



FREE METHODIST CHURCH USA

Rex Carpenter, Chaplain Endorsing Agent and Director of Chaplain Ministries

FMC-USA Chaplain Report to the Free Methodist BOA – 16 October 2015

“Bless the LORD, Oh my soul, and all that is within me- Bless his holy name.” Psalm 103:1

We are rejoicing in the good that God is doing through our Free Methodist Chaplains! Our 150 Free Methodist Chaplains serve in 33 states, plus Italy, Africa, Great Brittan, England, Madagascar, and the Middle East. We influence and minister to over 70,000 patients, prisoners, motorcycle riders, students, faculty, hospice clients, fire and police officers, Army, Navy, Marines, and Air Force personnel, veterans, and their respective family members: listening, helping, sharing, coaching, leading to the Savior ... with the result that **Jesus** may say to us: “I was in trouble, and **you visited me!**”

Our Mission is the same as the FMC-USA: to love God, love people and make disciples.

Our “Staying Connected” newsletter often shares **examples of fruit-bearing** and we highlight chaplains and their ministries in various settings. Several conferences are sending the newsletter on to local to churches for intercessory prayer support. **Thank you!** Treat us like home missionaries -USA. **Let us help you to have a share** in answering Christ’s call to serve those in deep need and in places you cannot go.

We are grateful for **Bishop David Kendall’s** leadership and encouragement; and for the gracious and efficient admin services of **Jamie Hamilton**.

Our new **FM Chaplains Association Executive Team (2015-2017)** is:

- **Steve Coates, President** - Navy Chaplain Commander serving at the Pentagon, Navy COCO
- **Diane Munoz, Past-president** - Hospice of the Bluegrass Chaplain, Lexington KY
- **Tim Porter, Vice President** – Air Force Wing Chaplain Lt Col, Mildenhall AB, UK
- **Richard Iske, Secretary** – Pastor and Corrections Chaplain, Iowa and Missouri
- **Linda Vecchiarelli, Member** – Corrections and Denver Community Chaplain
- **Ray Leach, Member** – Army Chaplain Major, Plans, Policy, Trng & Ops @ Army Res. Comd HQ



Tim Diane Steve Linda Ray Rich Rex

Promotion & Recruiting & Connecting:

- Besides the “**Staying Connected**” newsletter we try to keep connected with chaplains and families through prayer, visits, phone calls, emails, cards, & responding to their annual reports.
- With my office assistant’s help we prepared and mailed 124 Wedding Anniversary cards to chaplain couples and emailed DaySpring birthday eCards to 280 chaplains and chaplain spouses; in addition to a couple dozen graduation, promotion, retirement, get well, and sympathy cards.
- One four-day week in January we attended annual meetings NCMAF the National Conference on Ministry to the Armed Forces, ECVAC the Endorsers Conference for the VA Chaplaincy, AFCB the Armed Forces Chaplains’ Board, and CARF the Chaplains Alliance for Religious Freedom. Critical issues are the effects of repealing DOMA (the Defense of Marriage Act) and the legalizing of same-sex marriage. The most encouraging part of the week was the repeated message that the first amendment rights of freedom of religion are being defended against all efforts of the “freedom from religion” forces. Both the VA and the Military assured us that no chaplain will ever be required to do anything contrary to their ordination and endorsement. NAE is not quite so sure that freedom of religion is prevailing in all situations. Vigilance and prayer are required!

Chaplains Endorsed – July 2014 to Oct 2015:

Mike T. Hill	TRC	Lead Seniors Chaplain	Spokane Valley WA
James H. Demaray	NSC	(Certified) Health Care & Hospice	Wilmore KY
Marzette Y. McGary	SCA	VA & Inner City	Los Angeles CA
Ed West	GAT	(Certified) Hospital	Wood River IL
Jonathan Moran	GEN	Kenmore Mercy Hospital	Buffalo NY
Nick Cash	AL-GA	Hospital Mercy Ships	Madagascar
Janet Mills	GPL	Compassion Care Hospice	Natchez MS
Pete Mills	GPL	Compassion Care Hospice	Natchez MS
Arlesha La	MAM	VA	Oklahoma City OK
Dwight Gregory	MAM	VA	Midwest City OK
Bob Barnard	NSC	KY State Veterans Home	Wilmore KY
Lane H. Sandifer	TRC	US Army	Lakewood CO
Dean Griffiths	PIT	River and Outdoor Community	PA & TX
Cris Mogenson	ACT	Civil Air Patrol	Binghamton NY
James Crawford	SPC	Civil Air Patrol	Gold River CA
David Sain	GAT	Civil Air Patrol	East Alton IL
Holly Hallmark	TRC	VA and Littleton Hospital	Littleton CO
Jerome “Pete” Dillard	GEN	VA and Hospital	Rochester NY
Japhet Peter Mburugu	PNW	Hospital, St Joseph’s Medical Ctr	Tacoma WA

Annual Professional Development Conference: With the help of our executive committee we conduct an annual Professional Development Conference (PDC) for all FM Chaplains. This two & a half day gathering is the highlight of our year. **Deepening our spiritual connection** is the first priority of professional development. Recent meeting places, speakers, and attendance:

- 2011 Roberts Wesleyan Col (GC) Chap David Thompson 80
- 2012 Colorado Springs, CO Bishop Kendall and in house 70
- 2013 Lake Junaluska, NC Supt Dennis Jeffery 75
- 2014 Red Lion Inn, Spokane WA Doug Newton & Steve Flint 55
- 2015 Caribe Royale, Orlando FL In House and Dr. Blake Wood 82

Professional Development Training 2016 (PDT) will be June 28 – July 1 at Green Lake Conference Center in Green Lake, WI.

Demographics:

- New Endorsements including 4 African Americans, plus one each from Brazil, Taiwan, and Kenya
 - 2007-2010: **18** total (including 3 women)
 - 2011: **18** total (including 9 women)
 - 2012: **18** total (including 4 women)
 - 2013: **10** total (including 1 woman)
 - 2014: **7** total (including 2 women)
 - 2015 (to date): **15** total (including 2 women)
- 35 of our Chaplains are also **Pastors**.
- 25 of our endorsed chaplains are not yet employed, or are **servicing as volunteers** (without pay).
- Many of our FM Chaplains are in the **top leadership** chaplain positions where they serve. Three are CPE Supervisors and ten are Association of Professional Chaplains Board Certified (BCC).
- All three of our Air Force Chaplains, **Tim Porter, Martin Adamson, and Mark Williams**, are Wing Chaplain (sr chaplain for the whole base). **Wes McIntyre & Cheri Coleman** are tops in CPE!
- Navy Chaplain **Steve Coates** serves as the deputy to the Rear Admiral who oversees the 300 chaplains who serve the Marines. Army Chaplains **Mike Burgess and Rick Winchester** have served as supervisors/instructors at the Army Chaplain School, Fort Jackson SC.
- Larry Racster is in his 16th year serving a leadership role in the Army Chief of Chaplains Office.
- Biker Chaplain **Robert Fischer** of SMI is the President of the Sons of God Motorcycle Club for MI.
- **Brenda Nagunst, Debra Reitz, Boyd Carney, Richard Iske, Cris Mogenson, and Imo Smith** are each the top chaplain in their respective corrections facilities.
- **Jon Wright, Bruce Swingle, and Larry Taylor** are lead chaplains in San Fran, Albany & San Diego.
- **JESUS affirms all** who serve him in small and seldom noticed places, as well!

Praise God for:

- **Goodwill** and prayer support from the FMC-USA leaders, families, and congregations
- **Outstanding Team** and a \$103K budget supported by the chaplains and FMC-USA
- **Grace** that goes beyond forgiveness to the enabling love/power of the Holy Spirit
- **150 F M chaplains** serving daily with integrity, patience, grace, and with Spirit partnership

Prayer Concerns:

- Multiply Christ-followers to reverse the greed and moral/spiritual slide in our nation
- Uphold family values to eliminate the high rates of suicides, divorces, and abortions in our country
- Stop the scourge of ISIS and other radical Islamic movements
- Defend First Amendment rights of Freedom of Religion for Chaplains and all others

It is a sacred privilege to serve Christ, the Church, and Chaplains!

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