



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
JOINT FORCE HEADQUARTERS WISCONSIN
WISCONSIN ARMY NATIONAL GUARD
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NGWI-CH 12JAN2024

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Annual Report

1. Purpose: To provide a report of the progress and plans of Chaplain Candidate Christian Ryan to the Session of Resurrection Presbyterian Church, OPC.
2. Academic Progress: Thanks to my successful internship at RPC this last summer, I went into this academic year in a developmental mindset that has made it one of the most challenging and rewarding semesters I have had. All the grades I have received back are satisfactory; however, due to the birth and subsequent medical issues of my son Patrick, I fell substantially behind in essay writing, and am still wrapping up some of the work. The professors have been more than understanding and accommodating, and I am thankful for their patience.
3. Military Progress: My military training continues at pace. I was promoted to 1st LT in FEB of 2023, and continued in the Wisconsin National Guard Chaplain Corps' Chaplain Candidate curriculum, including leading classes and training on organization, effective communication, and leadership. I completed my annual training (AT) at Fort McCoy in July and August as the acting chaplain for the 732nd BSSB, a challenging and rewarding assignment. I have recently been re-attached to the 1-120th FA, which I was a member of as a Field Artillery LT after I was commissioned. I will be joining them, along with the majority of the 32nd Infantry Brigade in their stateside training deployment to Fort Polk/Johnson in Louisiana this summer. This is a large-scale training, for which planning and preparation are already underway. It will be an excellent test of both real-world and training environment chaplain skills and competencies, and I am looking forward to the challenge.
4. Family: We thank you for your continued prayers and support through what has been a very difficult season of life following on Patrick's birth. Patrick's health has improved with his size and strength, albeit slowly. We love that he is a smiley, happy child, enjoying the season as best we can. His diagnosis is of a chromosomal deletion, one specific part of one chromosome is missing. What that means for his health and development we cannot know, but will observe as he continues to grow. We trust in God to shape Patrick into the man He wants him to be. Our faith has been severely tested with his struggles and diagnosis, especially Megan's. We ask for your prayers for her, that she might see more clearly and rest in ruling of Christ.

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5. Plans: I am currently on a 4-year track to complete seminary, graduating, D.V., in May 2025 and completing my last Presbytery examinations that summer, to be ready to present myself to the Presbytery for ordination in fall of 2025. That track squares with my completing Chaplaincy requirements in order to be promoted to Chaplain shortly after ordination.

I have completed all my internship and almost all of my Ministerial-Apprenticeship-Program (MAP) requirements for graduation from MARS. My mind turns next to presbytery exams for licensure and ordination, which I hope to begin this summer.

After graduation plans are evangelistically focused. I am called to military chaplaincy, and plan to continue in that role in the National Guard, which gives me a lot of freedom of movement on the civilian side. I hope to volunteer for a deployment overseas with the Guard to “earn my spurs” soon after ordination. After that, training for further evangelistic ministry on the civilian side could include a yearlong internship at a church focusing on evangelism and church planting, or taking a few units of Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) in order to qualify for Hospital, VA, or Prison chaplaincy positions. This would be alongside continued National Guard chaplaincy. We hope to, and I will make every effort to, continue to minister from within the Presbytery of Wisconsin and Minnesota, addressing the needs where we have been planted.

6. Requests for Action: We thank RPC for your continued support, especially in prayer. Accordingly, please pray for:

- Patrick! Thank God he’s here, and pray for his health.
- Megan’s faith and trust in God’s good providence.
- Christian to grow in discipline and love, and to prepare him for the ministry.
- The Armed Services as a mission field, that the Word would be preached thoroughly to them, and that tens of thousands would repent and believe in Jesus Christ.
- Our family’s continued provision and security.
- A growing of Christian fellowship between our family and RPC, even as we’re living hundreds of miles away from each other.

7. POC: The undersigned at: (262) 488-8887, crhistwiz@gmail.com.

CHRISTIAN RYAN
1LT, 1-120th FA, WIARNG
Chaplain Candidate