



Female Chaplains in U.S. Army Chaplain Corps

DACOWITS PANEL JUNE 2016



BACKGROUND



The Office of the Chief of Chaplains (OCCH) was tasked to respond to DACOWITS Request for Information (RFI) #13 in Tasker No. 1604195146.

- a. What are all of the endorsing agencies for the Chaplain Corps?*
- b. Which ones specifically endorse women?*
- c. Of the agencies that endorse women, which have women currently serving as female chaplains?*



a. What are all of the endorsing agencies for the Chaplain Corps? (slide 1 of 3)



ECCLESIASTICAL ENDORSING AGENTS
ADVENT CHRISTIAN GENERAL CONFERENCE
AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL ZION CHURCH
ALLIANCE OF BAPTISTS, INCORPORATED
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF LUTHERAN CHURCHES, THE
AMERICAN BAPTIST ASSOCIATION
AMERICAN BAPTIST CHURCHES IN THE U.S.A.
AMERICAN MUSLIM ARMED FORCES AND VETERANS AFFAIRS COUNCIL
ANGLICAN CATHOLIC CHURCH, THE, Inc.
ANGLICAN CHURCH IN AMERICA, THE
ANGLICAN CHURCH OF THE AMERICAS, THE
ANGLICAN CHURCH, THE
ANGLICAN MISSION IN AMERICA CHAPLAINCY
ANGLICAN MISSION IN THE AMERICAS, THE
ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN ARCHDIOCESE OF NORTH AMERICA
APOSTOLIC CATHOLIC ORTHODOX CHURCH
ASSEMBLY OF CANONICAL ORTHODOX BISHOPS OF NORTH AND CENTRAL AMERICA (ACOBNCA)
ASSEMBLIES OF GOD, GENERAL COUNCIL OF
ASSEMBLIES OF GOD, INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIP (CFGC)
ASSOCIATE REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (PRCC)
ASSOCIATION OF EVANGELICAL GOSPEL ASSEMBLIES (AEGA - International, Inc.)
ASSOCIATION OF INDEPENDENT METHODISTS, THE
ASSOCIATION OF INTERNATIONAL GOSPEL ASSEMBLIES, INC. (CFGC)
ASSOCIATION OF REFORMED BAPTIST CHURCHES OF AMERICA (ARBCA)
ASSOCIATION OF UNITY CHURCHES DBA UNITY WORLDWIDE MINISTRIES
AUGSBURG LUTHERAN CHURCHES
BAPTIST BIBLE FELLOWSHIP INTERNATIONAL
BAPTIST GENERAL CONFERENCE (CONVERGE WORLDWIDE)
BAPTIST GENERAL CONVENTION OF TEXAS
BAPTIST MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA
BEREAN FELLOWSHIP OF CHURCHES
BETHEL MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION, INC.
BIBLE CHURCHES CHAPLAINCY
BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH
BIBLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (GENERAL SYNOD)
BRETHREN CHURCH, INC, THE (ASHLAND, OHIO) (NAE)
BUDDHIST CHURCHES OF AMERICA
CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH (ALL POINTS BAPTIST MISSION)
CALVARY CHAPEL OF COSTA MESA
CATHOLIC APOSTOLIC NATIONAL CHURCH

CHINMAYA MISSION WEST
CHRISTIAN AND MISSIONARY ALLIANCE, THE
CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)
CHRISTIAN CHURCHES AND CHURCHES OF CHRIST
CHRISTIAN EVANGELICAL CHURCHES OF AMERICA, INC. (NAE)
CHRISTIAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH IN NORTH AMERICA
CHRISTIAN RENEWAL CHURCH (CFGC)
CHRIST-IMMANUEL MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION (CFGC)
CHURCH OF CHRIST
CHURCH OF GOD (CLEVELAND, TENNESSEE)
CHURCH OF GOD (HOLINESS) (NAE)
CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST, INC.
CHURCH OF GOD MINISTRIES
CHURCH OF GOD OF PROPHECY
CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS, THE (LDS)
CHURCH OF THE LUTHERAN BRETHERN
CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
CHURCH OF THE UNITED BRETHREN IN CHRIST(NAE)
CHURCH ON THE ROCK, INTERNATIONAL (CFGC)
CHURCHES OF CHRIST IN CHRISTIAN UNION
CHURCHES OF GOD, GENERAL CONFERENCE
Colonel David E. Hudson
COMMUNION OF EVANGELICAL EPISCOPAL CHURCHES, THE
COMMUNITY OF CHRIST
CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH IN AMERICAN SAMOA, THE (CCCAS)
CONGREGATIONAL METHODIST CHURCH, THE
CONSERVATIVE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA
CONSERVATIVE CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CONFERENCE
CONSERVATIVE LUTHERAN ASSOCIATION (NAE)
CONVOCATION OF ANGLICANS IN NORTH AMERICA
COOPERATIVE BAPTIST FELLOWSHIP, INC.
CORAL RIDGE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP
CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA (PCCMP)
CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, THE (PCCMP)
ELIM FELLOWSHIP, INC. (NAE)
EPISCOPAL CHURCH, THE
EPISCOPAL MISSIONARY CHURCH, THE
EVANGEL FELLOWSHIP INTERNATIONAL (CFGC)
EVANGELICAL CHURCH ALLIANCE



a. What are all of the endorsing agencies for the Chaplain Corps? (slide 2 of 3)



EVANGELICAL COMMUNITY CHURCH (NAE)
EVANGELICAL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
EVANGELICAL COVENANT CHURCH, THE
EVANGELICAL EPISCOPAL CHURCH, THE
EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH OF AMERICA
EVANGELICAL FRIENDS CHURCH INTERNATIONAL (NAE)
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CONFERENCE AND MINISTERIUM
EVANGELICAL METHODIST CHURCH, THE
EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
FAITH CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP INT'L CHURCH, INC. (CFGC)
FEDERATED ORTHODOX CATHOLIC CHURCHES INTERNATIONAL
FELLOWSHIP OF CHURCHES AND MINISTERS INTERNATIONAL (CFGC)
FELLOWSHIP OF GRACE BRETHREN CHURCHES, THE
FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, SCIENTIST, THE
FREE LUTHERAN CONGREGATION, ASSOCIATION OF (NAE)
FREE METHODIST CHURCH OF NORTH AMERICA
FULL GOSPEL BAPTIST CHURCH FELLOWSHIP, INTERNATIONAL
FULL GOSPEL FELLOWSHIP OF CHURCHES AND MINISTERS INTERNATIONAL
FULL GOSPEL PENTECOSTAL CHURCH
FUNDAMENTAL BAPTIST FELLOWSHIP INT'L
GENERAL ASSOCIATION OF GENERAL BAPTISTS
GENERAL CHURCH OF THE NEW JERUSALEM, THE
GRACE CHURCHES INTERNATIONAL
GRACE PLACE
HARVEST NETWORK INTERNATIONAL (CFGC)
HOLY SPIRIT ASSOCIATION FOR THE UNIFICATION OF WORLD CHRISTIANITY
HORIZON CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP (CFGC)
INDEPENDENCE BRANCH, THE
INDEPENDENT ASSEMBLIES
INDEPENDENT ASSEMBLIES OF GOD INTERNATIONAL (CFGC)
INFAITH
INTERNATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH
INTERNATIONAL CHURCH OF THE FOURSQUARE GOSPEL
INTERNATIONAL COMMUNION OF THE CHARISMATIC EPISCOPAL CHURCH
INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION OF FAITH MINISTRIES, INC. (CFGC)
INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF COMMUNITY CHURCHES

INTERNATIONAL MINISTERIAL FELLOWSHIP
ISLAMIC SOCIETY OF NORTH AMERICA
KINGSWAY FELLOWSHIP INTERNATIONAL (CFGC)
KOREAN EVANGELICAL CHURCH OF AMERICA
KOREAN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF AMERICA (PRCC)
KOREAN-AMERICAN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (PRCC)
LIBERTY BAPTIST FELLOWSHIP FOR CHURCH PLANTING, INC.
LIBERTY FELLOWSHIP OF CHURCHES AND MINISTERS, INC. (CFGC)
LIVING WORD CHRISTIAN CENTER (CFGC)
LUTHERAN CHURCH - MISSOURI SYNOD, THE
LUTHERAN CONGREGATIONS IN MISSION FOR CHRIST
Metropolitan Tikhon (Mollard)
Michael Sharpe
Mike Macintosh
MISSIONARY CHURCH, INC (NAE)
MORAVIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCHES
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS
NATIONAL BAPTIST CONVENTION OF AMERICA, INC.
NATIONAL BAPTIST CONVENTION, USA, INC.
Nevalon Mitchell, Jr.
NEW TESTAMENT ASSOCIATION OF INDEPENDENT BAPTIST CHURCHES
NORTH AMERICAN BAPTIST CONFERENCE
OPEN BIBLE STANDARD CHURCHES
ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS CONVENTION
ORTHODOX ANGLICAN CHURCH
ORTHODOX CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE, NORTH AMERICA, THE (OCANA)
ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA, THE
ORTHODOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (PRCC)
PENTECOSTAL ASSEMBLIES OF THE WORLD, INC.
PENTECOSTAL CHURCH OF GOD, INC.
PENTECOSTAL CHURCHES OF THE APOSTOLIC FAITH ASSN
PENTECOSTAL HOLINESS CHURCH, INTERNATIONAL
PHILADELPHIA CHURCH (CFGC)
PIRCHEI SHOSHANIM
PLYMOUTH BRETHREN
POLISH NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH OF AMERICA



a. What are all of the endorsing agencies for the Chaplain Corps? (slide 3 of 3)



PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.), THE (PCCMP)
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA, THE (PRCC)
PROGRESSIVE NATIONAL BAPTIST CONVENTION, INC.
RABBINICAL ASSEMBLY (CONSERVATIVE), THE (JWB)
RABBINICAL COUNCIL OF AMERICA (ORTHODOX) (JWB)
REFORMED CHURCH IN AMERICA
REFORMED EPISCOPAL CHURCH
REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NORTH AMERICA (PRCC)
REGULAR BAPTIST CHURCHES, GENERAL ASSOCIATION OF
RHEMA BIBLE CHURCH (CFGC)
ROCK CHURCH (CFGC)
ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH, THE
SALVATION ARMY, THE
SEVENTH DAY ADVENTISTS - UNITED STATES, GENERAL CONFERENCE OF
SEVENTH DAY BAPTIST GENERAL CONFERENCE U.S.A. AND CANADA
SHUL, THE
SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION
SOUTHERN METHODIST CHURCH, THE
SOVEREIGN GRACE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION OF CHURCHES
SWEDENBORGIAN CHURCH, THE
SYRIAN EASTERN ORTHODOX EXARCHATE IN AMERICA
THE OLD HOLY CATHOLIC CHURCH, ARCHDIOCESE OF CHRIST THE KING
TRINITY FULL GOSPEL FELLOWSHIP (CFGC)
UNAFFILIATED BAPTIST CHURCHES OF AMERICA
UNION OF MESSIANIC JEWISH CONGREGATIONS (CFGC)
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST ASSOCIATION, THE
UNITED CATHOLIC CHURCH OF AMERICA
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
UNITED EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF NORTH AMERICA, THE
UNITED EVANGELICAL CHURCHES (CFGC)
UNITED FULL GOSPEL CHURCH (CFGC)
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, THE
UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH INTERNATIONAL

VICTORY CHRISTIAN CENTER (CFGC)
WESLEYAN CHURCH, THE
WESTERN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH
WESTSIDE CHRISTIAN FAMILY CHAPEL (NAE)
WORLD BAPTIST FELLOWSHIP, INC.
WORLD COUNCIL OF INDEPENDENT CHRISTIAN CHURCHES, THE

UNITED ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTIONS:
ALBANIAN ORTHODOX DIOCESE
AMERICAN CARPATHO-RUSSIAN ORTHODOX DIOCESE OF THE USA
BULGARIAN EASTERN ORTHODOX DIOCESE OF THE USA, CANADA, AND AUSTRALIA
GEORGIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH
GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF AMERICA
ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA
ROMANIAN ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE IN THE AMERICAS
RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH
RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH OUTSIDE OF RUSSIA (ROCOR)
SERBIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH IN NORTH AND SOUTH AMERICA
UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH IN CANADA
UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH OF THE USA



b. Which ones specifically endorse women?



The Pew Research Center indicates the following religious bodies 'ordain' female clergy:

- American Baptist Church
 - Episcopal Church
 - Jewish: Reform & Conservative
 - Presbyterian Church (USA)
 - Unitarian Universalist
 - Pentecostal Church of God
 - African Methodist Episcopal
 - Christian Science
 - Buddhist
 - Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
 - United Church of Christ
 - United Methodist Church
 - Assemblies of God
 - Disciples of Christ
- *Religious Organizations are free to determine their theology and doctrinal polity regarding ordination of clergy, and endorsement of chaplains for military ministry. Those decisions and beliefs are subject to change – and historically have been debated within their organizations / denominations.*



c. *Of the agencies that endorse women, which have women currently serving as female chaplains?*



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FEMALE CHAPLAINS ENDORSERS	EPISCOPAL CHURCH, THE
AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH	EVANGELICAL CHURCH ALLIANCE
ASSEMBLIES OF GOD, GENERAL COUNCIL OF	EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA
INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF COMMUNITY CHURCHES	INTERNATIONAL CHURCH OF THE FOURSQUARE GOSPEL
COOPERATIVE BAPTIST FELLOWSHIP, INC.	JEWISH WELFARE BOARD
BAPTIST GENERAL CONFERENCE (CONVERGE WORLDWIDE)	NATIONAL BAPTIST CONVENTION OF AMERICA, INC.
BAPTIST GENERAL CONVENTION OF TEXAS	NATIONAL BAPTIST CONVENTION, USA, INC
CHAPLAINCY FULL GOSPEL CHURCHES (CFGC)	PENTECOSTAL CHURCH OF GOD
CHURCHES OF GOD, GENERAL CONFERENCE	PENTECOSTAL ASSEMBLIES OF THE WORLD, INC.
CHURCH OF GOD (CLEVELAND, TENNESSEE)	PENTECOSTAL HOLINESS CHURCH, INTERNATIONAL
CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST, INC.	PRESBYTERIAN COUNCIL FOR CHAPLAINS & MILITARY PER
CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)	REFORMED CHURCH IN AMERICA
CHRISTIAN CHURCHES AND CHURCHES OF CHRIST	SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST
COALITION OF SPIRIT-FILLED CHURCHES INC. (CSC)	SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION
CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH IN NORTH AMERICA	UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST SCIENTIST	UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
	UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST ASSOCIATION, THE

The female US Army Chaplains come from a variety of endorsing religious organizations.



c. *Of the agencies that endorse women, which have women currently serving as female chaplains?*



ARNG & USAR / Compo 2 & 3

- American Baptist Churches (USA)
- Assemblies of God, General Conference
- Assoc. of International Gospel Assemblies
- Chaplaincy Full Gospel Churches
- Christian Church (DOC)
- Church of Christ
- Christian Science
- Church of the Nazarene
- Coalition of Spirit Filled Churches
- Episcopal Church
- Evangelical Church Alliance
- Evangelical Church of North America
- Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
- Full Gospel Fellowship of Churches and Ministries International
- General Council of the Assemblies of God
- International Ministerial Fellowship
- Korean Evangelical Church of America
- National Baptist Convention
- National Baptist Convention USA
- Pentecostal Church of God
- Presbyterian Council
- Seventh Day Adventist
- Unitarian Universalist Association
- United Church of Christ
- United Methodist Church
- United Pentecostal Church International
- Wesleyan Church
- World Council of Independent Christian Churches



SUMMARY



- **Religious Organizations and denominations are free to determine who is qualified to be “ordained” as a certified religious leader for their group.**
- **Those same religious organizations and denominations are free to change their beliefs and policies regarding the certification of clergy to lead worship or other rituals of their denomination and/or group.**
- **Historically religious organizations have deliberated within their official bodies regarding doctrinal beliefs about ordination and certification of clergy to represent their beliefs, and practice religious leadership in worship and other functions for their followers, adherents, and denomination.**
- **Even religious organizations or denominations that may “ordain” female clergy, may choose to not endorse those clergy to military chaplain ministry (or any clergy – male or female – to military chaplain ministry).**