

## **CH (BG) Charles R. Bailey, Retired**

### **Assistant General Secretary General Board of Higher Education**



Chaplain Bailey is the son of a United Methodist minister in the Nebraska Conference and has grown up living and attending school over a large part of the United States. He graduated from Texas Wesleyan University in Ft. Worth, Texas in June 1975 with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Business and Religion. He then attended Texas Christian University, Brite Divinity School, graduating in June 1978 with a Masters of Divinity Degree. He graduated from the Army War College in 2007 with a Master Degree in Strategic Studies.

Chaplain Bailey was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the Chaplain Corps in 1977 as part of the U.S. Army Reserve. He was ordained as an Elder in June 1981 by the United Methodist Church and served churches in Ft. Worth, Corsicana, and Mineral Wells, Texas before entering active duty in June 1982 as a United States Army Chaplain.

Chaplain Bailey was nominated by the President in May 2011 for promotion to the rank of Brigadier General and assignment as the Deputy Chief of Chaplains, U.S. Army, Washington, DC. He retired 31 July 2015. He assumed the position 1 July 2016 as Assistant General Secretary, for the General Board of Higher Education, The United Methodist Church in Nashville, TN.

**Military:** Chaplain Bailey's first assignment was with the 3rd Battalion of the 325th Airborne Infantry, 82nd Airborne Division. He then served as Battalion Chaplain, 307th Engineer Battalion, 82nd ABN Division and deployed to Operation Sudden Fury in Grenada. Chaplain Bailey was reassigned to 2nd of the 6th Infantry Battalion, 1st Armor Division, U.S. Army Europe from March 1985 to June 1988. In December 1988, Chaplain Bailey returned to Fort Bragg as the 1/17 Cavalry Squadron Chaplain, 82nd ABN Division. In June 1989, he was reassigned as the 82nd Aviation Brigade Chaplain, and participated in Operation Desert Shield and Storm. Upon redeployment, he was assigned to the 504th Infantry Regiment (ABN) as the Brigade Chaplain. Chaplain Bailey then was assigned to the 2nd Brigade, 6th Infantry Division, Fairbanks, Alaska from June 1992 to June 1994. He was chosen to become the senior chaplain Observer Controller at the Combined Maneuver Training Center, Hohenfels, Germany from June 1994 to June 1996. He was then reassigned as the Deputy Division Chaplain for the 1st Armor Division in Bad Kreuznach, Germany, which deployed as Task Force Eagle in Bosnia Herzegovina. At that time, Chaplain Bailey assumed the position as the Deputy Task Force Chaplain for TF Eagle in Tuzla, Bosnia-Herzegovina. In June 1997 he was assigned as the Operations Chaplain for Combat Training, U.S. Army Europe Chaplain's Office. Chaplain Bailey was reassigned in June 1998 to the U.S. Army Chaplain Center and School in Ft. Jackson, SC as the Chief of Concepts, Training, and Doctrine where he completed the field manual for the Chaplain Corps just prior to being assigned as division chaplain to 4th Infantry Division. After attending the Army War College and completing a Masters of Strategic Studies, he was assigned to the Southern European Task Force, Vicenza, Italy in July 2003 as the command chaplain. While there he participated in Operation Restore Hope in Liberia, Africa and as Command Chaplain for Operation Enduring Freedom VI in Afghanistan. In June 2006 he was assigned as the Combat Development Director at the United States Army Chaplain Center and School, Ft. Jackson, SC. From November 2007 to July 2011 he has served as the Command Chaplain, U.S. Army Europe and 7<sup>th</sup> Army, Heidelberg, Germany before moving to Washington D.C. as the Deputy Chief of Chaplains, Army.

Chaplain Bailey and his wife Karen have two children, Patrick, 30, and Matthew, 28. Karen is a native of Odessa, Texas and has taught as a schoolteacher in various school systems, both public and defense for over 25 years specializing in special education.