Where Chaplains Serve

The Wesleyan Church’s chaplains serve in institutional settings such as hospitals, hospice facilities, nursing homes, state and county correctional facilities, police and fire departments, Veteran’s Administration hospitals, and in many other specialized settings. Our military chaplains serve in the U.S. Army, Navy, Air Force, and Civil Air Patrol of the United States service in all parts of the world.

Chaplains extend the love of Christ to a lost and dying world. In many ways, they become the face of Jesus to those who might not see Jesus in any other way.

The Wesleyan Church desires to endorse men and women who believe they are called to serve others and to demonstrate the love of Jesus in a specialized environment.
Military and Institutional Chaplaincy

Many persons are finding ministry as a chaplain to be fulfilling. Chaplains are ministers who perform pastoral tasks in specialized settings. They love people and are capable of providing dedicated ministry in a wide variety of settings, often with non-traditional methods within religiously pluralistic environments. The Wesleyan Church recognizes the value of this ministry and provides for the endorsement of qualified persons through its Committee on Chaplains.

Those who seek to be appointed as military or institutional chaplains must received ecclesiastical endorsement. Endorsement is an affirmation by the Church that a person is or will be performing ministry on behalf of the Church, and has presented evidence of having the special education, experience, and skills necessary for that specialized ministry.

John 15:16

“You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you.”

Application Procedure

Go to www.wesleyan.org/pastors, select Forms and scroll down to Chaplains.

The Committee on Chaplains meets when needed. On special occasions, the Committee may take action on endorsements by mail or phone ballot.

To receive denominational endorsement, applicants must satisfy the following conditions and procedures:

Institutional Chaplaincy Requirements

- Must be an ordained minister in full connection and good standing in a district of The Wesleyan Church
- Must have completed specialized training for the type of ministry for which endorsement is sought, which generally includes at least one year of supervised clinical training or comparable professional experience. In addition, there may be requirements established by specific institutions which must be met before endorsement can be granted
- Must complete full application process with the Committee on Chaplains

Military Chaplaincy Requirements

- Must meet all of the military requirements
- Must have the M.Div. degree or the equivalent from a recognized seminary
- Must be an ordained minister in full connection and good standing in a district of The Wesleyan Church
- Must complete at least two years full-time pastoral service following seminary, unless already ordained and experienced as a pastor prior to seminary completion
- Must complete full application process with the Committee on Chaplains, including spousal interview if married