

"TURNING THOSE IN CRISIS TOWARD CHRIST"

# Emergency Chaplains

JULY 2025



**17th Anniversary Banquet | Thursday Evening, October 23rd**  
**Ridgecrest Baptist Church Durham, NC | Meet and Mingle 6:00 | Dinner starting at 6:30**

**Seating is limited—Reserve your tickets today!**  
**Tickets: \$25 each**

6:00pm— Meet and Mingle: come early and meet some of our chaplains from around the state  
6:30pm— Catered Dinner  
7:15pm— Banquet Program and Awards

**Sponsor | Buy Tickets | Volunteer**  
**EChap.org/banquet**

## WELCOMING OUR NEW STAFF CHAPLAIN: ALISON MCKINNEY

We are excited to officially welcome Alison McKinney as our new Staff Chaplain with Emergency Chaplains. Alison began serving with us in June, bringing nearly 30 years of experience in administration, ministry support, and frontline service. She spent most of her professional career with the *Biblical Recorder*, where she faithfully managed finances, human resources, board operations, communications, and more. Her integrity, leadership, and servant's heart made a lasting impact—and now she brings those same gifts to her role as a chaplain.

But Alison didn't retire to slow down—she retired to serve. After stepping away from full-time employment, she began volunteering with Emergency Chaplains, entering the world of crisis response with humility and a desire to care for those in need. She now ministers to First Responders and those impacted by traumatic events, offering the compassion and hope of Christ in some of life's most difficult moments.

Alison is an active member of Bethesda Baptist Church in Durham, where she co-teaches a women's Sunday

School class and participates in missions and outreach. Her background also includes personal ministry to the homeless, disaster relief efforts, and decades of service in her local church.

In her staff role, Alison divides her time between frontline chaplaincy and administrative support—helping us strengthen our connections with churches across North Carolina. We're grateful for the wisdom, professionalism, and spiritual depth she brings to the team.

Please pray for Chaplain Alison as she builds relationships, serves in crisis, and points people to Jesus through this vital ministry.



**Emergency Chaplains | PO Box 14762 | Durham, NC 27709**  
**919.399.9468 | Office@EChap.org | EChap.org**

*Emergency Chaplains is a 501(c)(3) Charitable Organization | Federal EIN: 26-2121418 | NC Solicitation License Number: SL009161*



**Answering the Call:  
Chaplain Andrew Matthews  
serving Carolina Beach PD**

Heartbreak doesn't take a day off—not even at Carolina Beach, a bustling tourist town where tragedy can strike without warning. When it does, Chaplain Andrew Matthews—a faithful member

of Emergency Chaplains—is there.

Through his ministry, Andrew lives out our mission:

building caring relationships with the hope of gaining permission to share the life-changing good news of Jesus Christ in a non-threatening manner. Whether it's comforting a grieving family or standing with officers who carry a heavy, unseen load, Andrew brings compassion, calm, and the hope of Christ to every call. He doesn't offer easy answers. He offers presence. Prayer. Hope.

This summer, Carolina Beach is packed with visitors, and with that comes an even greater weight on local first responders. Please pray for Chaplain Matthews as he ministers to officers who are stretched thin and as he responds to the crises that often come with vacation season.

## CHAPLAIN FIELD REPORTS

**Family Tragedy**—Two chaplains were dispatched to the scene of a domestic homicide where a woman was fatally shot by a family member. Her 7-year-old son witnessed the tragedy. Chaplains provided initial care to the child and grieving relatives at the scene. However, during the response, a family member abruptly removed the child from the scene, and left without further contact. Please join us in praying for this young boy and the many lives affected by this heartbreaking situation.

**Spreading the Word About Chaplaincy**—Over the past month, our office team has been busy promoting the ministry of chaplaincy throughout North Carolina. We've mailed letters to every public safety agency and hundreds of churches—and followed up with phone calls to arrange opportunities to speak about the work of Emergency Chaplains. Already, several churches have invited us to share what God is doing through this ministry. If your church would like to schedule a visit, we'd love to hear from you!

**Suicide Prevention Training**—One of our chaplains took part in a specialized training session at the NC Highway Patrol Training Center, hosted by the NC Law

Enforcement Assistance Program. The training focused on recognizing signs of suicidal ideation and explored best practices for suicide prevention, intervention, and postvention within the law enforcement community.

**Ministry to Grieving Mother**—A chaplain responded to a home where a woman had discovered her daughter had died unexpectedly. With no nearby family, the chaplain assisted in contacting out-of-town relatives and helped coordinate arrangements with a local funeral home. They remained with the mother for several hours, offering emotional and spiritual support, and ensured she would not be left alone in the aftermath of the tragedy.

**4-Year-Old Dies of Gunshot Wound**—Three chaplains were dispatched following a tragic incident involving a child who sustained a self-inflicted gunshot wound after finding a firearm in a backpack. One chaplain responded to the scene, while two others went directly to the hospital to support the family. Several adults and at least one other child were present in the home when the incident occurred. Chaplains provided emotional and spiritual care to those impacted by the tragedy, including family members and first responders.

## PARTNERING WITH EMERGENCY CHAPLAINS

**BECOME A CHAPLAIN**

The need is growing.  
We can provide the training.  
Sign up today!  
[EChap.org/training](https://EChap.org/training)

**GIVE MONTHLY TO ECHAP**

Your support keeps us on the field to  
serve First Responders and citizens in  
crisis.  
[EChap.org/donate](https://EChap.org/donate)

**JOIN THE ECHAP PRAYER TEAM**

Pray for our  
First Responders, Public Safety Agencies,  
and our Chaplains.  
[EChap.org/pray](https://EChap.org/pray)