

"TURNING THOSE IN CRISIS TOWARD CHRIST"

Emergency Chaplains

JUNE/JULY 2026



INVITING YOUR CHURCH INTO THE MISSION

A CHAPLAIN IS SIMPLY A GREAT COMMISSION CHRISTIAN WITH A TERRITORY

That's how we've come to understand our calling at Emergency Chaplains. And the longer we serve, the more convinced we are that it isn't just a definition for chaplains — it's a description of what every believer is meant to be. On mission for God and for the sake of the gospel, in the specific place He has sent us—each of us with a territory.

Our chaplains' territory happens to be the closed institutions of our communities — law enforcement, fire service, EMS, the 911 center, hospitals, nursing homes. These are mission fields most churches can't easily reach. But you have a territory too: your streets, your workplaces, your neighbors. And over the coming months, we'd love to come help you and your church take hold of it.

We're now scheduling our **Intentional Neighboring** seminar for this fall, winter, and into next spring, and we'd love to bring it to your church. It's a wonderful church-strengthening tool that equips believers to live on purpose. If it sparks something in you, pass this newsletter to your pastor.

First responders are trained in situational awareness — reading a scene, noticing what others miss. We want to help believers develop a kind of *spiritual* awareness: a habit of noticing the people around them who are under stress, whether the hard kind or the happy kind, and recognizing those moments as open doors.

A new baby, a move, a job loss, a diagnosis, a wedding — life's transitions, good and bad, are often the very moments people are most open to a caring presence and a word of hope. They're an excellent time to make a



connection, meet a need, and love a neighbor in Jesus' name.

When God's people start living this way, remarkable things follow. Neighbors get loved. Believers get strengthened. And gospel opportunities open up — not through programs, but through Christians living awake and on mission wherever God has placed them.

There's a second blessing, too. As churches grow more outward-facing, we often find men and women with the heart and gifting for chaplaincy — people who could serve alongside Emergency Chaplains, or in another field we can help train them for. So we have a few invitations for your church this season:

Host the seminar — let us help strengthen your congregation.

Pray for us as local missionaries — add Emergency Chaplains to your church's missionary prayer list as we reach those we serve with the hope of Christ.

Partner with us in missions — consider including us in your missions budget as a local missions partner. God has placed the mission field on our doorstep. Let's do this together.

Free Seminar for Churches/Small Groups
Intentional Neighboring
Responding to Everyday Crisis, Everyday
Prepare those in your group to engage friends, relatives, neighbors, co-workers, acquaintances, and even strangers with the love and comfort of Christ in difficult times.
We will provide this training event exclusively for your church or small group.
Contact Chaplain Ralph for info: (919) 280-8908

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SAVE THE DATE—2026 CALL TO CARE BANQUET

Mark your calendars and plan to join us **Thursday, October 22, 2026**, at **Ridgecrest Baptist Church in Durham** for our 2026 Call to Care Banquet — our favorite night of the year, when the Emergency Chaplains family gathers to hear the stories of God at work and celebrate all He's doing through this ministry. We're honored to welcome guest speaker **Matthew Cornett**, State Coordinator for North Carolina State Highway Patrol Chaplaincy. Stay tuned for more details.

CHAPLAIN FIELD REPORTS

"Tell Me My Daddy Isn't in Hell"

At the scene of an elderly man's suicide, his daughter, perhaps in her sixties, crossed the yard to the chaplain, tears streaming down her face: "Please tell me my daddy isn't in hell." The chaplain let her fall into his arms and cry. Then he asked the right gentle questions — and as she answered, she spoke of the faith her father had professed in Jesus. That became his open door. He walked her clearly and tenderly through the gospel, reminding her that our salvation rests in the finished work of Christ on the cross, not in the manner of a person's death. A few minutes later it happened again. The man's granddaughter approached with almost the same words — "Please tell me my grandpa isn't in hell" — her husband and two children beside her. The chaplain shared the gospel with them, too. Two generations had crossed that yard with the same desperate question. Before he left, the chaplain had shared the gospel with five of them and prayed with the family — meeting their fear for the dead with hope for the living.

Surrounded by Love

Not every call is marked by tragedy. A 79-year-old woman who had battled cancer for three years died at home surrounded by more than forty family members who loved her dearly and gathered near her at the end. She was a well-known woman of strong, steady faith in Jesus, and as the family circled her bed, the chaplain prayed with them. After the funeral home had gone, he drew everyone together outside — not only to grieve, but to celebrate that she was now home in heaven with her Savior.



Hours From Home

A young man with a wife and two children had been killed in a car accident hundreds of miles from home. His wife had gone to bed expecting to pick him up at the airport mid-morning. By the time our chaplain arrived, that ordinary plan had come apart in a split second, and a young widow had no idea what to do next. So he helped her take the next step. He got on the

phone with the investigating officer in the city where her husband had died, put together an information packet for her, and made sure her pastor and family were there — to help with the children and to stand with her through the hardest decisions still ahead: bringing her husband's body home, and telling his parents their son was gone.

A Walk Down a Grieving Street

A quiet neighborhood had been shattered by a homicide — a home broken into and an elderly woman killed, the kind of thing that simply didn't happen on that street. No one called for a chaplain. But two of ours went anyway, walking the block where it happened and praying for the neighbors still reeling. People came out to ask why they were there; the chaplains told them, and offered to pray with them. One man lingered after the prayer. He had been deeply shaken by the killing, and as they talked, it became clear God was already at work in him, quietly drawing him in. Right there on the sidewalk, the two chaplains shared the gospel, and the man prayed and asked Jesus to save him. They weren't dispatched. They simply showed up — Great Commission Christians with a territory — and a man met Christ on his own sidewalk.

BECOME A CHAPLAIN

The need is growing.
We can provide the training.
Sign up today!
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

JOIN THE ECHAP PRAYER TEAM

Pray for our
First Responders, Public Safety Agencies,
and our Chaplains.
EChap.org/pray