

Chaplain (Colonel) Douglas C. Swift

(1999 - Present)



Ministry Prior To The Military: In the eleven years before entering the United States Army, Chaplain Swift served in various pastorates in Southern California as well as a missionary in the Republic of South Africa under Apartheid rule. In 1999 he received a commission as an active duty First Lieutenant.

Previous Assignments Include:

1-8 CAV (Armor), First Cavalry Division (Battalion Chaplain)
1-38 Field Artillery (MLRS), Second Infantry Division (Battalion Chaplain)
Area 1, Republic of Korea (Deputy Command Chaplain)
519th Military Police, US Army Forces Command (Battalion Chaplain)
Joint Readiness Training Center (Chaplain Observer/Controller)
1st Maneuver Enhancement Brigade, US Army Forces Command (Brigade Chaplain)
US Army Medical Command (Senior Bioethicist and Ethics Instructor)
First Cavalry Division (Deputy Division Chaplain)
North Atlantic Treaty Organization (Command Chaplain)
19th Expeditionary Sustainment Command, 8th Army (Command Chaplain)
Joint Base Langley - Eustis (Senior Joint Base Chaplain)
Joint Base Little Creek - Story (Senior Army Chaplain)
Area Support Group – Kuwait (Command Chaplain)

Current Assignment: 1st Theater Sustainment Command (Command Chaplain)

Projected Summer FY22 Assignment: US Army Central Command (Command Chaplain)

Military Ministry Specialties: Overseas Military Ministry, Joint and Multinational Religious Support Operational Planning, Diplomacy, Non-combatant Evacuation Operations, Military and Medical Ethics, Clinical Pastoral Education, Just War Theory, Team Building, Supervision of Active Duty, National Guard, and Reserve Religious Support Teams from the Army, Navy, and Air Force.

Military Pastoral Roles: During his 23+ years of active service, Chaplain Swift also served in a number of military pastoral roles to include: Staff Pastor (5 times), Youth Pastor (1 time), Executive Pastor (2 times), and Senior Pastor (4 times).

Thoughts About Mentoring: Chaplain Swift became passionate about mentoring when working as the Chaplain Observer/Controller at the Joint Readiness Training Center. During this assignment he began to realize that while some small measure of success can come from your own hard work, one can only be truly successful in the military ministry if they are willing to learn from those that God puts on his or her path. The higher a leader goes in rank, the more he or she must be willing to learn from the others that God surrounds them with.

Chaplain Swift is a firm believer that you can bloom no matter where the assignment process plants you. Additionally, there are no bad assignments, but some require A LOT more work than others! To succeed in such assignments it is always good to have a mentor or two.

At this time, due to his current and projected follow-on assignment, Chaplain Swift is only able to serve as a mentor for up to four O4/O5 chaplains.