



June 12, 2010

Fellow Chaplains;

As professional chaplains we are always seeking educational opportunities provided by excellent speakers to enhance the quality of care we provide. I am writing to commend such a speaker to you.

At the 2010 Conference of the North Carolina Chaplains Association we were blessed to have Robert L. Friedman, M.A serve as our keynote speaker. His topic was "Pathways to Spiritual Well-Being: Skill, Strategies, and Practice" and his primary foci were stress management and self care. Robert took a topic that can seem overdone and breathed new life into it. His passion for his work, care for his audience, mastery of the subject, and openness of his spirit and heart created an atmosphere of personal learning that easily translates into quality care of others. Robert is one of those rare speakers who willingly engage the audience individually as well as collectively. His openness to conversation and socialization with the group during breaks, meals and free time created a learning bond that we rarely encounter at large educational events. As a result, our conference evaluations were the most positive we have ever received.

During our conference I asked Robert how presenting for chaplains was different from the corporate groups to which he was accustomed. He quickly and positively replied that he felt at home with chaplains because we live from the heart. Robert has expressed the desire to provide educational events for other chaplain groups. I believe that facilitating this will create a blessing for all involved and I encourage you to consider Robert as you plan your future educational events.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rev. Jackie H. Allen".

Rev. Jackie H. Allen, BCC
President
North Carolina Chaplains Association