



# BIOGRAPHY



## UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

### CHAPLAIN, MAJOR LUKUS S. COUNTERMAN

Ch, Maj Lukus S. Counterman is the IMA to the Wing Chaplain for the 354th Fighter Wing, Eielson Air Force Base, Alaska. Alongside 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, Md. 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. Having previously graduated from the University of Maryland Baltimore County, in January 2009 by direct commission, Chaplain Counterman entered the USAF Reserve as a First Lieutenant 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 was activated 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 special resiliency programs for the 75<sup>th</sup> Air Base Wing, Hill Air Force Base, Utah. In 2016, prior to his current position, Chaplain Counterman was activated to a 188-day backfill as the Deputy Wing Chaplain at Hill Air Force Base, Utah. While on orders and then in the following years in reserve status, he oversaw chapel programs and supervised chapel staff.



#### EDUCATION

- 1997 Bachelor of Arts, Biological Science, University of Maryland Baltimore County, Baltimore.
- 1999 Master of Arts, Biblical Studies – Counseling Emphasis, Maranatha Baptist Seminary, Watertown, Wis.
- 2004 Master of Divinity, Calvary Baptist Theological Seminary, Lansdale, Pa.
- 2009 Commissioned Officer Training, Maxwell AFB, Ala.
- 2010 Basic Chaplain Course, Fort Jackson, S.C.
- 2011 Doctor of Ministry, Homiletics, Dallas Theological Seminary, Dallas, Texas
- 2013 Squadron Officer School, Maxwell AFB, Ala., by correspondence
- 2015 Chaplain Spiritual Leadership Course, Fort Jackson, S.C.
- 2019 Doctor of Philosophy, Systematic Theology, Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, N.C.
- 2019 Deputy Wing Chaplain Course, Fort Jackson, S.C.
- 2021 Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell AFB, Ala., by correspondence
- 2021 Wing Chaplain Course, Fort Jackson, S.C.

**ASSIGNMENTS**

1. January 2009–December 2011, Chaplain, 71<sup>st</sup> Flying Training Wing, Vance Air Force Base, Okla.
2. December 2011–February 2019, Chaplain and IMA to the Deputy Wing Chaplain, 75<sup>th</sup> Air Base Wing, Hill AFB, Utah (December 2012–August 2014, Industrial Chaplain, OO-ALC, Hill AFB, Utah)
3. February 2019–Present, IMA to the Wing Chaplain, 354<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing, Eielson AFB, Alaska

**MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS**

Meritorious Service Medal with oak leaf cluster  
Air Force Commendation Medal with oak leaf cluster  
Air Force Recognition Ribbon – Thoralf T. Thielen Award (Cat A/B Reserve Chaplain of the Year)  
American Red Cross Hero Award

**EFFECTIVES DATES OF PROMOTION**

First Lieutenant Jan. 30, 2009  
Captain Oct. 1, 2010  
Major April 8, 2016

(Current as of April 2021)