



Welcome John Maurice to the team. He has accepted the position as one of our esteemed commissioners. Below is his impressive list of accomplishments.



Commander John W. Maurice, Jr., Chaplain Corps, US Navy (Retired)  
President, Mid-Atlantic Christian University  
Education and Experience:

- Mid-Atlantic Christian University, B.S., 1978
- Ordained at First Christian Church, Roanoke Rapids, NC (December 4, 1977)
- Cincinnati Christian University, M.Div., 1986
- Covenant Theological Seminary, St. Louis, D.Min., ABD (1991-1995)
- Association for Clinical Pastoral Education, 4 Clinical Pastoral Education Units (2000-2001)
- Graduate of Dale Carnegie Course: Effective Communications and Human Relations/Skills for Success (2012)
- Graduate of Dale Carnegie Course: Leadership for Managers (2013)
- Myers-Briggs Type Indicator Facilitator Training (2012)
- Practical Application of Interpersonal Relationship Skills Facilitator Training (2012)
- Family Wellness Associates Facilitator Training (Survival Skills for Healthy Families – 2012)
- 35 years of Pastoral Ministry
- Broad Creek Christian Church, New Bern, NC (Student Youth Minister; 1975-1978)
  - Arthur Christian Church, Bel Arthur, NC (1978-1979)
- Broad Creek Christian Church, New Bern, NC (1979-1983)
- First Christian Church, North Vernon, IN (Interim Minister; 1984-1985)
- Twin Tiers Christian Church, Painted Post, NY (1986-1989)
- United States Navy Chaplain Corps (1989-2014)
  - \*USS SAVANNAH (AOR 4) 1989-1992

- \*Combat Support Squadron EIGHT 1992-1994
- \*Quantico Marine Corps Base, Quantico, VA, 1994-1997
- \*Naval Security Group Activity Northwest, Chesapeake, VA, 1997-2000
- \*Pastoral Care Residency, Naval Medical Center Portsmouth, VA, 2001
- \*USS SAIPAN (LHA 2) 2001-2003
- \*Marine Corps Base Smedly Butler, Okinawa, Japan, 2003-2004
- \*Naval Medical Center Portsmouth, VA, 2004-2005
- \*USS DWIGHT D EISENHOWER (CVN 69) 2005-2008
- \*Headquarters Marine Corps, Washington, DC, 2008-2009
- \*Naval Station Norfolk, VA, 2009-2012
- \*Commander Naval Region Mid-Atlantic, Norfolk, VA, 2012-2014

- Trustee, Mid-Atlantic Christian University (2012-2013)
- Honorable Discharge from US Navy; Retired as a Commander after nearly 25 yrs. service
- Vice President of Institutional Advancement, Mid-Atlantic Christian University (January 2014 – June 2017)
- Interim President, Mid-Atlantic Christian University (July 2017 - February 2018)
- President, Mid-Atlantic Christian University (February 2018 - Present)



## **Jacob Wilde**

We had the privilege to attend the graduation ceremony for Jacob Wilde on February 16th, 2018 at Maxwell Air Force Base. Not only did Chaplains graduate from the Basic Chaplain Course at this time but also a class of Chaplain Assistants. Jacob is currently serving in a Reserve statue and intends to remain a Reservist at Tinker Air Force Base, close to where he and his wife and children reside.

## **Congratulations Jacob!!!**

# Chaplain Craig Honbarger Retires



## From Delinquent to Disciple

Army Chaplain (Major) Craig Honbarger's 21-year military career stands apart. It is a testimony to the transformative power of Christ — and to the amazing rewards awaiting those who overcome life's countless challenges.

Craig Honbarger was truly a soldier for all seasons.

He signed up for three stints in the U.S. Army, marching into Iraq with Operation Desert Storm (1991), serving as an 82nd Airborne Chaplain during Operation Iraqi Freedom (2006-07) and being deployed during heightened tensions near the Korean Demilitarized Zone (2014-15).

At retirement in 2018, Craig can look back with pride at an array of accomplishments that include receiving the Bronze Star and a Combat Action Badge, and completing the rigorous Jump-master school and rugged Ranger School training, at the age 39.

But pride might not be the right word. A primary theme — really, a life principle — for Craig has been humility. He is the last one to draw attention to himself.

His time in the Army can be divided into two parts: before receiving Jesus as his Lord and Savior. And after.



In January 1989, less than a year out of high school and struggling to gain traction in life, Craig walked into the local Army recruiting office in his hometown of Salisbury, N.C., and signed up. He wanted to stay close to home, so the Army sent him to Airborne School and then on to the 82nd Airborne Division in nearby Ft. Bragg. That's how PFC Craig Honbarger, assigned to the 27th ENG BN, wound up flying to Kuwait and then marching into Iraq in early 1991.

After serving four years, Craig left the Army as an E4 in January 1993. However, his life still lacked focus. Craig realized he was making bad choices after he broke his hand in a barroom fight and was forced to move back in with his parents. With few answers to life, he soon found himself back in the same recruiter's office in Salisbury.

He didn't know it then, but God was at work.

Craig rejoined the 82nd Airborne Division, this time with the 30th ENG BN. The Army didn't keep him as busy as before, so Craig soon found himself saying "yes" when a young lady invited him to nearby Fayetteville Christian Church. That first Sunday when a rough-and-tumble Craig Honbarger walked through the door, he was greeted with a warm, embracing hug by an older church member. "I didn't know if I should hug him back or punch him."

And everything changed. He joined the church's singles' ministry. And in 1995, he accepted Christ's gift of salvation and was baptized. Craig, never one to do things half way, soon felt called into full-time ministry. By the fall of '97, SGT Craig Honbarger got out of the Army for the second time and enrolled in Johnson University, a Bible college in Knoxville, Tenn.

Then 27, Craig's life-changing moments were just beginning. During orientation, he met his future wife, 19-year-old Kara Nyman. A year later, high atop the St. Francis Hotel across from San Francisco's romantic Union Square, he proposed. She said yes, and in May 1999 the two were married.

Gone were the days of classroom struggles and academic aimlessness. Craig graduated early from Johnson, magna cum laude. A chance conversation with his new father-in-law ironically led him back into the Army. He asked Craig if he'd ever considered being a military chaplain.

That question led Craig to God's calling on his life, to return to a culture he understood in order to bring the gospel. So in January 2001, he started classes at Emmanuel Christian Seminary in Johnson City, Tenn. At the same time, he was accepted into the Army's Chaplain candidacy program and commissioned as a 1LT. His wife Kara soon gave birth to their first child, Abigail.

He graduated three years later with a Master of Divinity degree. During this time of advanced studies, his second daughter, Lydia, was born.

The 82nd Airborne Division pulled him back in. Craig was an Army Captain at this point, assigned to the 3-505 PIR. In August 2005, his brigade was sent to New Orleans in the wake of Hurricane Katrina. It was an unforgettable 29-day rescue mission.

A year later, a reflagged battalion would face its greatest trial, shipping out in August 2006 as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Craig's 300-man unit suffered 22 KIAs, with sixty percent of its soldiers wounded and awarded purple hearts, during an extended 15-month deployment. His 5-73 CAV BN would receive the Presidential Unit Citation for its extraordinary heroism.

Craig was anything but an ordinary Chaplain. When convoys went out, so did he. When there was a firefight, he was there — without a weapon. When it was time for worship services, he held them on the front lines. Craig performed all 22 memorial services for the fallen soldiers. He also was a calm, level-headed, comforting presence amid the fast-paced chaos of war.

Craig seemed to be everywhere soldiers needed him to be. At one point, he was photographed by Time magazine carrying a stretcher to an evacuation helicopter. His third daughter, Chloe, was born while he was facing the dangers of combat 6,000 miles away.

The time in Iraq took its toll. It was no surprise that Craig came back with battle fatigue, but there was hardly time to process. The Army had decided that the mountain phase of its Ranger School needed its first chaplain. In April 2008, Craig packed up his family and moved to Dahlonega, Ga.

It was to be the most unique chapter of his Army career. He was able to deliver spirit-filled messages of hope and salvation, often in mountaintop settings, witnessing countless young rangers making decisions of their own to follow Christ. And Craig, never one to preach from the sidelines, decided he too needed to go through the grueling 60-day trial of Ranger School. It was not easy. At one point, to overcome what's known as rucksack palsy, Craig had to tie his head back to his rucksack in order to hold it up.

In 2013, Craig achieved the rank of Major. He also felt a new spiritual call, returning to Ft. Bragg to attend the Army's Family Life Training program. He graduated in May 2014 with a second Masters, this one in Family Counseling.

One last posting overseas awaited. A day after moving his family to Clarksville, Tenn., Craig shipped out. He spent the next 14 months in South Korea as the 2ID Family Life Chaplain before returning to Ft. Campbell, Ky., to be the 101st Airborne Division's Family Life Chaplain. As the Family Life Chaplain, Craig provided countless hours of therapy to soldiers and their families in time of need. One will never know the full impact this has made on the community.

Craig, having answered the nation's call for so many years, was ready to narrow things down, ready to answer God's call out of the Army and into full-time Marriage and Family Therapy.

By any gauge, this humble North Carolinian's life has been a success. How do you measure such things? In Craig's case:

- Bravery. Check.
- Reliability. Check.
- Love. Check.
- Empathy. Check.
- Consistency. Check.
- Personal growth. Check.
- Authenticity. Check.

His official retirement date is July 2018 at age 48. His next assignment is God ordained and his most important.

**AMERICA'S ARMY:**  
SERVICE TO THE NATION  
STRENGTH FOR THE FUTURE



**302d TTB Unit Ministry Team**  
**Chaplain Physical Training - Spiritual Fitness,**  
**Ready for Lent**



Congratulations Chaplain Moore for getting picked up for Active Duty!

### Shrove Tuesday – Pancake Tuesday

Celebrated in England, the pancakes represent gathering ingredients in preparation for fasting during Lent. The four ingredients represent the four pillars of faith – creation (eggs), sustenance (flour), wholesomeness (salt), and purity (milk). Pancakes are then topped with fresh lemon juice and sugar.

“I liked the pancake day because we got to sit down and eat together. We got to learn about a different culture first hand from someone who practices it.”

– PFC Barkley (962QM MA) Event: Celebrating religious traditional and cultural practices surrounding the start of Lent, and incorporating them into the volunteer weekday physical training program sponsored by 302d TTB CH (CPT) Karen Moore.

Objective: Integrating faith, duty, and sharing cultural traditions in support of maintaining physical and spiritual readiness. Participants wanted to share a healthy alternative to how they celebrate Mardi Gras and Ash Wednesday. Sharing these cultural traditions create cohesion and support the Equal Opportunity program. Working-out together fosters cooperation and teamwork and encourages participants to keep motivated to reach individual fitness goals. Consistent group supported activities mitigate the risks of suicide.

Activities: On Tuesday, Tasha, a military dependent, wanted to share Shrove Tuesday, where they make pancakes the day before Ash Wednesday. CH Moore assisted in teaching how to make healthy protein pancakes. Other participants brought in fruit, juice, and milk to complete a delicious morning meal after the morning workout.

In Guam an annual hike up Mount Jumullong Manglo is traditionally practiced in observance of Good Friday. Each year participants will take turns carrying a cross up the steep mountain slope. The PT group decided to observe the tradition early on Ash Wednesday, as it was also Valentine’s Day, and hike to the top to watch the sunrise. CH Moore distributed ashes and offered prayers for those deployed (962d QM MA) along with other requests.

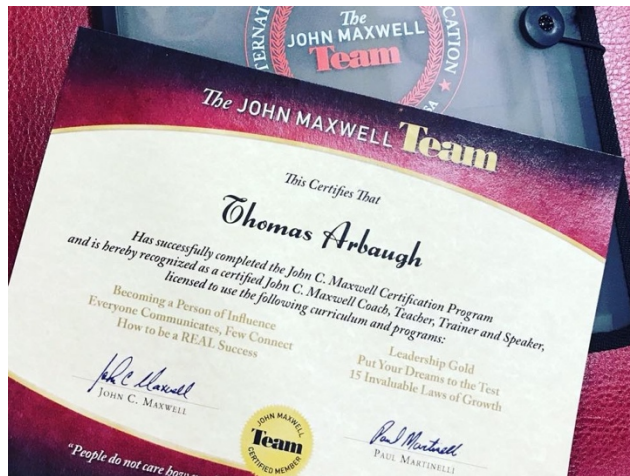
Hiking up to the crosses for our morning PT made it real for me and my faith as I was reminded how Christ carried the cross for me. If He had to suffer up the hill [Calvary] carrying the cross for me, I knew I could endure going up this mountain, embracing what He went through.”

- PV2 Diaz (302QM)





# Chaplain Thomas Arbaugh







For the last few months, I have been working through John Maxwell Group's leadership certification material hoping to find some tools to help support the administration and department heads of the hospital organization where I am employed.

Being a part of the John Maxwell team affords me many benefits including access to thousands of hours worth of content for coaching, speaking, training, and teaching. This week I attended the International Certification conference in Orlando Florida along with 2,600 other certified coaches from all over the world. I must say, it was so much bigger than I ever thought!

Where I had vision of empowering leaders in my place of work and church, maybe even my region, I encountered people who are changing entire countries. Some of the men and women I met not advise CEOs of fortune 500 companies, they also have the ears of world leaders! If I had to name my biggest takeaway from this event, I think it would be that we can always do bigger things to impact the world.

I am so excited about the opportunities to love and serve that this program has opened. If you're interested in finding out more, I'd love to share!



<http://www.johnmaxwellgroup.com/thomasarbaugh>

# Job Posting

We are looking for a Christian counseling professor here at Central. Our current professor is leaving this summer to take a preaching ministry in another state.

There is an announcement on our website here: <https://cccb.edu/job/professor-christian-counseling/>

Do you know of any retired or soon to be retired chaplains for whom this might be an attractive option? We are close to a wonderful VA hospital in Columbia, Missouri. We would be open to either a male or a female for this position.

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