



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
NAVAL CHAPLAINCY SCHOOL  
114 PORTER AVENUE  
NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND 02841

7 Jul 23

Greetings from the home of Professional Naval Chaplaincy,

For generations the Naval Chaplaincy School in Newport, Rhode Island has inspired and equipped men and women to deliver religious ministry in the sea services of the United States of America. Navy Chaplains serve in the Navy, the Marine Corps, in the Coast Guard, and at the Merchant Marine Academy. Since 1979, they have been supported in this valuable work by sailors designated as Religious Program Specialists. Today, these sailors are also trained and educated at the Naval Chaplaincy School.

The long and storied history of the Chaplain Corps, dating all the way back to the days of the Continental Navy, has produced hundreds of artifacts and thousands of documents. This treasure of richly diverse service to human beings, even under some the most inhumane circumstances imaginable, is currently disorganized and inaccessible to the public.

As the Commanding Officer, I feel a deep responsibility to tell the inspiring stories of those who have gone before us and to open our archives to the whole world. In order to do that I need the help of people passionate about the preservation of history, dedicated to the sharing of information, and committed to transparency in the pursuit of greater wisdom. I need people who want to help tell the stories of those who have lost their voice or who were unheard in their day. I need library scientists.

We have an archive of artifacts, articles, photos, artwork, and professional papers that need to be cataloged, digitized, and made available to the public. I'm hoping that you have students in need of a project who are willing to partner with us, as volunteers. Perhaps you have a student or students who could help us develop a plan for making our archive available to the public. Maybe you have students able to actually help us organize and digitize the information. We cannot pay for their work but we are more than happy to verify the work accomplished and support the academic processes of your institution.

For our part, we will treat your students as full partners and honor their contribution with the same respect in which we hold the work of the people whose service we seek to honor. We are open to your suggestions and eager to cooperate with fellow professionals.

If you would like to discuss this opportunity further, I invite you to contact me by either e-mail or phone at [charles.e.varsogea.mil@us.navy.mil](mailto:charles.e.varsogea.mil@us.navy.mil) or (401) 841-3923.

Very Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Charles Varsogea".

C. E. VARSOGEA  
Captain, U.S. Navy  
Commanding Officer