



Jail Ministry is still happening! Chaplains once again have access to the Benton County Detention Center, and though we cannot hold group Bible studies, we can meet one-on-one with inmates as needs or opportunities arise. Here are some of the recent activities at the Detention Center:

- **Six hundred Christmas cards were distributed to the inmates at the Detention Center.** Cards were provided by and postage purchased by donations to the chaplain ministry. The jail ministry has been providing Christmas cards to the inmates for several years. It's one way we can help bring the spirit of the Christmas season to the Detention Center.
- **Demand for Bibles and other religious materials has been astounding.** Normally books are available for checkout by the inmates, and those books are a variety of types, mostly fiction. However, due to the COVID-19 infection risk, inmates are limited to one religious book. The overwhelming number of requests is being met as Bibles and other religious books are provided through donations.
- **Death notifications in the Detention Center are made by the chaplains.** With 650 inmates more or less, there are usually a number of inmate family deaths each month. Our chaplains are responsible for making those notifications. All the chaplains are trained to not only make the notification but also to minister to the inmate's grief. It's a tough but necessary job, but it does have its rewards. Many times the inmate being notified will respond positively to the suggestion that they need Jesus in their lives to cope with the grief and with life in general.

All the work of the Chaplain Division is not in the Detention Center.

- **We provide spiritual and emotional support to the Sheriff's Office staff,** helping them cope with the pressures of their jobs and the impact it has on their families. They work in a "pressure cooker" environment, and having someone to talk to often helps. The chaplain provides a non-judgmental ear and will listen as the staff member shares his or her issues.
- **In many cases a chaplain becomes a deputy's or officer's "pastor",** and is there to provide pastoral service such as weddings and funerals, or other pastoral duties.
- **We respond to make death notifications** and provide spiritual and emotional comfort for families during a death investigation by law enforcement authorities. We also serve as a liaison between the families and the investigators.
- **We provide spiritual and emotional support during any traumatic event.** Perhaps it's watching your home and all your possessions disappear in a fire, or a devastating flood engulfs your home. Chaplains are there to provide support and help coordinate relief efforts by local organizations.

Thank you for your prayers and financial support for this important ministry. Give online at nwachaplains.com/support.htm.

Operating expenses of Northwest Arkansas Chaplain Ministries are funded primarily by donation. Your support helps make chaplain services available not only to the Benton County Sheriff's Office, but also to other area law enforcement agencies and fire departments in this area.

Please consider partnering with us with your one-time gift or monthly support. Your gift is tax-deductible.

Northwest Arkansas Chaplain Ministries is a 50 (c) (3) non-profit corporation supported entirely by donations. You can support this ministry by giving online at nwachaplains.com/support.htm and follow the link to the online giving page. Or, you can give by mail at the address below. Contact Chaplain Jim Dixon at chaplainjim@nwachaplains.com or at (479) 366-4527.



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