



SPECIAL JURISDICTION OF THE ARMED FORCES AND CHAPLAINCY

PROVINCIAL REPORT JUNE 2015
VANCOUVER, BRITISH COLUMBIA

INTRODUCTION

The Special Jurisdiction of the Armed Forces and Chaplaincy (JAFC) is the canonical residence for all ecclesiastically endorsed chaplains representing the Anglican Church in North America. Officially created as a Special Jurisdiction in 2014, the JAFC had its start as the “Deanery for the Chaplaincy” with the Convocation of Anglicans in North America (CANA) and later the Diocese of the Armed Forces and Chaplaincy (CANAF). The Right Reverend Derek LS Jones was the founding bishop and continues to serve as the Bishop of the Armed Forces and Chaplaincy having been affirmed by unanimous vote of the Chaplains in Convocation in 2014 to serve as the First Bishop of the JAFC. The ministry of the JAFC continues to expand by the Grace of God.

CENSUS

While many chaplains retired or moved out of chaplaincy into parochial ministry over the last year, the Jurisdiction continues to oversee a significant number of clergy. The JAFC currently has 153 chaplains formally endorsed for ministry in the ACNA; 64% of which are governmental (US Military, VA, and DoJ). At the time of this report, there were 44 approved applicants at various points of the accession process including 5 seminarians resulting in a total clergy census of 197. There are 24 chaplain-led church plants* and 22 non-permanent chapels led specifically by Anglican Chaplains around the world. Additionally, 14 Anglican Chaplains are involved as supporting staff for established parishes in 6 different dioceses of the ACNA and a United Methodist Church (mission). Calculating an ASA is not an applicable measure given the scope, mission, and ministry of Chaplaincy. However, the footprint of chaplain-led weekly worship is significant. Our smallest plant ministry has 16 regularly attending and our largest in-place ministry at a military chapel is over 800 spread across multiple services. (**Chaplain-led church plants are overseen by the JAFC and then transferred to an existing diocese once they attain “church” status. The JAFC has 3 permanent churches resident of a planned total of 6 residential parishes. Otherwise, chaplain-led church plants are normatively passed to an ACNA diocese.*)

FINANCES

The JAFC is operating in 2015 on an Annual Budget (Calendar Year) of \$297K of which the operations portion is \$137K. The remaining bulk of the budget is “flow-through” for specific ministries, training, education, convocation, etc. It is important to note that the JAFC is almost entirely funded (92%) by the individual chaplains themselves through tithes and gifts.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

The JAFC Executive Council members are:

Captain Michael VanHoosier, USN (ret.) - Chairman
The Reverend William Arnold
The Right Reverend David Bena
Dr. William A. Crunk
Colonel Noel Dawes, British Army (ret.)
Dr. Donald Dennis
Colonel Randy Puhmann, USAF (ret.)
MGen John Ellington, Chaplain, USAF (ret.) – Chairman Emeritus



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MINISTRIES OF THE JURISDICTION ACTIVE IN 2015

The Centurion Project: The Centurion Project is an intense four-day retreat program that addresses post-traumatic stress, combat operational stress, and moral injury. The program is offered at no cost and is designed to build community and to bring spiritual and emotional healing to each participant through times of fellowship and solitude under Holy Spirit guided prayer and worship. Since September 11, 2001, Americans have become more aware of the sacrifices made by members of the military, law enforcement, first responders, and their families. With this growing awareness comes a greater realization of the heavy burdens these brave men and women carry as a result of their service. Anglican Chaplaincy is dedicated to providing past and present military veterans, first responders, law enforcement personnel and their families with ministry for their spiritual health and healing. While several church-based programs exist to help these individuals “cope” with moral injury, operational stress, and PTSD, the Centurion Project is one of only two known programs that are about bringing “healing” to these individuals. The Centurion Project retreat this past year was completely funded by a single benefactor, but this is not sustainable for the future. Churches who are serious about helping our veterans, law enforcement officers, and missionaries are encouraged to consider making the Centurion Project a benefactor of financial gifts in and through your church.

Visions of Grace: Visions of Grace, beginning first as an eye care ministry, is a chaplain-led missionary outreach, answering God’s call into Third World countries. The most recent trip (May 2015) was to remote Mayan Indian village in the mountainous area of Guatemala. Missionaries have been traveling yearly to these isolated regions to share the Gospel and provide essential medical treatment. The J AFC partners with the Anglican Relief and Development Fund to field chaplains and other ministries in this mission effort under their “Development” banner. Chaplains and missionaries who will become part of the Crisis Action Team of the J AFC will participate in the Visions of Grace missions are part of their familiarization and experience building to missions. ACNA churches can support this Anglican Chaplain ministry in a very simple way... simply collect used eyewear – prescription and non-prescription – and send your collections to the Home Office of the Jurisdiction.

Crisis Action Team (CAT): The J AFC’s Crisis Action Team is partnering with the Anglican Relief and Development Fund (ARDF) to field chaplains and other support persons to emergency locations. Inspired by God’s radical grace, ARDF exists to empower Anglicans in the developing world to show the love of Christ to those in need in their own communities: clean water for the thirsty, jobs for the poor, education for children, food for the hungry – hope for those without hope. CAT members are trained in specialized areas such as Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) and Crisis Engagement Ministry (CEM - an Anglican Chaplain created and managed training and education program). In the last year, the CAT was partially activated for potential deployment to Israel during the most conflict there. While the team did not deploy, the lessons learned have led to a far more robust and ready program.

Executive Leadership Seminar (ELS): Called simply an “Executive Seminar” by the John Jay Institute who is our partner in this ministry, ELS is designed to offer professional Chaplains a meaningful continuing education experience that is especially tailored to consider the duties and obligations of citizenship in our participatory republican democracy. Participation in this course is by competitive selection and two positions each year are reserved for non-chaplain applicants. ELS is moderated by Dr. Greg Jesson, whose mentor was Francis Schaeffer. Inspired by the vision of G.K. Chesterton and C.S. Lewis, Dr. Jesson is interested in educational efforts where faith, learning, and thought, are the most relevant, exciting, and compelling things in the world.



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Anglican Tutorial: The Tutorial in Anglicanism provided by the JAFC under the managerial oversight of The Rev. Canon Marshall MacClellan, Canon for Education, Training and Credentials (Canon Theologian), is 36-week distance course. The tutorial strives to instill a solid sense of the Anglican ethos in those who complete the course by emphasizing Anglican Church history, liturgy and theology. It is the basic format used to provide a base for “Anglican Track” education in many Seminaries. The distance tutorial begins in late August/early September each year, and the Residential Course is held in September. Both parts of the tutorial are REQUIRED by all individuals wishing to become chaplains whose Master of Divinity is not from an approved Anglican seminary or other seminary with an approved Anglican track of study. Unfortunately, because only two instructors were available for the the last tutorial course that just completed in June 2015, not everyone who applied was able to take the course. Because this is the most complete Anglican studies program available in ACNA, it is increasing in popularity and we are working to qualify new instructors for the upcoming course. Diocesans who requested “seats” for their some of their clergy to attend last year who were not accommodated will be given priority for the course beginning in August 2015.

Residential Tutorial: This is a one-week intensive practicum event during which the disciplines and practices of the church are lived out. It is prayer book centric in its emphasis and seeks to see at the completion of the week a complete understanding of mechanics associated with the history and practice of the church learned during the Anglican Tutorial. An added benefit to its participants is ensures lasting relationships (mentor and peer) are created and strengthened to endure. The Residential Tutorial in September 2015 will be held in Pelham, Alabama. Priority is given to individuals who have most recently completed the Anglican Tutorial. This should not discourage applications from anyone in the ACNA. Many Anglican clergy who, for whatever reason, do not know how to chant, fully understand the theology and mechanics of the Eucharist, or even the traditional Anglican protocol for the daily office have attended and can give testimony to the value of this particular training and education offered by the JAFC.

Commissioned Lay Chaplain (CLC): The Commissioned Lay Chaplain (CLC) ministry is for lay vocational chaplains who require endorsement in order to work in chaplain positions where ordination is not required. The Jurisdiction of the Armed Forces and Chaplaincy (JAFC) is the approving and endorsing authority for this ministry. As an increasing number of hospitals and other institutions remove the requirement that a chaplain be ordained (a result of the ‘secularization’ of chaplaincy), the JAFC has developed this program so to allow Lay Chaplains in the ACNA to be trained, supported, and fielded as chaplains. The CLC Academy is held twice per year in February and August. Academy registration opens 45 days prior to the start date. The Academy is currently limited to 18 students and priority is given to previously approved lay chaplain candidates who have not yet attended. Applicants must have approval of their Rector/Vicar and Diocesan to attend. In order to provide ecclesiastical oversight of this lay ministry, all CLCs become part of an “active” lay religious order, the Order of St. Martin of Tours. Application to become a Lay Chaplain follows much of the same process for ordained chaplains and anyone considering this ministry is encouraged to begin the chaplain application process with the JAFC.

Order of St. Martin of Tours: St. Martin of Tours is the patron saint of chaplains. Qualifications for postulancy in the Order are connected to the qualifications for chaplaincy prescribed by the Bishop of the Armed Forces and Chaplaincy. While not all members of this order require formal ecclesiastical endorsement, all Commissioned Lay Chaplains under endorsement must be part of this religious order.



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Thus, the oversight of Commissioned Lay Chaplains is accomplished by requiring all lay chaplains to be part of a Religious Order. (Lay chaplains remain resident in their home diocese.)

Anglican Chaplains Adoption Fund: In the U.S around 101,666 children are eligible for adoption, but nearly 32% will wait more than three years before being adopted. Around the world, there are an estimated 17,900,000 orphans who have lost both parents and are living in orphanages or on the streets and lack the care and attention required for healthy development. Often, our Chaplains are engaged in helping and working with these children. While we don't attest as to a reason why, a high percentage of our Anglican Chaplains have chosen to adopt both exclusively, and as part of their biological families. The Chaplains Adoption Fund is a new program developed by the JAFC to provide chaplains and Jurisdiction members with guidance and assistance in and through the adoption process. Please note that this "Fund" is not an investment portfolio, but rather the collection of gifts (non-investiture) to aid and offset costs of ministry and support efforts of adoption.

The Russell Worrell Benevolence Fund: The Reverend (Chaplain) Russell Worrell died in January 2014. Fr. Worrell was the first chaplain in the Deanery of the Chaplaincy (CANA) to pass away. He was an admired and highly acclaimed chaplain. The Chapel in the Home Office of the Jurisdiction bears his name – The Russell Worrell Memorial Chapel. Russell had an amazing impact on everyone he met. In the last 16 months of his life, even as the sarcoidosis that would take his life began to invade his lungs, Russell ministered to over 1000 men relating to fatherhood through Sav-a-Life. Like many non-governmental chaplains, Fr Russell did not income sufficient to have life or health insurance. This left a huge strain on his wife and three young sons. Anglican Chaplains and the community he served came together in an amazing way to help pay his medical and burial expenses for his family. This donation fund was established in his name and is used to support chaplain's families when terminal illness and death occur to the chaplain.

GENERAL

Because of the nature of ministry provided by chaplains, there will be an effort to raise awareness of the ministry and financial needs for 2016 among ACNA churches. The support model in place – that is, individual chaplains bearing the greatest weight of financing the ministry of the JAFC – is simply no longer sustainable if the ministries of the JAFC are going to continue to grow at the rate and demand that they have in 2014 and 2015. When determining mission financial outlays for 2016, ACNA churches are asked to consider the ministry of Anglican Chaplains (to either the general fund or designated in support of any specific ministry highlighted in this report).