

# Four Chaplains to Be Honored at Inclusion Awareness Shabbat



*Lt. Alexander D. Goode*



*Lt. George L. Fox*



*Lt. Clark V. Poling*



*Lt. John P. Washington*

## Friday, February 3rd, 6:00 pm at Temple

**W**ashington Hebrew Congregation is pleased to present a very special Shabbat service on **Friday, February 3**. As WHC strives to provide meaningful worship opportunities for congregants of all abilities, we will have American Sign Language interpreters at this service in recognition of Jewish Disability Awareness month.

Together with the Jewish Historical Society of Greater Washington, the temple announces that Rabbi Arnold Resnicoff will address the Congregation as we commemorate Four Chaplains Day which honors the four military chaplains who died in 1943 while serving our country. Lt. Alexander D. Goode, a rabbi, Lt. George L. Fox, a Methodist minister, Lt. John P. Washington, a Roman Catholic priest, and Lt. Clark V. Poling, a Dutch Reformed minister were aboard the *Dorchester*, an overcrowded Army transport ship on February 2, 1943. With over 900 soldiers and civilian workers travelling to the European front, the *Dorchester* was torpedoed off the coast of Greenland by a German U-boat. The blast killed dozens immediately and wounded many others. The ship began to take on water and it became apparent that it would sink. Rabbi Goode, Reverend Fox, Father Washington and Reverend Poling calmly directed their fellow soldiers to lifeboats, and when the last life jackets were distributed, they removed their own and gave them away. The four chaplains then linked arms at the ship's railing, prayed and sang hymns offering comfort to the men in the water. The ship sank 27 minutes later, with the chaplains still at the rail. Rabbi Goode grew up in Washington, DC and served Washington Hebrew Congregation while studying for ordination at Hebrew Union College. His name is the first of 14 listed on the new Jewish Chaplains Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery.

Rabbi Arnold Resnicoff is a decorated retired military officer and chaplain and a consultant on leadership, values, and interreligious affairs to military and civilian leaders. His own military career began with the Vietnam War. Following ordination as a rabbi, he served for nearly 25 years as a U.S. Navy Chaplain. After retiring from the military, Rabbi Resnicoff was National Director of Interreligious Affairs for the American Jewish Committee and Special Assistant (for Values and Vision) to the Secretary and Chief of Staff of the U.S. Air Force, serving at the equivalent military rank of Brigadier General. He was part of the small group of Vietnam veterans who fought for the creation of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, delivering the closing prayer at its 1982 dedication. In 1984, President Ronald Reagan devoted an entire speech to the reading of Resnicoff's eye-witness account of the 1983 Beirut barracks bombing. Rabbi Resnicoff has received numerous military and civilian awards including the Chapel of Four Chaplains Hall of Heroes Gold Medallion.



*Rabbi Resnicoff*

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