

South Dakota National Guard

Public Affairs Office

Phone: 605-737-6721 Email: ng.sd.sdarng.list.pao@mail.mil Web: sd.ng.mil



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

August 2, 2016

Chaplain Wilson promoted to colonel in SD National Guard

RAPID CITY, S.D. – The South Dakota Army National Guard promoted Chaplain Lynn Wilson, of Rapid City, to the rank of colonel at a July 29 ceremony at Camp Rapid.

Wilson entered the military chaplain candidate program in 1987 while attending the Association Free Lutheran Seminary in Minneapolis, Minn., and commissioned as a chaplain, Oct. 24, 1992, with the Army Reserve.

He served in numerous locations, including Fort Riley, Kan., Fort Gillem, Ga., and Camp Blanding, Fl., before joining the SDARNG in 2001.

“My career has been full of opportunities,” said Wilson. “I give credit to the Lord Jesus for everything. He has been so good to me and allows me the chance to serve Soldiers.”

Wilson’s first duty as a chaplain in the National Guard was with 2nd Battalion, 147th Field Artillery in Watertown, who he deployed to Iraq with from December 2003 through February 2005.

“I love serving people,” Wilson said. “I loved it in the parish ministry and I love it in the military ministry. To be a servant to Soldiers is my greatest joy.”

In November 2005, Wilson became the first full-time support chaplain in the history of the SDNG and will additionally now serve as the SDARNG’s state chaplain.

“I’m excited for the opportunity to direct the vision of the Chaplain Corps,” said Wilson, who was promoted on the 241st anniversary of the Chaplain Corps. “Our greatest purpose is to serve our Soldiers, Airmen and families, to make them always our top priority, the adjutant general’s priority is our priority.”

Wilson’s civilian education includes: an Associate of Arts from York Junior College in York, Neb.; a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln; a Master’s in Counseling and Religion from Liberty University in Lynchburg, Va.; a Master’s in Divinity from Luther Rice Seminary in Atlanta, Ga.; and a Doctorate in Ministry from Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena, Calif.

His military education includes Chaplain Officer Basic Course, Chaplain Advanced Course, ILE/Command Staff and General College, as well as the Lt. Col. Chaplain Course at Fort Jackson, S.C.

He lives in Rapid City with his wife, Tracy, their son, Jonathan, 8, and daughter, Grace, 5.

-more-



160325-Z-FO377-003: U.S. Army Col. Lynn Wilson, South Dakota Army National Guard full-time support chaplain, receives his new rank of colonel from his wife, Tracy, during a July 29, 2016, ceremony at Camp Rapid, Rapid City, S.D. Wilson has served as the SDARNG's first full-time support chaplain since November 2005. (Army National Guard photo by 1st Lt. Chad Carlson)

FOR MORE INFORMATION contact Maj. Anthony Deiss at (605) 737-6721 or cell (605) 431-8753, or e-mail ng.sd.sdarng.list.pao@mail.mil