

NORTHWEST ARKANSAS CHAPLAIN MINISTRIES NEWSLETTER APRIL 2023

WHEN TRAGEDY STRIKES—

A community mourns over the loss of a beloved member of that community. Misty Martin, a school teacher in Gravette for 27 years, lost her life in an automotive vehicle accident near Gravette on April 18. BCSO Chaplain Jo Jones was called to the scene of the accident, and arrived within minutes to provide emotional and spiritual support to other victims and wit-

nesses on the scene. Then the following day, Chaplain Jo and Chaplain Terry Simmons joined Gravette PD Chaplain Donald Miller and Heritage Baptist Church Pastor Chris Horton in ministering to students and staff in the Gravette Elementary and Middle Schools. Chaplains will continue to be available to provide spiritual and emotional support to emergency responders called to the scene as well as the rest of the community as needed.

All BCSO Chaplains are certified Law Enforcement, Fire or Hospital Chaplains, with some of the chaplains carrying multiple certifications. In addition to their extensive training, they also have years of experience in responding to tragedies. We are fortunate to have such a high quality chaplain team ministering to the emergency services community and the community at large.



(L to R) Chaplain Terry Simmons, Pastor Chris Whorton, Chaplain Jo Jones, Chaplain Donald Miller

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Barry Riggs is making a difference in the lives he touches. A marine veteran with the ghosts of war haunting him, Barry was serving as a BCSO Deputy, and those ghosts seemed to be winning Barry's latest war—the war with himself. But those ghosts were defeated by

the power of God when he surrendered to the Lord with the help of a couple chaplains who spent hours with him in his patrol car, listening to his story and sharing the love of Jesus with him. Today Barry is copastor of a church in eastern OK, and is serving on staff at 633 Recovery, an addiction recovery program. His story is at nwachaplains.com/ Testimonies.htm.

Though many people think of our work in the Detention Center as the primary focus, the men and women who serve and protect are by no

means secondary. Barry is one of several LEO's whose lives were impacted because a chaplain was there when they needed one.

Your prayers and gifts of support for Northwest Arkansas Chaplain Ministries are what makes this ministry possible.

LETTING OTHERS KNOW

Our thanks to Rogers First Nazarene Church for hosting their first Non-Profit Festivial highlighting the work of about 20 participating non-profit services available in northwest Arkansas. Some of the ministries featured network with Northwest Arkansas Chaplain Minis-



Sam Knight, a long-time minister at the Benton County Jail, was on hand to share about the ministry provided by NWACM

tries, providing services such as residential recovery programs for inmates upon their release from jail. Many of those attending had no idea the sheriff's office even had chaplains who serve both the staff and the inmates incarcerated. Look for those partner ministries on our website, nwachaplains.com and click on "links".

We are grateful for opportunities to share about emergency services chaplaincy. If your church or civic group is looking for a speaker please contact Chaplain Jim by phone or text at (479)366-4527, or at chaplainjim@nwachaplains.com.

SHOWING APPRECIATION

Sheriff Shawn Holloway met with NWACC Prof. Allen Baker to present Baker with a Certificate of Appreciation and a commemorative Daisy air rifle. Baker, a computer science teacher, wrote a scheduling program for the jail ministry, enabling ministers to schedule a ministry room, and log in and out when serving in the jail. Baker continues to work on the software he designed to make it easier to use and more functional. We Thank Prof. Baker for his hard work on this project.



Your support of Northwest Arkansas Chaplain Ministries helps make chaplain services available to the Benton County Sheriff's Office and to other area law enforcement agencies and fire/EMS agencies in this area. Northwest Arkansas Chaplain Ministries is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation supported almost entirely by donations. You can support this ministry by giving online at nwachaplains.com/support.htm, or scan the code to the right.



"I was hungry, and you gave Me something to eat; I was thirsty, and you gave Me something to drink; I was a stranger, and you invited Me in; naked, and you clothed Me; I was