

Chaplain Ross Fearing

Report to Great Lakes/Gulf Presbytery

February 19, 2022

Overview

In addition to serving as pastor at Sparta RPC, I serve as a Chaplain in the US Army Reserve assigned to the 77th Quartermaster Group (Petroleum) (QM GRP) station at Ft. Bliss, TX, near El Paso, TX.

Duties

As Group Chaplain to the 77th QM GRP Chaplain I perform and provide religious support to over 1,000 Soldiers at multiple duty locations in Texas and New Mexico. Some of my key responsibilities are performing regular chapel services, providing pastoral counseling, supervising, and mentoring subordinate chaplains, and providing ethical and moral leadership and advice to leaders and Soldiers.

Ministry Update

I have been serving in my current position for two years. I have enjoyed the return to regular, in person training. My high point this year was participating as the senior chaplain for the training units of the Quartermaster Liquid Logistic Exercise, a nationwide exercise for active duty and reserve petroleum and water units. For a great overview of the exercise check out this video. <https://www.veterans.us.com/4th-esc-quartermaster-liquid-logistics-exercise-qllex-2021/>

During the exercise I had direct supervision over eight chaplain teams located across the United States as well as providing direct ministry to approximately 150 Soldiers throughout the two-week exercise. I conducted four chapel services during that time and held daily prayer meetings. I also provided pastoral counseling to numerous Soldiers and presented the gospel on two occasions.

This summer I also attended the Presbyterian and Reformed Commission on Chaplains and Military Personnel (PRCC) annual chaplain training which occurred this year in St. Louis, MO.

Throughout the year I attend weekend Battle Assembly with my unit in El Paso, TX. This year I have emphasized being on location with our assigned units throughout the Group and especially training and mentoring the Battalion Unit Ministry Teams. There are distinct challenges in providing such oversight in a pluralistic environment as I have had supervision over chaplains ranging the entire spectrum of American Christianity. That said, I have used these relationships to encourage chaplains to walk closely with the Lord, to proclaim Christ from Scripture, and to guard their lives against sin.

After this summer, I am planning on transferring to a new Army Reserve unit, hopefully closer to home. Travel from Sparta, IL to El Paso takes about 10 hours one way and it is wearing me out. Ideally, I will find a unit within driving distance or connected by direct flights from St. Louis.

Conclusion

I have been far more productive in my chaplain ministry this year as we have returned to regular training rhythms. I continue to see fruit from my chaplain ministry and have not met any significant hinderances to ministry in the Army. If you have any further questions about my ministry, please contact me. I look forward to sharing the work God is doing through myself and the many other godly chaplains serving our country.

In Christ,
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