

Church of God Chaplains Commission

Year 2000 Ministries Review

Introduction:

Thank God for a wonderful year of chaplaincy ministries around the world. This report will give you an overview of the ministries of our more than 1,300 chaplains, serving in 31 different countries and in 32 different chaplaincy and other specialized ministry areas. With such highly dedicated chaplains and supportive family members, we were not only able to meet our goals, but far exceed them. To God be the glory!

Military Chaplaincy

1) Critical Areas:

During the year 2000, chaplains served in many remote areas to include Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Bosnia, Kosovo, Korea, sea assignments and many overseas areas. We can say without hesitation, the year 2000 uprooted chaplains and chaplains' families like we have never experienced before. And yet, even in the most remote areas, our chaplains led hundreds to the Lord Jesus Christ, received many accolades and honors, and served with distinction.

2) Leadership:

During the 2000 General Assembly, we recognized six military chaplains who had achieved the prestigious rank of O-6 (Army/Air Force Colonel and Navy Captain). Other military chaplains served in the Chief of Chaplains Offices, Command Headquarters, and other senior chaplain command assignments.

3) Chaplains' Families:

We would be less than honest if we did not tell you that many military chaplains' families suffered due to the high levels of transition and work demands. And yet, as always, our military chaplaincy families continue to maintain the home front, succeed in their own special fields of vocational endeavors, and serve as key volunteers in many critical ministry areas. Brenda Pace, wife of Army Chaplain Richard Pace, represents this core of caregivers. She was elected as President of the Protestant Women of the Chapel. Many other military chaplains' wives and family members also received honors and special recognition for their fantastic ministries and accomplishments.

4) Training:

Military chaplains continued to distinguish themselves by taking advantage of many professional training opportunities. This included Clinical Pastoral Education, Marriage and Family, internships, programs emphasizing Suicide Prevention, Domestic Violence awareness and prevention, and many other special training areas.

5) Evangelism/Worship:

Church of God chaplains are noted for their outstanding preaching and worship leadership. Consequently, many of our chaplains served in large chapel programs,

gospel services, and, most recently new contemporary worship services that emphasizes prayer, singing and vibrant worship. Church of God chaplains have proven themselves as evangelistic, great worship leaders, and highly effective in setting a worship tone wherever they are stationed.

6) Promotions/Passovers:

As is the case with all other denominations, the Church of God experiences its share of promotions and passovers. This past year the following persons received promotions: Calvin Eastham, LTC; Mickey Jett, Major; Joseph Melvin, Major; Ray Williams, Major; Larry Cripps, Captain, US Navy; Randel Livingood, LCDR; Dwayne Strickland, CDR; Jessie Tate, Captain, US Navy; Jerry Millwood, Major; Charles Perry, Major; Ridley Usherwood, Colonel. While we had a few passovers, we certainly had our share of promotions. Congratulations to those who were advanced in rank!

7) Denominational Activities:

Military Chaplains continue to be very active in denominational ministries. Army Chaplain Robert Jenkins serves on the Ministry to the Military Board, Navy Chaplain Jerry McNabb serves on the Chaplains Commission Board, and, many of our chaplains participated in campmeetings, pastors' training sessions, Community Service Chaplaincy courses, and other such events.

8) New appointees:

During the year 2000, the following chaplains were assigned Active Duty, Reserve, or National Guard service: Everett Franklin, Army; Edward Varner, Army; Roderick Swanson, Army; Phil Bagrow, Navy; Aaron Bellar, Navy; Lance Giannone, Air Force; Jonathan Hurt, Air Force; Gloria Tyner, Air Force Reserve; Gabriel Rios, Army National Guard; Ray Williams, Army National Guard; Charles J. Popov, Army Reserves; and, many who are in the reserve seminarian program.

Correctional Chaplaincy

1) Key areas:

Church of God correctional chaplains continue to serve in many key areas. Those serving as Directors are: Gary Cox, Sr. Chaplain; Ralph Garofano, CPE/Sr. Chaplain; Mark Grimes, Sr. Chaplain; Raymond Lankford, Director of large facility; Ron Padgett, Commission Correctional Chaplaincy Coordinator; Frank Vloch, Sr. Chaplain; Eugene Wigelsworth, State Chaplain Director; and, Don Yancey, State Director.

2) Training:

Correctional chaplains have taken advantage of many training opportunities to include: CPE, Domestic Violence, Racial Reconciliation, volunteer chaplaincy programs, and others. Our chaplains also head up courses for drug and alcohol rehabilitation, ethics, Critical Incident Stress, etc.

3) Denominational Activities:

All of our correctional chaplains are deeply involved in the training of Church of God and other volunteer workers. During the year 2000 our correctional chaplains

participated in the National Jail and Prison Conference as keynote speakers and workshop leaders. A new three-day Jail and Prison Workers Training Course is being developed under the leadership of Chaplain Dean Yancey. This course will be provided to the hundreds of Church of God State correctional ministry workers now serving in jails and prisons across the nation.

4) Critical Areas:

Our correctional chaplains continue to serve in the following critical areas: chaplains to those on death row; family advocates; institutional-wide revivals, and, in specialized conference/seminar workshops as instructors and guest lecturers.

5) New Appointees:

During the year 2000 the following persons came aboard as correctional chaplains: Eugene Bordeaux, Ruth Bordeaux, Michael Denney and Joseph Miller.

6) Innovative Programs:

Congratulations go to those who have been highly effective in various new programs to include: Life Skills Development; special programs for the inmates' families; renovation and expansion of old chapel facilities; the building of new chapels and many others.

Clinical Chaplaincy

1) Growth in Many Areas:

The work in these special areas includes ministries to: Veterans Affairs, general hospitals, denominational hospitals, Hospice programs, correctional clinical programs, Salvation Army, CPE Supervisory programs, addiction rehabilitation clinics, children's hospitals, research in clinical areas, emergency service chaplaincy and others.

2) Training:

Church of God clinical chaplains have taken advantage of training in such areas as CPE, physical rehabilitation, alcohol and drug programs, family ministries, suicide prevention and others. We are now fortunate to have those who are at the level of CPE Supervisor. Many Church of God seminarians have taken advantage of this special opportunity to train under a Church of God CPE Supervisor.

3) Innovation:

Our clinical chaplains continue to be involved in many new, innovative programs. Some of them include: local church hospital outreach; special ecumenical healing services; hospice training and enrichment; working with distressed veterans; Rape Crisis Intervention Teams; Critical Incident Stress debriefing teams and others.

4) New Appointees:

Include: Beverly Burkins, Hospital Chaplain; Carlton Cannon, Military Order of the Purple Heart; Franklin Nation, Hospital Chaplain; Gary Stacey, Hospital Chaplain; and Philip Thomas, Hospital Chaplain.

Pastoral Counselors

1) Key Areas:

The Church of God Chaplains Commission endorses counselors for a number of professional areas. They include: United Automobile Worker/Chaplain/Counselor; counselor at the race track industry; counselors at part of the Seamen's Ministries; several local church pastoral counselors; trucking industry counselor, counselor at a large university; specialized counselors in the areas of drug and alcohol rehabilitation and domestic violence and various other areas.

2) Areas of Counseling Research/Training:

Several chaplains during the year 2000 were involved in the following specialized training and research areas: counseling and ethics; Pentecostal model of counseling; counseling children who are terminally ill, critically burned, traumatized, etc; counseling dysfunctional university students; and, active in the development of pastoral counseling training for medical school students and other similar programs.

3) Noted Accomplishments:

Several of our endorsed Pastoral Counseling personnel have received Doctorates; developed programs in the area of grief counseling, conducted specialized workshops and a number have written books, professional journal articles and contributed to other publications.

Civil Air Patrol Chaplaincy

Several busy pastors are involved as active Civil Air Patrol Chaplains. During the year 2000, several of these chaplains were involved in emergency search and rescue operations, moral leadership classes for cadets, overseas trips, working with youth training programs and other activities of the CAP.

Community Service Chaplaincy

1) An Ever Expanding Ministry:

At the present time we have more than 1,300 pastors and Christian workers, both in the United States and overseas, involved in Community Service Chaplaincy (CSC).

2) Training:

During the year 2000 Community Service Chaplaincy training programs were conducted in the United States, Ecuador, Argentina, Paraguay, Philippines, Romania, and Canada. Advanced Community Service Chaplaincy courses were developed and taught in the areas of: Domestic Violence; Critical Incident Stress Management and Debriefing, Grief Counseling and Law Enforcement Chaplaincy. As of this date, more than 3,000 pastors and workers have taken either the Basic Community Service Chaplaincy course or one of the Advanced CSC courses..

3) Community Service Chaplains' Accomplishments:

During the year 2000 our endorsed Community Service Chaplains have been involved in many exciting ministries to include: jails/prisons, hospitals, several different industries, juvenile courts, Hospice associations, public school chaplaincy, drug and alcohol rehabilitation centers, juvenile correctional facilities, fire

departments, the FBI, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, many different local law enforcement agencies and other such unique places of ministries. Undoubtedly, this army of caregivers is touching individuals and families who otherwise would not be in relationship with the Church of God.

4) Commendations:

Many of our CS chaplains receive special commendations for their work. They include: Pastor Richard Popard, Law Enforcement Chaplain, the recipient of the General Assembly Community Service Chaplain's Award; other Community Service chaplains who have received recognition for their service and continuing professional training/education, to include: Gerald McGinnis, Roger Daniel, Carol Johnson, Margaret Threat, Ken Walls, and Terry Wigley.

Other Chaplaincy Programs

Most Unique Ministries:

The Chaplains Commission now endorses chaplains for the following innovative areas of ministry and chaplaincy service: race tracks, railway systems, seaports, airport terminals, public schools, motorcycle clubs, fire departments, emergency medical services, veterans' associations, transportation industry, community civic organizations and several others.

Year 2000 Serious Illnesses / Prayer Needs

During the year 2000, many of our chaplaincy families experienced serious illnesses, deaths and other crises and are still in need of prayer. They include:

- 1) Iris Vest, wife of General Overseer, R. Lamar Vest, long-term illness ending in her death in January
- 2) Florence Lankford, confined to a nursing home, with multiple illnesses
- 3) Aaron Mize, double pneumonia, and other complications
- 4) Ramona Gonzales, currently undergoing tests for some critical problems related to her heart
- 5) Many of our chaplains' kids who experienced divorce, serious illnesses, and other crises
- 6) The death of parents, illnesses and other crises affecting our chaplains and their family members.

We ask you to continue to pray for our entire chaplaincy family.

Commission Highlights

It will be impossible to list all of the activities and accomplishments that took place in chaplaincy ministries around the world during the year 2000. However, let me lift up some of the more significant ones:

1) January

Air Force Chaplain John Secret's retirement
Chaplains Commission participation in the Equipiers Conference
Special Community Service Chaplaincy Course, Fresno, California

- 2) February.
Chaplains Commission participation in WIN Conference, Baltimore, Maryland
Pentecostal/Charismatic Caregivers Conference
- 3) March
Hospice Training Course
Funeral of Dr. Pricilla Benham, Patten College, Oakland, California
Correctional Chaplains and Spouses Conference
Patten Board of Directors meeting
New Jersey Community Service Chaplaincy Course
- 4) April
Hispanic Institute Community Service Chaplaincy Course, Dallas, Texas
Chaplains Commission Board Session
Lee University Career Spring Exploration Fair participation
WIN Conference, Pigeon Forge, Tennessee
Special promotion service at COG Hq for Ch, Col, Ridley Usherwood
- 5) May
Special Memorial Day Headquarters chapel
Visit to Fort Bragg, North Carolina
Community Service Chaplaincy Course, Bismarck, North Dakota
- 6) June
Seminary graduation with several chaplain candidates
Consultation Veterans Affairs, Norfolk, Virginia
Community Service Chaplaincy Course, Seminary, Cleveland, Tennessee
Western Seminary Extension Graduation (several chaplain candidates)
- 7) July
Special chaplaincy program at the Western North Carolina Campmeeting
General Assembly Military Conference
General Chaplains' and Spouses Conference, General Assembly
Honors Night Banquet and Award Presentations
Many activities at the General Assembly
- 8) August
Leadership Conference 2000, Orlando, Florida
Appointment of several military and institutional chaplains
Retirement celebration of Commission Board member, Dr. Parnell Coward
- 9) September
Special Jail and Prison Conference, South Carolina
Romanian Chaplaincy Course/Conference
Hospice Enrichment course
- 10) October
Clinical Pastoral Education Regional Conference, Chattanooga, Tennessee
Chaplaincy Courses in Ecuador and Argentina

Visit aboard the USS *Harry S. Truman*
Patten College Board of Directors

11) November

Church of God Chaplains Week
Special Veterans Day Services
Chaplains Commission Board Session
Lee University Fall Career Fair participation
Philippines Chaplaincy Course/Conference
Visit and special services in Korea
Chaplains Commission Annual Holiday Luncheon

12) December

National Association of Evangelicals Conference
National Conference on Ministry to the Armed Forces
Endorsers Conference for Veterans Affairs Chaplaincy
Special service recognition of Chaplain Richard Popard

Summary

As you can see, the year 2000 has given the Chaplains Commission an outreach of care to individuals and families around the world. We recognize the fact that this special area of ministry, with its core of caregiving missionaries, is challenged to take the best of the Church "beyond the gates" (Hebrews 13:12-13) to those who may never be privileged to sit on our pews, listen to our sermons, or enjoy our tremendous worship services. We recognize that all of these accomplishments are as a result of the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ who saved us, set us apart for ministry and continues to be with us in our day-to-day care of some of the world's most underprivileged, wounded and disenfranchised. To God be the glory for such a privilege of ministry.