

COMPASSIONATELY TAKING THE COMFORT OF CHRIST TO THOSE IN CRISIS

Emergency Chaplains



DECEMBER 2010
DURHAM, NC

STAFF

Ralph Thompson
Executive Director/Lead Chaplain

Carter Thompson
Counselor

Johnny Hewett
Senior Chaplain

Pedro Valladares
Chaplain

Danny Bryant
Chaplain

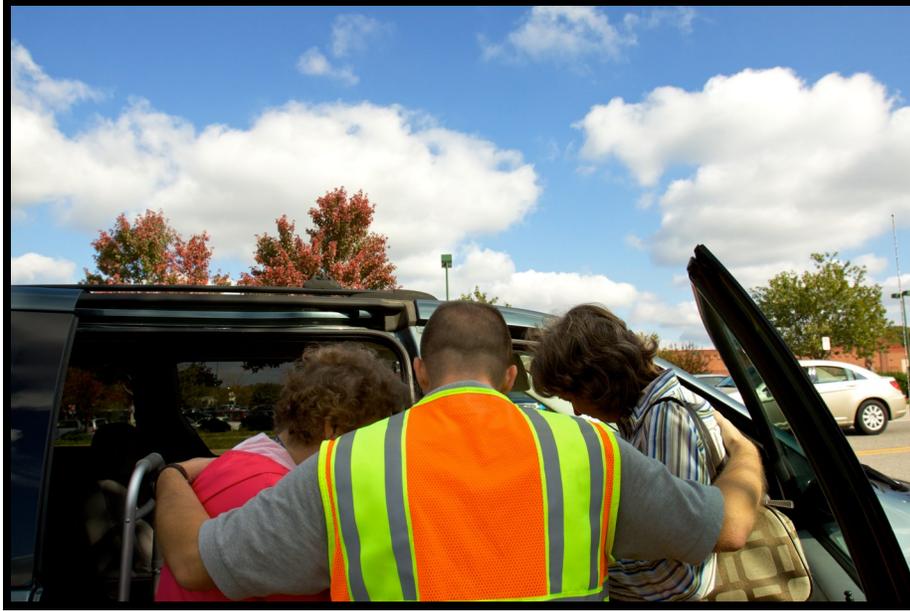
Pat Patterson
Field Training Specialist

Clinton Stokes
Chaplain Intern

Floyd Pearce
Chaplain Intern

Russell Hill
Photographer

James Dodson
Chaplain



One of our chaplains praying with citizens at scene of a motor vehicle collision.

Photo by: G. Russell Hill

Merry Christmas From Emergency Chaplains

When God's hands made the heavens and the earth . . . that was creation.

When God's morning stars sang together . . . that was celebration.

When God's Word broke the silence of time . . . that was communication.

When God's prophets stood alone against the tide of disobedience . . . that was consecration.

But when God's Son was delivered to a manger . . . that was *compassion*. (Copied)

Compassion marked Jesus' every word and deed. The hurting and hopeless pressed close when He walked past, reaching out for the hem of His garment. His eyes of love looked straight through to the heart.

Genuine compassion still marks every aspect of our relationship with Jesus today. Here at Emergency Chaplains, we share His love by taking the comfort of Christ to those in crisis with the same deeply felt compassion. Friends like you who trust in us, pray for us, and support us share in this life-changing ministry . . . and we are truly thankful.

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God. (2 Corinthians 1:3-4)

May you sense God's great compassion for you this Christmas season!

YEAR END GIVING

Please consider sending a tax-deductible donation to Emergency Chaplains by December 31st. All items postmarked by midnight 12/31/2010 will be accepted as current year donations. [Mail donations to Emergency Chaplains, PO Box 14762, Durham NC 27709-4762.](mailto:office@echap.org) (go to www.echap.org for PayPal and bank draft options) Thanks to all of you who have given so generously this year!

Emergency Chaplains is a 501(c)3 Non-Profit Ministry. All donations are tax-deductible as allowed by law.

HOW TO REACH US

US Mail

Emergency Chaplains
PO Box 14762
Durham, NC 27709

Fed-Ex/UPS

5116 Huxey Glenn Court
Durham, NC 27703

Telephone

(919) 280-8908

E-Mail

office@echap.org

On the web

www.echap.org

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Michael Perra
Mike Smith
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New Staff Addition



James and Mary Dodson

James Dodson (Chaplain)

James Dodson has joined Emergency Chaplains and will serve as part of our Crisis Response Team.

Chaplain Dodson is a graduate of Liberty University and he is the pastor of C3 Church, a new church plant in northern Durham County. He is the appointed chaplain at Lebanon Volunteer Fire Department where he also serves as a volunteer firefighter.

James will continue his regular duties as chaplain to the men and women at LVFD and he will be on call to respond to crisis calls in northern Durham County. Chaplain Dodson and his wife, Mary, have 2 children and live in the Lebanon community.

Year in Review

By: Ralph Thompson

Our greatest accomplishment over the past year has been the addition of eight new volunteers. With the addition of these volunteers we have been able to place a chaplain in each district of the Durham Police Department and also form a Crisis Response Team.

Chaplain Johnny Hewett is celebrating his first anniversary with Emergency Chaplains this month. Chaplain Clinton Stokes will celebrate his first anniversary with us in January.

The Crisis Response Team will begin service on January 1st and they will provide 24-hour response to crisis calls. Most of their calls will be to assist the general public in situations where there has been a death or serious injury. Each chaplain will take part in on going training for this team that includes Blood borne pathogen, HIPAA and Diversity Training. The goal of the team is to assist the authorities on scene while taking the comfort of Christ to those in crisis.

Our counseling ministry continues to grow in partnership with Grey Stone Baptist Church. In 2011, Carter and I will be working closely with the Soul Care Ministry of Grey Stone. This ministry already offers support group ministries that care for folks going through divorce, loss of a loved one, depression and addictions. In addition to helping with these ministries we will also provide individual counseling for those in need. We are excited about the prospect of having these support groups available for the general public and also for our First Responders and their families.

Many of you may remember the tragic death of Destiny Ledwell in August. She died in an early morning fire in their home on Nebo Street. With the help of local media we were able to raise the awareness of this situation and the Triangle responded by sending us over \$10,000 to assist the family during their time of loss. Emergency Chaplains was able to payoff Destiny's funeral and provide the family with much needed funds to rent a new home and replace many of their lost items. Remember to pray for the Ledwell family today as they face their first Christmas without her.

In November we partnered with Durham Ministers In Prayer (DMIP) to provide a luncheon for the command staff of the Durham Police Department (DPD). Several local pastors gathered to fellowship with the district commanders and other command staff. In response to the meeting, DMIP has committed to make a concentrated effort to build further relationships with their local district staff and become more involved with community outreach events sponsored by DPD. DMIP has also established a prayer hotline for DPD so we can concentrate on praying (and prayer walking) trouble spots in our community.

Some of you know that I have struggled for years with a chronic illness called Crohn's Disease. The past few months have given me more problems than usual and on December 7th I found myself admitted as a patient for 6 days at UNC Hospital in Chapel Hill. It is very possible that I will be having surgery in the near future. I am trying my best to delay any surgery, but I have to admit that I would much rather have surgery than suffer like I did earlier this month.

The hospital stay slowed me down a bit but also caused me to depend on our dedicated volunteers to carry out the ministry of Emergency Chaplains. As I have struggled to do anything 'normal' over the past few weeks, our chaplains have continued to minister to our First Responders and have also taken care of citizens in crisis. What a blessing to have a group of dedicated servants who are ready and willing to take up my slack. Thanks a bunch guys!

As 2010 comes to a close I don't know what the coming year will bring but I can guarantee that there will be plenty of folks who will need someone to minister to them. Please pray for the ministry of Emergency Chaplains in the coming days and consider helping us out with financial support. It is because of the prayers and gifts of folks just like you that we will be able to continue compassionately taking the comfort of Christ to those in crisis. Thanks for being a part of caring for others!