

INTRODUCTION TO Chaplain of the Day/Week Program 2018

Dear Representatives:

It is an honor to be the Chaplain Coordinator for the 2018 Legislative Session. Below you will find background information for the Chaplain Program and details on how to participate.

Every Representative has come to the House of Representatives with a mission in their heart. They have been placed here by God and elected by the people who believe their Representatives' vision of government will have a positive impact on our wonderful state. Oklahoma has 77 counties and 513 school districts, with over 3.8 million people represented by 101 House Members and 48 Senators. All these voices converge at the State Capitol and it is with humility that we seek God's guidance as we make decisions that affect the lives of all Oklahomans.

At the beginning of each day's Session, we pause and take a moment while the Chaplain asks for God's hand to guide us before commencing work on the Peoples' business.

The Chaplain Program is not a platform for personal agendas, but an opportunity to ask for God's wisdom and to speak blessing and hope over those who are often overwhelmed by the many voices that are converging upon them. It is an opportunity to invoke wisdom, understanding, wise counsel, strength, favor, patience, and direction into the atmosphere, giving the Representatives a unified platform to launch from as they seek to present their ideas and thoughts with clarity.

During this Session, some weeks are reserved for **Chaplain of the Week** while others are reserved for **Chaplain of the Day**. Representatives will be able to sponsor one minister for either program. **We do ask that the Chaplain be from the Representative's own place of worship.** Scheduling and participation is based on a first come, first serve basis.

- Please see the detailed instructions attached for how to view the dates and request for chaplain of the day and chaplain of the week.
- Chaplain requests will be processed as they are received.
- **IMPORTANT: Please understand that it is important that the chaplain not take this as an opportunity to lecture the legislature or try to advance a political agenda.**
- If a member wishes to have their Chaplain's remarks recorded in the House Journal the day their chaplain spoke, they must provide an electronic record of the remarks to my office and Journal Clerk Kris Mattison by the close of business.
- Representatives will need to ensure their Chaplain is in the Chamber at the beginning of session.

I'm attaching the Chaplain Program packet for more specific details. It may also be found on the Media (H) drive, in the folder called, "Chaplain Program 2018." Please provide all of the information requested when filling out the online form.

Requests for exceptions to the guidelines provided in this introduction letter and the attached instructions will be handled on an individual basis.

If you have any questions after reviewing the program, please email my interim assistant, Jessica McClung, or call her at extension 125. My session-only assistant will be handling the program for my office when they begin in January 2018.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Chuck Strohm". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Chuck" and last name "Strohm" clearly legible.

Rep. Chuck Strohm
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