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YMCA's 19th Annual Celebration of Prayer to Feature U.S. Senate Chaplain Barry C. Black

Strengthening the Spirit of Our Community during Holy Week

ORLANDO, FL – The YMCA of Central Florida is bringing **U.S. Senate Chaplain Barry C. Black to Orlando on Thursday, March 28** to share an inspirational message of faith and unity during the Y's **19th Annual Celebration of Prayer Breakfast**.

Attended each year by more than 1,000 community leaders, the event is the **largest of its kind held locally during Holy Week**. It will take place this year from 7 to 8:15 a.m. at the First Baptist Church of Orlando, 3000 South John Young Parkway.

As Senate chaplain, Black leads the assembly's opening prayers, provides spiritual counseling and ministers to nearly 7,000 people, including Senators, their families and staffs. He has also participated in many historic events, including the 9-11 Memorial Service; state funerals for former Presidents Ronald Reagan and Gerald Ford; and funerals for Rosa Parks and John F. Kennedy Jr.

A decorated military officer, Black served in the U.S. Navy for 27 years before retiring as the Navy's Chief of Chaplains. He also holds numerous academic degrees, including Ph.Ds. in philosophy and ministry. In 1995, he received the NAACP's Renowned Service Award for his outstanding contributions in the areas of civil rights and equal opportunity.

“Celebrating the ‘C’ in YMCA, the Celebration of Prayer marks the arrival of Easter and provides a meaningful way to recognize the Y's Christian mission, which has guided our organization for over 150 years,” said Jim Ferber, YMCA of Central Florida President and CEO. “The Y remains deeply committed to strengthening our community by connecting residents, inspiring leaders and providing relevant solutions through spiritual enrichment.”

The breakfast welcomes people of all faiths and backgrounds. Tables are available for \$250 and individual seats for \$35. For information or to reserve tickets, please call Rexanne Paugh at (407) 895-8615 or email RPaugh@cfymca.org.

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