



Chaplain Juliana M. Lesher, M.Div., Ph.D., BCC

As a very young child, Juliana Lesher knew she was called to ministry, and to be Christ's humble servant to a hurting world in need of a Savior. Her first ministry experience was at age nine when she organized a Bible Club for the little children in the neighborhood. Juliana's nine extensive hospitalizations as a teenager and young adult for scoliosis, anorexia, and suicide attempts has given her keen insight into the deepest places of human suffering. She fully acknowledges that her life is a living-testimony to the miraculous power of Christ's saving grace, and the fervent and faithful prayers of many Christians who prayed round-the-clock for her healing.

Juliana Lesher was raised in the Evangelical Congregational Church and is endorsed for chaplaincy by the Evangelical Congregational Church. She has a Bachelor's degree in Public Relations from Messiah College, a Master of Divinity from Evangelical Theological Seminary, and a Ph.D. in Organizational Leadership from Regent University's School of Business and Leadership.

Juliana Lesher has served as a chaplain in healthcare and prison settings in Pennsylvania, California, Wisconsin, Kentucky, North Dakota, and Texas. She currently is the Chief of Chaplain Service for the South Texas Veterans Health Care System. Her most cherished aspect of her current ministry position is leading the Veteran Faith Family Fellowship Worship Service.

Juliana Lesher was awarded the 2016 VA Under Secretary's Award for Excellence in Chaplaincy, the 2013 Distinguished Service Award from the Military Chaplains Association, the 2013 VA Secretary's Heart and Hands Award, the 2008 VA Secretary's Award for Excellence in Chaplaincy, and a VA Chaplaincy Best Practice Award in 2009. She also is the author of the *God Understands* series.

Juliana cherishes being a daughter of God, the daughter of Dennis and Joyce Lesher, the sister of Dennis Jr. and Michael, the sister-in-law of Rowena, the aunt of Naomi and Genevieve, and a sister-in-Christ to many Christian brothers and sisters across the world.