



VOLUNTEER CHAPLAIN APPROVAL

The United Methodist Endorsing Agency provides ecclesiastical approval for United Methodist clergy to serve as volunteer chaplains in certain civilian settings. To be eligible, volunteers must be ordained or licensed as a member of the clergy, active or retired, in The United Methodist Church. Licensed clergy must be serving under appointment or be recognized as retired clergy by an annual conference. Approval requires the consent of the district superintendent.

Volunteer Chaplain Settings

- Civil Air Patrol (CAP), gocivilairpatrol.com
- Coast Guard Auxiliary, uscg.mil
- Volunteer State Guard (varies by state)
- Law Enforcement
- Fire, disaster services, EMS

Volunteer chaplains with fire departments or law enforcement are expected to complete appropriate training with one of the following or other approved training sources.

- International Conference of Police Chaplains, icpc4cops.org
- Association of Law Enforcement Chaplains, alechaplains.org
- Federation of Fire Chaplains, firechaplains.org

Ecclesiastical Approval

- Complete the application form, methodist.smapply.io
- Write a brief description of your ministry (one page) and upload with your application.
- Upload a photo with your application
- Provide contact information for your DS and one personal reference.

Approved chaplains will be provided with documentation of their approval as required. Approval to serve as a volunteer chaplain does not constitute endorsement to serve as employed chaplains under appointment.

Questions? Contact umea@gbhem.org

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