



# BIOGRAPHY



**UNITED STATES AIR FORCE**

## CHAPLAIN, MAJOR LUKUS S. COUNTERMAN

Chaplain, Major Lukus Counterman is the IMA to the Wing Chaplain for the 354th Fighter Wing, Eielson Air Force Base, Alaska. Under the guidance of the Wing Chaplain, he leads the base religious program to support the free exercise of religion and spiritual growth of 6,000 active duty Airmen and their families. He serves the Wing Commander through advisement on matters of religion, morale, ethics, welfare, and quality of life. He aids in the development and execution of the Airmen Ministry Plan to ensure that Airmen are spiritually fit to fight. And he leads the chapel team to facilitate the spiritual growth of all military personnel and their families through worship, visitation, counseling and care.

Chaplain Counterman entered the ministry as an Assistant Pastor in Glen Burnie, Maryland in 2000 at Anchor Baptist Church. After four years of service, he became the senior pastor at Wichita Falls Baptist Church in Wichita Falls, Texas. He served there in a full-time capacity as the lead pastor-teacher for nearly 8 years. In January 2009 Chaplain Counterman was commissioned as a First Lieutenant in the USAF Reserve and began his career in the military chaplaincy. He subsequently served in various reserve capacities at the 71st Flying Training Wing, Vance Air Force Base, Oklahoma, and the 80th Flying Training Wing, Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas. In 2012 Chaplain Counterman joined a church-planting team in Salt Lake City and directed the establishment of Gospel Grace Church. In the same year he received orders to active duty service at Hill Air Force Base to serve as the Ogden Air Logistics Complex full-time industrial chaplain. He fulfilled his duties in that capacity until 2014. In 2015 Chaplain Counterman served a summer at the United States Air Force Academy, Colorado, and that same year performed a 120-day backfill to provide specialty programs connected to resiliency and wellness for the 75<sup>th</sup> Air Base Wing, Hill Air Force Base, Utah. In 2016 Chaplain Counterman was activated again to a 188-day backfill as the Deputy Wing Chaplain at Hill Air Force Base. Chaplain Counterman is married to the former Liesl Shingledecker, and they are the parents of four children, son: Elijah; and daughters: Eden, Cana, and Lydia.



### EDUCATION

1997 Bachelor of Arts (BA), Biological Science, University of Maryland, Baltimore, MD  
1999 Master of Arts (MA), Biblical Counseling, Maranatha Baptist Seminary, Watertown, WI  
2004 Master of Divinity (MDiv), Calvary Baptist Theological Seminary, Lansdale, PA  
2009 Commissioned Officer Training, Maxwell AFB, Montgomery, AL  
2010 Basic Chaplain Course, Fort Jackson, Columbia, SC  
2011 Doctor of Ministry (DMin), Homiletics, Dallas Theological Seminary, Dallas, TX  
2013 Squadron Officer School (Correspondence)  
2018 Master Resilience Training, Hill AFB, Layton, UT  
2019 Doctor of Philosophy (PhD), Systematic Theology, Southeastern Baptist Theo. Seminary, Wake Forest, NC

### ASSIGNMENTS

1. January 2009 – December 2011, Chaplain, 71<sup>st</sup> Flying Training Wing, Vance AFB, OK
2. December 2012 – August 2014, Industrial Chaplain, OO-ALC, Hill AFB, UT
3. December 2011 – February 2019, Chaplain & IMA to the Deputy Wing Chaplain, 75<sup>th</sup> Air Base Wing, Hill AFB, UT

4. February 2019 – Present, IMA to the Wing Chaplain, 354<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing, Eielson AFB, AK

**MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS**

Meritorious Service Medal

Air Force Commendation Medal with one oak leaf cluster

AF Outstanding Unit Award

Air Force Recognition Ribbon – Thoralf T. Thielen Award (Cat A/B Reserve Chaplain of the Year)

National Defense Service Medal

Global War on Terrorism Service Medal

AF Longevity Service

AF Training Ribbon

American Red Cross Hero Award

**EFFECTIVES DATES OF PROMOTION**

First Lieutenant                      30 Jan 2009

Captain                                      01 Oct 2010

Major                                        08 Apr 2016

(Current as of March 2019)