

"TURNING THOSE IN CRISIS TOWARD CHRIST"

Emergency Chaplains

SEPTEMBER 2022



TICKETS STILL AVAILABLE FOR BANQUET—ORDER TODAY!



Reserve your tickets online — Go to EChap.org

Sponsors Wanted | Volunteers Needed | Reply Today!



Call to Care Banquet

Sunday Evening 6pm | October 23rd
Grey Stone Church-Durham

Stay on Mission

Love God | Love People | Serve Both

Meal catered by:
Home Plate Restaurant

Tickets \$15 per person

CHAPLAIN SPOTLIGHT

We have another husband and wife team that has joined Emergency Chaplains. Jimmy and Debbie Barber applied for membership with us back in June, and they have hit the ground running. Both of them are on target to become Certified Public Safety Chaplains by the end of the year.

Jimmy has experience as a volunteer firefighter where he served as Assistant Chief for Pactolus Fire and Rescue. He has since retired from that position and now serves as their chaplain. He has also joined his pastor, Chaplain Lenny Waters, to be a chaplain for the Pitt



County Fireman's Association. (Lenny is also one of our certified chaplains.)

Debbie has worked closely with the Greenville Police Department through a non-profit ministry they founded to assist the unsheltered homeless in the area. She also has a heart for ministry to women and often speaks in churches and at women's events.

Prior to joining Emergency Chaplains, Jimmy and Debbie completed basic training with the Federation of Fire Chaplains. They are members of Saint's Delight Church in Ayden, NC.

**Emergency Chaplains | PO Box 14762 | RTP, 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

MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS

By: Ralph Thompson, Executive Director

Help us get the word out about a special recognition service for first responders coming up on **Sunday, October 9th**. I will be preaching in the 11am service at **Somerset Baptist Church in Roxboro**. We are inviting first responders who live and work around Person County to join us. We want to honor the men and women who have bravely stood on the front lines over the past 2 years during the pandemic. In addition to every officer, firefighter, medic, and telecommunicator, we want to recognize and thank those in healthcare as well. So, if you know a first responder or a healthcare worker in the area, encourage them to come on October 9th. I'll have a special message of appreciation to share with them along with a small gift to remind them that God's people love them, support them, and are praying for them.

Keystone Church in Durham, led by Pastor Josh Cox, worshiped in a different way on 9/11. They gathered for prayer at 10am and then scattered across Durham County to visit with first responders who were working. Food, respect, love, and prayers were delivered. Well done Keystone!

As part of his field training, **Chaplain Brandon Lindsey** recently spent the day making rounds with Chaplain Dylan Stone in Durham. Brandon recently completed his certification training

with us and is now a **Certified Public Safety Chaplain**. He is the chaplain for **Knightdale Fire Department**.

Chaplain Matthew Keefe is doing a great job serving **Cary Fire Department**. In addition to making regular visits to his assigned stations, Chaplain Keefe has made it a point to visit with his firefighters who are out of work due to sickness or injury.

Bo Moyer and **Jim Barr** have been appointed as chaplains by the **Orange County Sheriff's Office**. Both completed their certification training with Emergency Chaplains. Bo received his certification in June 2021 and Jim received his in July 2022. We are looking for others to join these guys to form a Crisis Response Unit for Orange County. Let me know if you would like to be a part of this team!

For several years now, **Chaplain Phil Wiggins** has hosted a graduation dinner at **The Summit Church** for the **Durham Police Department's** training academy. Dylan and I had the pleasure of joining Chaplain Phil for this back on August 9th. In addition to some good BBQ and words of encouragement, each officer also received their own Law Enforcement Officer's Bible. The following week, the academy graduates held their own Bibles while being sworn in as Durham police officers.

CHAPLAIN FIELD REPORTS

This month we want to share a few excerpts from our activity and chaplain field reports that will give you some ideas on how to pray for our chaplains and our first responders in the coming days.

- On August 18th, EChap hosted a lunch meeting for the Homicide Team from the Criminal Investigations Division of the Durham Police Department. Our time together was a planning session for how to more effectively deploy our chaplains on homicide scenes in the city. Several of our chaplains have received special training to form a Homicide Response Team for Durham. Please note: There were 49 homicides in Durham in 2021. There have been 31 so far in 2022.
- A chaplain recently was in the Emergency Room following up with a patient that had been transported. In his report, this chaplain wrote: "The patient had been put in a wheelchair and placed in the waiting room due to no beds available in the ER. I accompanied the patient to the triage area and while there, the nurse asked me to pray for her. When I asked her how I could specifically pray, she literally fell into my arms, sobbing uncontrollably for almost a minute. I prayed over her for the next minute and then she had to get back to work." Please note: the pressure on healthcare workers has been overwhelming the past 2+ years due to an increased number of patients, decreased staff, and fear of the unknown due to the pandemic.
- Another chaplains states, "Rode with officer for 4 hours tonight. We didn't have much opportunity to talk. Staffing was below 50% . We went from one call to the next the entire time. I helped as best I could, especially on the domestic call. Near the end of our time together, he told me that he was 'done'. He hasn't put his notice in yet, but he will be moving back home to work in his cousin's home improvement business. He has been an officer for over 10 years." Please note: the pressure on law enforcement officers has been overwhelming the past 2+ years due to an increased number of calls, decreased staff, and fear of the unknown due to the pandemic.

Please pray for our chaplains to be salt and light to those who are on the front lines taking care of us. They desperately need for us to be the presence of Christ, standing beside them to help shoulder the load.