharing love wherever we are.

Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries of the North American Division is pleased to welcome Chaplain Denny Rengifo, who will serve as the Associate Director for Healthcare and Campus Ministries for the Eastern Region, which includes the Southern, Lake, Columbia, and Atlantic Unions. She is a graduate of Southern Adventist University, where she earned a Bachelor of Arts in Pastoral Care with a minor in Biblical Languages, and a Master of Divinity from the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary.



She is a board-certified chaplain, previously serving as Chaplain Manager at White Oak Medical Center, Adventist HealthCare. She served with this organization for the last nine years and has gained expertise in the areas of grief, ethics, and palliative care. She also serves as a military chaplain in the United States Air Force Reserve, an IMA assigned to the 633rd Air Base Wing located at Langley Air Force Base, Virginia.

Chaplain Rengifo is married to Pastor John Rengifo, Ministerial Director for the Chesapeake Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, and they have three lovely children: Sophia, Jasmine, and Benjamin. We pray God’s richest blessings upon Chaplain Rengifo and her family as she transitions to Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries.

Resources

We are excited to share valuable resources for chaplains’ spouses in this edition of the ACM newsletter!

During the 2025 NAD Year-End Meeting, several insightful presentations were created exclusively for ministerial spouses, offering practical guidance and encouragement. These resources, generously provided by the NAD Ministerial Spouses’ Department, cover a range of important topics, including Cultural Competency, Emotional Intelligence, and Living in Anticipation of Christ’s Return. A Spiritual Gifts Assessment is also included.

We invite you to explore these resources at your convenience, and hope the presentations will be a blessing to you!

[Living in Anticipation of Christ Return](#)

[Spiritual Gifts Assessment](#)

[Cultural Competency for Wisdom and Witness](#)

[Thriving Minds - Harnessing Emotional Intelligence for Mental Health](#)



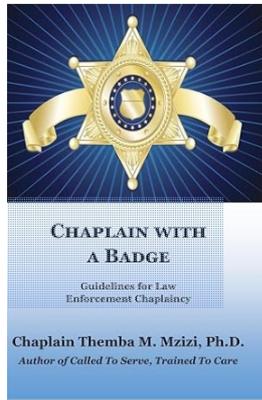
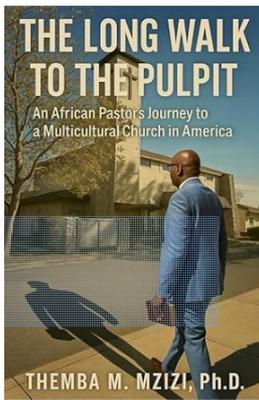
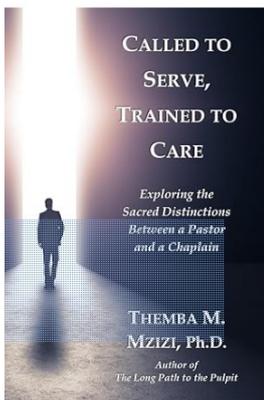
Resources Continued



Thanks for following!

As a follower of Themba M. Mzizi Ph.D., you'll receive new release alerts, recommendations, and more.

Learn more about the
author



Popular titles by Themba M. Mzizi Ph.D.

Recent Events

Naval Chaplaincy School Graduation
November 20, 2025



From left to right : Chaplain Maxwell Urbina, Chaplain Alexander Ramirez Moreno, and Chaplain Ilko Tchakarov.

Adventist Health and Rideout holds inaugural Interfaith Summit

Under the leadership of Chaplain Francisco Cross, the Adventist Health and Rideout Mission and Spiritual Care team hosted the hospital's inaugural Interfaith Summit on October 23. The event worked to create trust and build rapport with fellow faith leaders. More than 130 local faith leaders, community partners, and Adventist Health associates gathered for a day of prayer, reflection, and discussion designed to strengthen partnerships across faiths and deepen the shared mission of serving the Yuba-Sutter community.



Pastors and chaplains are
ministers called by God
to serve in furthering
God's kingdom wherever
we are called.

-NAD ACM

ACM's Commitment & Expectations

Our Commitment to You

- Represent denominational interests related to chaplaincies to ecclesiastical, government, and professional agencies, institutions and organizations.
- Serve as your endorsing agency and liaison with your Conference
- Provide annual professional development opportunities
- Assist you with obtaining ministerial license/credentials
- Provide you with resources to aid in your ministry
- Support you in resolving issues around accommodation of religious practices.
- Publish ACM newsletter to be informative
- Attend special events in your ministry, i.e. promotions, ordinations.
- Offer mentoring and confidential counseling for your personal and professional growth.
- Pray for you and your loved ones.

Our Expectations of You

- Faithfully and loyally represent denominational beliefs, practices, policies and interest to church members and the public as endorsed "ambassadors of Christ" and His church.
- Provide professional spiritual and moral support in a pluralistic environment
- Practice professional ethics aligned with your ministerial calling and credentials.
- Inform ACM of any potential difficulty that may impact your career progression or endorsement.
- Invite ACM Director and ACM Associate Directors to attend any special events (promotions, retirement, etc.)
- Keep ACM database current with your personal and professional information and submit annual reports to ACM. *Military chaplains upload your "New Orders" to your profile.
- Obtain financial support from your employer for attending professional development opportunities.
- Engage with and support your local church pastor and congregation.
- Initiate contact with your local Conference officers
- Practice Self-care on a regular basis



Associate Director's Corner

Dear friends and colleagues:

I am grateful to God's blessings and guidance as we wrap up 2025. For some, this has been a year of joy and accomplishments. To many, it is a year with challenges or exhaustion. One of my college classmates is grieving the loss of her dear husband. Another good friend of mine was going through cancer treatment and currently in recovery. Showing care for our loved ones and friends on top of our responsibilities can bring exhaustion, even though we are doing good.

During this last month of 2025, may I invite you to pause with me? Find a time, a day, or a weekend to spend it with yourself. Reflect on: the goodness of God, how tired we are, and what needs to be let go of in order bring joy and peace in your life. Our family, friends, and people we support count on us to always have a reservoir. God will supply when we pause and ask for a refill. As we show compassion to others, may we first show compassion to ourselves.

I would also like to share my Prayer Plans with you and hope this can add to our prayer life in 2026.

Monday - Pray for my family and myself (compassion, guidance, protection, to know God better, etc.).

Tuesday - Pray for people who are suffering and/or in hardship.

Wednesday - Pray for my church families, friends, and relatives.

Thursday - Pray for my workplace and people I support.

Friday - Pray for my country, leaders, church leaders, and our soldiers.

Sabbath - Pray and listen for the still small voice.

Sunday - Pray for strength, peace, guidance, and whatever else in my heart.

As a parent of two young adults, I especially cherish the moments our whole family can be together. The holidays nowadays are much more special. Like many of you, I keep them close to my heart by praying for them. I would like to offer this prayer for all of our beloved children:

Dear God, with this prayer, I humbly ask for your grace and blessings on our children. May you pour out your love, protection, wisdom, and courage on them. If they are in school, grant them a willing heart to learn. If they are pursuing a career, grant them diligence and integrity. May you surround them with friends who value kindness and compassion. Please protect them from all temptation and danger. As they are on various stages of their spiritual journey, I trust your love will cover them in every turn. Thank you for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen.

May we enter 2026 with renewed strength, anticipation, and joy beyond measures. Have a blessed Christmas and New Year!

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Merry Christmas and Happy New Year !

