



## **THE REV. DONALD K. MUCHOW, RADM CHC, USN (RET)**

Rear Admiral Donald K. Muchow served as the US Navy's twentieth Chief of Chaplains. Born in Framingham, MA, he grew up in Ashland and Holliston, MA, and Winter Haven, FL. He received a Bachelor of Arts Degree in 1959 from Concordia Senior College, Ft. Wayne, IN, and a Master of Divinity Degree in 1962 from Concordia Theological Seminary, St. Louis, MO. Ordained into the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod in 1962, Chaplain Muchow served as an inner-city missionary in Baltimore, MD, and pastor at Trinity Lutheran Church in Richmond, VA

Commissioned in the Naval Reserve in 1964 and ordered to active duty in 1967, his assignments ranged from serving various warships, combat Marines, naval hospitals and shore bases. His ministry carried him from Africa, the Middle East, the Far East and the Arabian Desert, to the Caribbean, Mediterranean, Atlantic and Pacific areas.

In 1988, he became the Director, Naval Chaplains School in Newport, RI. His next tours of duty were in Washington DC as the Deputy Chief of Navy Chaplains (1991-1994), and Chief of Navy Chaplains (1994-1997). As the Chief, he ensured the delivery of ministries to all active duty and Reserve personnel and their families throughout the Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and Merchant Marine. From 1994-1997, he served also as the Chairman of the Armed Forces Chaplains Board on the staff of the Secretary of Defense. Chaplain Muchow's numerous military awards include the Navy Distinguished Service Medal, the Defense Superior Service Medal, and the Legion of Merit (2).

Currently he serves a member of the BOARD OF DIRECTORS of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod; and has served as its Chairman during 1998-2001 and 2007-2010, He has served as Vice Chairman of the Synod's BOARD FOR PASTORAL EDUCATION (2004-2007), and a member of the National Steering Committee, FOR THE SAKE OF THE CHURCH (2002- 2007), devoted to doubling Lutheran student enrollment and increasing the endowment among ten Lutheran colleges and universities. In recent years he has also served as an Interim Pastor with congregations in Houston, Port Isabel and Austin, TX, and assisted the NROTC training unit at the University of Texas. Currently he also serves as the Chaplain to the Buda Police Department and Chairman of the Buda Ministerial Alliance.

He holds an honorary Doctor of Divinity Degree from Concordia Seminary, Edmonton, Alberta, and an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters from Concordia College, Bronxville, NY. He has been awarded the Distinguished Alumni Award from Concordia Theological Seminary in St. Louis, MO, the Christian Leader Award from Concordia University, Austin, TX, and the Light of the World award from Concordia University, Mequon, WI..

Throughout his ministry Chaplain Muchow has been ably accompanied by his wife, Monie (Eberhard), of Cordova MD. They live in Buda, TX and are blessed by two sons, and their families. The eldest son, Steve, works as defense industry software engineer and lives in Georgetown, TX; the younger son, Jeff, serves as Associate Pastor at Epiphany Lutheran Church, Houston, TX.