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ITC to Celebrate Its First Annual Military Chaplains Appreciation Day

(November 6, 2007—Atlanta, GA) The Interdenominational Theological Center (ITC) will host its First Annual Military Chaplains Appreciation Day on Tuesday, November 13, 2007 during the President's Chapel Hour at 11 a.m., to honor the many women and men who have matriculated through ITC and are now serving, or have previously served in the United States Military as chaplains.

This first of its kind service will highlight the extraordinary contributions of brave and committed women and men serving our nations military in this very critical role as commissioned chaplains, both abroad and within the United States. Dr. Michael A. Battle, President of ITC, is a Retired Lt. Colonel, of the US Army, with 20 years of service. The ITC campus currently has many full and part-time students who are serving on active duty in other capacities in the US Military. There are, too, a significant number of veterans and retired military enlisted and commissioned officers who are now enrolled at ITC

The First Annual Chaplains Appreciation Day is being made possible by funding from the Welcome All Baptist Church in Atlanta, where Rev. Mack Simmons serves as Senior Pastor. According to organizers, the occasion is to "recognize and honor those persons who are in the military chaplaincy." According to Dr. Frances Bryant-Lowery, ITC's Chief Student Affairs Officer, "It is also a means of showing to these individuals, as individuals and as a corporate community of faith, our clear and sincere appreciation for their distinguished service to our community and nation."

Dr. Bryant-Lowery commented on how honored ITC is with having prepared so many individuals who have and are serving so well. "All these individuals are appreciated for their courage and commitment to God and country. It is the intent of Pastor Mack Simmons to simply say 'thanks and job well done,'" Bryant-Lowery explained. "His intent is for him and his church to financially underwrite this celebration annually."

According to ITC sources, hundreds of students have chosen the military chaplaincy as a ministerial career option. This celebration will include an opportunity for current graduate students at ITC to be introduced to the Chaplaincy as a potential military career.

Chaplains Appreciation Day (cont.)

Following the service, the United States Navy will host a luncheon in the James H. Costen Center for individuals who have a specific interest in learning about opportunities in the military as chaplains.

The celebration will also include special music, presentations and a special guest speaker, who is an alumna of ITC and is currently serving on active duty. Ammie Davis Miller, 42, is a native of Philadelphia, Mississippi and the second of seven children born to Mrs. Thelma Butler and Mr. Charles Lee Davis. During her childhood, she said she learned the value of hard work and determination as she helped care for her siblings.

She received her bachelor of science degree in Business Administration and Human Resource Management in 2000 from Southern New Hampshire University. After fourteen and one-half years of enlisted service, Chaplain Miller was commissioned as a Chaplain Candidate Program Officer in the United States Navy Reserves in April of 2002. In August 2002, Chaplain Davis Miller graduated from the Navy Chaplains School in Newport, Rhode Island, subsequently reporting to Turner Theological Seminary at the Interdenominational Theological Center Atlanta, Georgia.

Chaplain Davis Miller has served her country as Hospital Corpsman, Emergency Medical Technician, Physical Therapy Technician and member of the All Navy, All Marines and All Armed Forces Women's Basketball Team. Her military experience is quite extensive both as an enlisted and as a commissioned officer.

In May of 2004, she graduated with honors from Turner Theological Seminary of the Interdenominational Theological Center, Atlanta Georgia. While a student at Turner Theological Seminary, she was elected President of the Turner Seminary Fellowship, inducted into the International Society of Theta Phi Honor Society and Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges. In August 2005, Chaplain Davis Miller graduated from Tools, Empowerment and Ministry Skills (TEAMS) Course in Newport, Rhode Island and was commissioned for active duty on August 12, 2005.

Chaplain Davis Miller's personal achievements and awards are as follows: Navy Achievement Medal (2nd Award) Meritorious Unit Commendation (2nd Award) Good Conduct Award (3rd Award) National Defense Service Medal (2nd Award) Humanitarian Service Medal (2nd Award) Naval and Marine Corps Overseas Service Ribbon (3rd award).

Chaplain Davis Miller's ministries include but are not limited to:

- Assistant Command Chaplain and Protestant Staff Chaplain at Marine Corps Air Station Beaufort, South Carolina from October 2005 to present
- Senior Pastor at Turner Chapel AME Church from November 2003 to October 2005
- Youth Pastor, Allen Chapel AME Church, Atlanta Georgia from October 2002 to November 2003.
- Young Adult Pastor, Mount Olive AME Church, Slidell, Louisiana from July 2000 to April 2001.

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Chaplains Appreciation Day (cont.)

- Associate Minister, Saint Luke AME Church, St. Croix, Virgin Islands, March 1999 to July 2000.
- Youth Minister, Ceiba Church of the Living God International, Ceiba, Puerto Rico, August 1997 to March 1999.

Chaplain Davis Miller's accomplishments include:

- Ordained an Itinerant Deacon and Elder in 2000 and 2002 respectfully by Bishop Cornal Garnett Henning Sr., Presiding Prelate of the 8th Episcopal District (Louisiana and Mississippi).
- Member of the African Methodist Episcopal Church Strategic Planning Team
- Raised over \$12,000.00 to create the Charles Hurley James Computer Lab and Resource in Talbot Hall of Turner Theological Seminary in the Fall of 2003.
- In 2006, she presented Turner Theological Seminary \$23,000.00 for Mortgage Debt Retirement through the Alumni Fund Development Campaign.
- Implemented the "Feed My Sheep" Ministry onboard the MCAS Beaufort Command, a ministry which provides quarterly gift certificates of \$50 to junior enlisted Marines and Sailors who are in need.

SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Command Chaplain: My role as a confidant, mentor, and advisor has been an integral part of the overall operational and family readiness success of my command which earned me the confidence of the Commanding Officer to fill the Command Chaplain billet (January 2007 through July 2007) until relief orders were executed in July 2007.

High Profile Memorial Service: Chaplain to respond to the crash of Blue Angel #6 of the Naval Flight Demonstration Squadron Pensacola Florida during the Marine Corps Air Station Beaufort Air Show. Blue Angel #6 died in the crash and I was able to render Pastor Care to the Parents, Pilots and Crewmembers of the deceased. Held a Memorial Service in honor of Blue Angel #6 at the crash site on April 27, 2007. I received an impact Navy Achievement Award from Colonel Robert Lanham, Commanding Officer for my efforts during this crisis.

Chaplain Davis Miller says, "My life is a testimony to the incredible mercy and boundless grace of God through which we all are saved — persistence is the key."

ITC is currently celebrating its 50th Anniversary with a number of special events and services. For further information about the First Annual Military Chaplains Appreciation Day, call, 404.527-7793 or go to www.itc.edu.

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