

SENIOR LEADER REFLECTIONS

From the Regimental Sergeant Major

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Along with our peers in the other military services, our Army Chaplain Corps' religious affairs specialists have vitally important contributions to make to the military chaplaincy's ongoing professional conversation. The newly renamed *Military Chaplaincy Review* recognizes that fact. It calls us back to the joint days of the *Military Chaplains' Review* (1972-1992), with the important recognition that military chaplaincy is a team effort.

In the May 2024 issue of the *U.S. Army Chaplain Corps Journal*, I challenged our Army's religious affairs specialists to consider how they could contribute to our Corps' ongoing developmental conversation, in the *Journal* and otherwise. In this first issue of the *Military Chaplaincy Review*, I challenge military chaplains across the services and at every level to support all your religious support teammates in this important work. Be charitable and encouraging conversation partners for them. Give them the time and space to work out their ideas on paper. Provide constructive feedback. Make their hard work visible to their leaders and celebrate their accomplishments along the way.

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U.S. Army Chaplain Corps and Regimental Sergeant Major

SGM Meaghan Simmons is a native of Pevely, Missouri, and entered the United States Army on 14 November 2002. She attended Basic Combat Training and trained as a Chaplain Assistant 56M at Fort Jackson, South Carolina.

Her duty assignments have included: Office of the Chief of Chaplains Strategy, Proponency and Resources (SPR) Directorate Sergeant Major, V Corps, Fort Knox, Kentucky; 1st Theater Sustainment Command, Fort Knox, Kentucky; Installation Management Command Europe, Sembach Germany; Headquarters and Headquarters Company, United States Army Garrison Benelux, Chievres, Belgium; Headquarters and Headquarters Company, United States Army Garrison Fort Campbell, Kentucky; Headquarters and Headquarters Company, Noncommissioned Officer Academy, Fort Jackson South Carolina; Headquarters and Headquarters Company, United States Army Chaplain Center and School, Fort Jackson, South Carolina; Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 101st Air Assault Division, Fort Campbell, Kentucky, where she deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom 07-09; Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2-101 Brigade, Special Troops Battalion, Fort Campbell, Kentucky; Headquarters and Headquarters Company, United States Army Garrison Hawaii, Schofield Barracks, Hawaii. She is currently assigned to the Office of the Chief of Chaplains, where she serves as the Chaplain Corps and Regimental Sergeant Major.

SGM Simmons' military education includes the Warrior Leader Course, the Advanced Leaders Course, Phase I and Phase 2, and the Senior Leader Course. She is a graduate of Sergeants Major Non-Resident Class 48, the Instructor Course, the Small Group Instructor Course, the Chaplaincy Resource Managers Course, and the Master Resiliency Course. She is also pursuing her Doctorate in Business Administration at Trident University International. SGM Bicklein holds a Master of Science degree in Organizational Leadership from Trident University International and a Bachelor's degree in Religious Studies from Liberty University.

SGM Simmons' awards and decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal (5th award), Army Commendation Medal (6th award), Army Achievement Medal (5th award), Army Good Conduct Medal (5th award), National Defense Service Medal, Iraqi Campaign Medal w/ a Campaign Star, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, NCO Professional Development Ribbon (numeral 5), Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon (numeral 4), and Driver and Mechanic Badge.

SGM Simmons has one child.

July 2025 will mark 250 years of military chaplaincy in America and in the U.S. Army, in particular. Chaplain assistants and now religious affairs specialists are vital parts of that history and tradition, as are our other religious support teammates. I challenge us all to dig into that history, to help tell that story, and to consider how we can work together, in the pages of the *Review* and otherwise, to help shape the future of the military chaplaincies across the globe.

Pro Deo et Patria!

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