

CPT Chris Koehn
Chaplain Corps, Army National Guard



I was born and raised in Ewa Beach, Hawai'i. As an elementary student, my parents started attending a Bible church. During this time, I realized my need for Christ's saving work on the cross and put my trust in Christ. I began to grow spiritually and my burden to serve others increased.

After high school, I attended International Baptist College and Seminary where I completed a Bachelor of Arts in Bible and Christian Service. I went on to complete a Master of Ministry from IBCS while serving as college pastor at Tri-City Baptist Church in Chandler, AZ. My family and I then moved to Watertown, WI, where I completed my Master of Divinity at Maranatha Baptist Seminary while working as a graduate assistant.

While praying about ministry direction, the Lord opened the door to military chaplaincy through a conversation with an Air Force Reserve Chaplain friend. In 2014, I commissioned as a Chaplain Candidate (Second Lieutenant) in the Wisconsin Army National Guard at age 29.

In 2014, I served briefly under the 641st Troop Command before attending Chaplain Officer Basic Leadership Course in Fort Jackson, SC. Upon graduation, I was attached to the 2nd Battalion, 127th Infantry in Appleton, WI, and the following spring of 2016, I became ordained by Fellowship Baptist Church in Watertown, WI.

Following ordination, I was appointed to full Chaplain (First Lieutenant) in the fall of the same year. After another move across the country in 2017, I served in the Arizona Army National Guard under the 158th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion out of Tucson, AZ and became the assistant pastor at Desert Foothills Baptist Church in NW Tucson.

After being mobilized for the COVID response mission for 2020, the Lord led me to take an opening as a full-time support chaplain role in the Arizona Army National Guard. I also got reassigned to the 2-285 Assault Helicopter Battalion at the Papago Park Military Reservation, in Phoenix, AZ. After a couple years there, I then got reassigned once more to the 1-158 Infantry Regiment at the same installation and am currently serving in this unit.

The Lord has blessed me with my wife and four children, and I'm so thankful for the opportunities to impact our service members and communities with the life changing power of the Gospel!