

**To The Members Of The
FELLOWSHIP COUNCIL, FGBC
On The
Status of Chaplains and the Activities of the Endorsing Agent
January 2013**

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS:

This report will update the status of our chaplains. It also includes any information I have regarding chaplain prospects and status of chaplain candidates.

VISITS TO CHAPLAINS AND TRAVELS COMPLETED AND ANTICIPATED:

Completed: (all completed previous to this meeting)

1. Lou Urban, Camp Lejuene: May
2. David Mvondo, Fort Benning: May
3. Bill Graham, Fort Campbell: May
4. Pete Stone, Fort Campbell: May
5. James Murray, Fort Campbell: May

Anticipated:

1. BIF Board (November)
2. IAEC Board (December)
3. NAECC/NCMAF (January 2013)
4. Potential visit to Jack Galle, as yet unconfirmed
5. Potential visit to George Youstra in Germany as yet unplanned but likely in the spring of 2013
6. Potential visit to Carl Phillips, Korea
7. Potential visit to Richard Hurst

Chaplains Deployed:

Combat

1. James Murray: Afghanistan
2. James Schaefer: Kuwait
3. Bill Graham: Afghanistan
4. Pete Stone: Afghanistan

Non-Combat

1. Carl Phillips: Korea
2. George Youstra: Germany
3. Charles Pridgen: Germany

National Conference 2012:

Conference this year had 11 of our chaplains in attendance. Three did not attend. One was deployed and the other two were reminded that conference, if at all possible, should not be considered optional. We met on the Saturday preceding Conference for a day of training. The training was set up by Mark Penfold and George Youstra, who did an excellent job of setting up a very helpful and viable day. The training also included a morning session for the wives. That was led by Martha and

Rose Youstra. The training was not only helpful but it served to bond together our chaplain team in a very positive way. Suggestions made by the chaplains were viable and very healthy.

On a sad note, I ended the training day by briefing the chaplains on the status of Jeff Wirick. Jeff, as you know, was dismissed from the Army chaplaincy this past spring. I was forced to withdraw his endorsement after I was informed of his nearly 3 weeks of being AWOL. He was released from the Army with a General Officer Article 15 and a General Discharge, meaning that he will receive no future benefits from his military service and no VA benefits. Jeff also divorced his wife Mie and has already remarried. Mie is in Japan and we still have contact with her. She was awarded full custody of their daughter, Hosanna. I took time to remind the chaplains of the FGBC Ethics Code for our chaplains and passed out copies to all of the chaplains in attendance. I also asked each one to sign a separate document that states that they agree with the Ethics Code, a copy of which goes into each file. Copies of this document are attached to this report.

The chaplain breakfast was perhaps the finest and best attended event that we have ever had. We had the most chaplains in attendance and the highest attendance ever. Many tell me that honoring the chaplains is always the highlight of Conference for them.

CHAPLAIN ROSTER:

Attached is a chaplain roster with information current as of this report. It is an evolving document and experiences many updates during the year. Having current correct information on all chaplains is nearly impossible but all changes are made when I am informed. I also solicit all chaplains for any changes several times during the year.

Chaplain Retired Roster:

A copy of this roster is also attached to this report. Sadly, a new name has been added to the "HONOR ROLL" (deceased former chaplains). This past summer Chaplain (Colonel) Burton Hatch, US Army, Ret. passed away. We gave tribute to Burt at the Chaplain Breakfast at Conference. I knew him well and also knew he was like an icon to all who knew him. He was one of the most perfect chaplains that ever served the Corps. He was the consummate roll model for all chaplains.

PROMOTION INFORMATION:

Mark Penfold was not selected for Colonel but does plan to remain on active duty until late spring 2015. Since Mark is targeted to take the endorser position that means that I will be without a replacement for the next three years unless there is an interest in finding an interim endorser. My plan has been to retire from this position next summer (2014). I will have been in the position for 19 years at that point. *Miss the gold watch by one year ☺*

CHAPLAIN CANDIDATES:

2/Lt JP Prado

USAF Chaplain Candidate is listed here but also under AIR FORCE in the roster since he is a commissioned AF officer.

***Matt Frost:**

Because of JP=s influence and encouragement Matt has recently contacted me about becoming a chaplain candidate with the US Army and is seeking our endorsement. Matt comes from a denomination that has no endorsing agent and I have encouraged him to consider becoming Grace Brethren. He agreed to do so. I am trying to get him into Seal Beach as a member at which point I can endorse him for the CC program. My experience over that past recent years has been that more and more men are feeling called to chaplain ministry but have no idea how to proceed. I have helped several who have chosen not to go with the FGBC but a number of our present chaplains have joined us from other denominations. It is a challenge but we have some really great chaplains serving with our team who have come to us this way.

*As of this writing Matt is a member of the Seal Beach GBC and his packet has been forwarded for Chaplain Candidate accessioning.

Jeremy Pfister

Jeremy is in the Reserves and presently deployed. He plans to return to GTS and continue his studies in order to qualify for the chaplaincy.

David Hellman

David is a member of the Orange County, CA, GBC. He is also applying for the Chaplain Candidate Program.

Erik Myhrberg:

Erik is a Reserve Chaplain in the DC area and presently endorsed by the NAECC but has inquired about changing his endorsement to FGBC. I mentored him to help him prepare for the chaplaincy. He has his own business and is a PhD in International Management.

CHAPLAIN UPDATES:

Two of our chaplains have been given top secret security clearances. Richard Hurst and John Arnoldbik both serve Army Intelligence units.

ARMY

John Arnoldbik:

John is still assigned to Fort Huachuca and serves his unit with prayer breakfasts, Bible studies and takes part in the Post Chapel ministry.

John Jacobsen

John continues his ministry at Fort Leonard Wood, MO. Martha and I had the opportunity to visit John and Marlene right after our last BIF board meeting. Ironically John has the same unit as Jeff Wirick has when he was at Fort LW. He told me that Jeff left that assignment under a cloud. John will like leave active duty by the summer of 2013. He wants to get back into the academic world. He has a lousy supervisor and I encouraged him to forget the supervisor remember who he really serves.

Pete Stone:

Pete's home base is Fort Campbell, KY. We had the opportunity to visit him, Bill Graham and

James Murphy last May. Larry and Sherlene met us there and we had a wonderful time. Pete is an outstanding chaplain and loves what he does. He is presently deployed to Afghanistan to minister to his soldiers over there. He is scheduled to return sometime in May when Bill Graham and James Murray also return. James is another really outstanding chaplain.

Mark Penfold:

Mark continues his work as a supervising trainer at the Army Chaplain School at Fort Jackson, NC. When the Dir. of Training became ill Mark was given that responsibility as well. Unfortunately he was not selected for Colonel when his file went before the promotion board for the second time. He has decided to remain on active duty until the spring of 2014. Of course, as we have been looking at Mark to replace me, this changes the time line and I now am in a position to stay on as Endorser 18 months longer than I had planned.

Jeff Mason:

Jeff is still with the reserves. His problem with his knee kept him from being deployed when his unit went to Afghanistan last year but he seems to be doing better now and is hoping that he might still have the opportunity to serve abroad .

James Schaefer:

James is the Deputy Command Chaplain for Central Command which is headquartered at Shaw AFB, SC. He and the Command Chaplain trade off in serving in the forward headquarters which is in Kuwait. James is presently in Kuwait. He and Elizabeth have their home in Sumter, SC.

Bill Graham:

Bill is presently in Afghanistan as Brigade Staff Chaplain for the Aviation BDE of Fort Campbell, KY. He is the supervising chaplain for James Murray, a serendipity that he could be close to his Bde staff chaplain and one of our own. I do not know if this has ever happened previously but it is good for both men. This deployment is for 9 months, not the traditional 12 month deployment. Bill is cut out of chaplain cloth. He has success written all over him. Last year he was chosen to be a resident student of Command and General Staff College (CGSC). He loves this assignment that he requested and was granted a one year delay so Bill could accompany his unit to the war zone. He will be attending CGSC starting the summer of 2013. This is a great honor and I think Bill is the only one of our chaplains who has ever had this honor. He is a superb chaplain

Richard Hurst:

Richard remains at Fort Drum, NY. He loves what he does and Star is very much involved in opportunities open for chaplain's wives.

James Murray:

James came on active duty this past May and was assigned to a battalion in Bill Graham's brigade. He too deployed to Afghanistan. It is exciting for me to be a part of this journey going back several years when he first approached me on his potential future as an Army Chaplain. Ashley is also a very involved chaplain's wife and it is refreshing to see such commitment. I hasten to add that all of our chaplain's wives are very devoted to their role in their husband's assignments. James' return will likely coincide with Bill's return late spring of 2013.

Charles Pridgen

Charles returned to Fort Bliss after his deployment to Afghanistan. He returned to Fort Bliss but has just reported to Germany for his next assignment.

Scott Shaffer:

Scott is still on the staff of Grace Schools in which he serves as a liaison for veterans with the Veterans Administration and as an advisor to students who are looking ahead to ministry in the chaplaincy. He is a very valuable asset to Grace Schools. I personally feel that he has not written off an opportunity to go on active duty. He is totally committed to the troops he serves. His unit Hqs. is in Indianapolis. He was called to minister to families of his soldiers who perished in a helicopter crash in Afghanistan.

NAVY:

Lou Urban

Lou returned to Camp Lejeune Marine base in NC after returning from his deployment last year. He was not selected for promotion to Lt. Commander (Navy equivalent to Major in the other branches. He was expecting that the Navy would drop him because of this. The good news is that Lou was granted an extension of several years. It is possible that the extension was granted to help him reach the 20 year mark Lou had prior service with the Army and that counts toward his Marine/Navy time to get him to 20 years of service before the Navy retires him.

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Justin Hayes:

Justin continues his ministry at Camp Pendelton, CA (just north of San Diego). He is the chaplain for the airfield at Pendelton. He does not feel like a deployment will come his way any time soon, if at all, since the war in Afghanistan is “winding down.” He is loved and respected by his Marines and by his chaplain supervisors. He is another chaplain that is in the perfect place for him for ministry. Justin has had to do death notifications and memorial services for several Marines who have lost their lives in several helicopter crashes.

AIR FORCE:

George Youstra

George has redeployed to Germany where he serves on the US Army Europe Command Chaplain staff. His title indicates that he has responsibility to oversee the religious activities of any air assets in Northern Africa. Martha and I hope to visit the Youstras early next spring. George is just a phenomenal chaplain and was hand picked for that assignment by the commander of US Air Forces in Germany.

JP Prado:

Since JP lives here in the Phoenix area I get to see him periodically. As mentioned previously he is a good friend of Matt Frost. They both attended Arizona Christian University and knew they had a common interest in serving as chaplains. JP encouraged him to talk to me. He is a gem and is working two jobs while he is working to finish his on line (Liberty) courses to get his MDiv. He

was an honor graduate of ACU earning the designation of Suma Cum Laude in his undergraduate studies and now, with Liberty, he is a near straight A student. Another man cut out of chaplain cloth.

What an honor to have the opportunity to over see these heroes. We are known for taking care of our chaplains and referrals are not an uncommon event. We continue to grow.

VETERANS ADMINISTRATION: (See roster for current information.)

Mike Jones (part time)

No changes

Charles Card (contract)

No changes

Jack Galle

No changes

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John W. Schumacher", is positioned above the typed name.

Dr. JOHN W. SCHUMACHER

CH (COL) USA, Ret.

Chaplain Endorsing Agent, NFGBC

NATIONAL FELLOWSHIP OF GRACE BRETHREN CHURCHES

Active Duty, Reserve, Veterans Affairs

CHAPLAIN ROSTER

Effective, January 2013

Submitted by:

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ARMY

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Birthday:
John: 21 Dec

***Major Bill Graham (Robin)**
HHC, 101 CAB
101st Airborne Division AASLT
Task Force Destiny
Bagram AF
APO AE 09354
(Anticipated return: May 2013)
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Robin's Cell: 616-560-5702
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Birthdays:
Bill: 24 July Robin: 8 August

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Phone: 904-303-4907
Star's cell: 904-303-4097
Star's email: achaplainswife@att.net
Skype: Chaplain.downrange777
Birthdays:
Richard: 24 Dec
Star: 23 August

Captain John Jacobsen (Marlene)
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Fort Leonard Wood, MO 65473
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Birthdays: John 3 March Marlene: 12 June
Captain James Murray (Ashley)
HHT/ 2-17 Cav
Task Force Saber
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(Anticipated return: May 2013)
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Ashley's Cell: 803-218-8414

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Jim: September 25
Ashley: Dec. 27

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Birthdays:
David: 30 May
Whitney: 21 June

***Lieutenant Colonel Mark Penfold (Robin)**
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Mark: 25 Apr Robin: 3 Oct.
***Major Carl Phillips (Deanna)**
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*Carl is a new FGBC chaplain transferring from another endorsement community.

***Captain Charles Pridgen (Ada)**
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Birthdays:
Charles: 1 July
Ada: 2 May

***Lieutenant Colonel James Schaefer (Elizabeth)**
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Chaplains Office
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(Deployed until July 2013)
Birthdays James:
29 July Elizabeth: 29 Dec.

***Captain Pete Stone (Monica)**
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Monica's email: monibravo@gmail.com
Monica: 334-546-9355
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Birthdays:
Pete: 12 June
Monica: 10 Aug

NAVY (2)

LT Justin Hayes (Becca)
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Birthdays:
Justin November 20
Becca February 2

Lieutenant Louis Urban (Chong)
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Chong: chonghwa66@gmail.com
Birthdays:
Lou: 23 Feb
Chong: 25 Jan

ARMY RESERVE

ARMY NATIONAL GUARD (1)

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Birthday:
Jeff: 11 Nov

Captain Scott Shaffer (Jennifer)
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102 11th St.
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Home Email: eliot09081@yahoo.com
Birthdays:
Scott: 8 Dec.
Jennifer: 5 Jan

ARMY RESERVE

Captain Mike Landers
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Birthday: 11 March

AIR FORCE

***Lt. Col. George Youstra (Rose)**
USAFE Chaplain Corps Readiness FAM
US Air Forces Africa
Staff Action Officer,
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Birthdays George: April 27
Rose: September 17
.

AIR FORCE RESERVE

Chaplain Candidate:
2/Lt Jesus "JP" Prado
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POTENTIALS:

Jeremy Pfeister
Matt Frost
David Hellman
CPT Erik Myhrberg

VETERANS AFFAIRS CHAPLAINS

MAJ Charles Card
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***(courtesy listing)**
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**(Charlie is not assigned to the VA but is doing contract ministry with them.)*

Dr. Jack Galle (Judy)
LCDR CHC, USN Ret.
DMin
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Clinical Chaplain Mike Jones
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CIVIL AIR PATROL (2)

LTC Bill Cochran
Captain Shawn Keyser

POTENTIALS (2)

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There are a total of 27 names on this list that are FGBC Chaplains: Active Duty, Reserve, National Guard, Veterans Administration, and CAP. There are 4 names that are potentials: AD, RSV, NG (18), Civil Air Patrol (2), Veterans Administration (3).. Fourteen of these men are on active duty. Four are deployed in the combat zone and 3 are deployed in non-combat assignments. This is unique in the history of the FGBC. It is also worthy of note that about 50 pastors have served as military chaplains going back to WWII. The FGBC is deeply involved in the outreach of ministry to our military. Three of our former chaplains have received the Silver Star for heroism. One received the Bronze Star for heroism. All of our active duty chaplains have served in Combat in WWII, Korea, Viet Nam, Iraq and Afghanistan.