Chaplain Corps Provides Faith-Based ROTC Training
Lauren Callihan, The Saint, 3/4/11

The Chaplain Corps at NGCSU is unique among all of the other six military colleges in our nation. No other military college has a program that is as active and advanced as NGCSU's Chaplain Corps, according to Chaplain James Forrester. "Most unique program; nothing to compare it to," Forrester said.

Willie Padgett, chaplain head at one of the weekly meetings

The Chaplain Corps was founded in 2003 by Forrester with the help of Colonel Tom Palmer and Baptist Collegiate Minister Ken Jones. Initially, Forrester had only one cadet who was interested. Today there are a total 17 Chaplains. The unit's focus is to help maintain morale of fellow members and to spread the word of their faith. "Being a member will prepare them if they want to commission as a chaplain in the Army," Forrester said.

Other members who do not commission as chaplains find other ways to serve their faith. "Keeping the Lord's purpose as our goal, that should be our purpose our drive," said Cadet Chaplain Laura Simpson. The Chaplain Corps has a unique way of recruiting new members. Unlike most specialty units, they let new members come to them. "We rely on the Lord to provide us with potential members," said Cadet Ozi Obele.

Chaplain Corps meetings take place every Wednesday in the Donovan Pit from 8-9 p.m. That is followed at 9 p.m. by the chaplain bible study in the Donovan Guest Room. At the meeting the morale of the Corps is discussed and prayed for. During Bible Study, members take part in song and reflect upon scripture. "I represent Christ no matter if they know I am a believer or not," said Cadet Chaplain Willie Padgett.

Unit members say the organization is perfect for anyone who wants to enlist as a chaplain or who wants to serve their faith and support those around them.