



2022 Chaplain Ministries Annual Report

Prepared by Dr. Rev. Tim and Rev. Patricia Porter

We are pleased that the Lord continues to call His people into diverse chaplain ministries to represent the love of Jesus. We believe that chaplaincy is a missional movement where chaplains are invited into secular spaces in which they bring not only spiritual care and counsel but most importantly Christ! Our vision statement is: Connecting Christ to Community. Our threefold mission: to care compassionately as we love others, to counsel redemptively as we make disciples, and Christ always as we love God. Our chaplains are involved in many different domains including hospital, prison, military, hospice, transitional retirement communities, marketplace, homeless/recovery ministries, community, and fire/police departments.

Administration and FMCA Leadership

We appreciate the leadership and perspective provided by Bishop Cowart, and the members of the FMCA Executive Committee. Current members: President Daleasha Hall (Oregon Conf); Vice President Sam Cabrera (Wabash Conf); Secretary Larry Lyons (So Michigan Conf); At Large Members, Cheri Coleman (So Cal Conf) and B. Elliott Renfroe (Gateway Conf); President Emeritus CH LTC Ray Leach (North Central Conf). At GC'23, new board members will be elected for two-year terms.

Annual Reports: We received 106 Annual Reports from our chaplains which included ministry accomplishments and personal prayer needs. Of the reports received, the chaplains minister to over 8,570 people weekly (over 445,640 people annually) and supervise 492 staff members and volunteers.

New Endorsements

This has been a record year for endorsements! We endorsed 21 chaplains (Hospital - 5; Hospice - 5; Community - 2; Market Place - 2; Senior Transitional Living - 1; Prison - 2; Police - 3; Army Reserve -1). In previous years, the high was 18.

Total Chaplains in the FMCA

Full-time Civilian – 48; Part-time Civilian – 51; Military Active Duty – 14; Military Reserve/National Guard – 8; Civil Air Patrol - 5; Retired – 63; Leave of Absence - 6

Total on Roster: 193 (2 of the chaplains serve in 2 different domains).

Twenty-seven of the chaplains are FM lead, associate, or staff pastors and eight are pastors in other denominations. Three of the chaplains transferred ordinations from the United Methodist Church and were endorsed upon approval from their respective conference MEG Boards. Not only is chaplaincy an outreach into local communities, but in some cases, it provides supplemental incomes for pastors in smaller churches.



Chaplain Care and Visitations

1. Represented the FMCA at the One Conference and the Southern California Conference. Also, recruited chaplains to represent the FMCA at their specific annual conferences. We thank our Superintendents for including the FMCA Chaplaincy Video clip in conference presentations. As a result, we received multiple inquiries about chaplaincy endorsements.
2. Visited 74 chaplains and their families in 14 States (OH, IN, IL, KY, OK, CA, VA, NC, SC, GA, PA, NY, OR, AZ) and communicate regularly with chaplains through phone calls/Zoom/texts/cards (monthly average is about 70 chaplains and spouses).
3. Monthly newsletter *Connect!* is sent to all FMCA members and leaders of FMCUSA. It highlights new endorsees, chaplain achievements/milestones, articles, resources, and events.
4. The Porters visited several chaplains in their ministry domains (federal prison, county sheriff's prison, fire department, hospital, senior transitional care facilities, and military bases including Ft. Jackson (Army Basic Officer Graduation), and Ft. Benning).
5. Currently there are five military chaplains stationed overseas (two in Japan, one in Germany, Italy, and Alaska).
6. Chaplain Larry Lyons coordinated monthly Zoom support group meetings with hospital/hospice chaplains and other domains joining.
7. Patricia facilitates a Zoom book club which meets regularly with several female chaplains for the purpose of spiritual nurture, leadership development, encouragement, fellowship, and support.
8. Patricia attended Wesleyan Holiness Women Clergy Conference/WHWC in March. Recruited chaplains, represented FM Chaplains Ministries in a Q & A forum along with representatives from other ministries, visited with FM chaplains/chaplain candidates, and networked with FM/WHWC leaders. President of FMCA, Chaplain Daleasha Hall, assisted with registration and prayer time, and FMCA Ex Com Member, Chaplain Cheri Coleman, spoke at the evening session of the FM conference on "Lament," which had a powerful impact on those in attendance!

Chaplain Professional Development Training

1. The FMCA Endowment provided three Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) scholarships: Chaplain David Saltzman (So Cal Conf), Chaplain Marty Zdrojewski (Keystone Conf), and Chaplain Calia Rodriguez (The River Conf).



2. The FMCA Professional Development Training (PDT'22) convened at Aldersgate Conference Center in Oregon on June 7-10. Fifty chaplains and spouses attended the training. Dr. Ken Logan, Professor at George Fox University and Psychologist, taught on Trauma Informed Care. Since it was specialized training, the Oregon pastors were invited to participate - about 30 joined the chaplains for the event (this was the first time we have invited conference pastors to participate in training with our chaplains). Bishop Cowart was the keynote speaker with additional training provided by Chaplain Rick Reynolds who shared about his 28 years of ministry in Seattle to the homeless population with Operation Nightwatch. Chaplain Marie Rose shared about her ministry in Pakistan and with the local sheriff's department.

Distinguished Service Medallion

Each year the Co-Directors of Chaplain Ministries and Executive Committee award a chaplain or chaplains with the Distinguished Service Medallion for providing significant leadership and ministry impact within their organizations; for maintaining a close connection with the FMCUSA; and serving as a member of the FMCA Executive Committee. This year the medallions were awarded to Chaplain Rick Reynolds (retired from Seattle Operation Nightwatch) and Chaplain Fletcher Simpson (retired - hospice/hospital). Chaplain CPT (06) Steve Coates (US Navy) received his Medallion at the Gateway Annual Conference, March 25, 2023. We are proud of the amazing ministry these chaplains provide within their institutions.

Four Ongoing Initiatives

1. *Introduction to Chaplaincy Course* will be offered at the Center For Pastoral Formation by summer/fall of 2023, and possibly at Greenville University in a new chaplain certificate graduate focus. Chaplain Mark Williams in collaboration with Porters is developing the curriculum. We plan to launch no later than fall of 2023.

2. The chaplaincy mission trip to Burundi Africa at Hope Africa University (HAU), was a huge success! It was birthed in 2022, and although it took place in February 2023, it is worthy of mention in this report. Patricia Porter planned and coordinated the training with a spiritual care grant from the Butterfield Memorial Foundation of \$13K. In addition to the Porters, the trainers were Dr. Colin Meneely (university chaplain and professor at Queens University in Belfast, Ireland) and his wife, Barbara (orthopedic nurse), and Dr. Tony Headley, retired Professor of Counseling from Asbury Theological Seminary. The team trained 19 African chaplains and pastors from HAU, the Van Norman Clinic, Kibuye Hope Hospital, Kibogora Hospital, and Nundu Deaconess Hospital. Focus areas: Theological Foundations, Verbatim Writing, Clinical Visitation, Pastoral Crisis Counseling, Introduction to Chaplaincy, Trauma Informed Care, Grief and Bereavement, Spiritual Assessments, Language of Chaplaincy. As a result of the training, spiritual care internships are being organized between the BMF and HAU for the Van Norman Clinic and other hospitals. Finally, the chaplain students formed a FMCA of Africa with executive committee representatives from Burundi, Rwanda, and DR Congo pending Bishops' approval.



3. FMCA is in the process of compiling a book of stories by the FM chaplains. The goal is to have it published either in 2023 or 2024. Jo Bower (spouse of chaplain Monty Bower) who has authored over 10 books, has volunteered to edit the stories in preparation for the book.

4. Ongoing communication with FM Superintendents regarding utilizing chaplains' extensive training and education in their conferences for continuing pastoral education, as well as encouraging their co-vocational and bi-vocational church pastors to explore chaplaincy as an option.

Serving Jesus with you,

Patricia and Tim Porter

Rev. Patricia and Rev. Dr. Tim Porter

Co-Directors of Chaplain Ministries

FMCUSA Chaplain Endorsing Agent