



United States Navy Biography

Lieutenant Commander Robert D. Johnson, CHC, USN Basic Leadership Course Officer, Naval Chaplaincy School and Center

Lt. Cmdr. Johnson is a native of Centennial, Colorado. He earned his bachelor's degree in Pastoral Studies at Bob Jones University in 2002 while concurrently serving as associate pastor at Hope Baptist Church in Greenville, SC. He then graduated from Bob Jones Seminary in May 2005 with a Master of Divinity degree and was subsequently commissioned as an active-duty chaplain in August 2005.

Chaplain Johnson served with 5th Battalion, 10th Marines, deploying to Afghanistan as the Brigade Headquarters Group Chaplain for Task Force Leatherneck in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. In addition, he served as the deputy command chaplain aboard USS NIMITZ (CVN 68), deploying to the Arabian Gulf in support of Operation Inherent Resolve.



Prior to his commissioning, Chaplain Johnson enlisted in the US Navy in January 1994, completing basic training, Electrician Mate's 'A' School and Naval Nuclear Power Training Command before reporting aboard USS MICHIGAN (SSBN 727 Gold) from December 1995 to March 2000. His shore tours as a chaplain include service at Portsmouth Naval Shipyard in Kittery, Maine, as the command chaplain. He also served as the deputy command chaplain at Naval Station Rota, Spain, where he completed JPME Phase I from the College of Distance Education at the Naval War College. Chaplain Johnson later earned a master's degree in Theology (with focus in Pastoral Counseling and Psychology) from Trinity Evangelical Divinity School in 2015 as part of the US Navy Chaplain Corps' funded graduate education program. In 2017, he reported to Naval Chaplaincy School and Center, first as the command's Curriculum Manager, and then as the Basic Leadership Course Officer.

Chaplain Johnson's personal awards include the Meritorious Service Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (four awards), Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (three awards), along with various other personal and unit awards. He is a Fleet Marine Force Qualified Officer (chaplain), qualified Submarine Specialist (enlisted), and 2010 recipient of the National Bible Association's Witherspoon Award.