



NORTHWEST ARKANSAS CHAPLAIN MINISTRIES

NEWSLETTER MAY-JUNE 2023

Serving those who serve us. Transforming lives behind the walls

REMEMBERING KEVIN APPLE

Pea Ridge Police Officer Kevin Apple was remembered by his family, department and the community on the second anniversary of his death on June 26, 2021. His death was commemorated by a candlelight vigil at the scene of his death at Slack Street and Townsend Way. Officer Apple had made contact with a vehicle being pursued by the Rogers Police Department. The driver of the car sped away from the scene, running over and killing the officer.



The Kevin Apple Memorial was unveiled at the candlelight vigil.

TRANSFORMING LIVES

Thirty men and women were baptized in June at the Benton County Jail, bringing the total number of those following the Lord in baptism to 119.

In addition to Jail Ministers actively bringing the Good News to the jail, inmates themselves are holding their own Bible studies and prayer meetings. Many inmates are sharing how Jesus has made a difference, and it impacting those with them in the jail. God is moving!



TRAINING, READY FOR POSSIBLE SUMMER ACTION



Northwest Arkansas Chaplain Ministries serves not only area law enforcement agencies, but area Fire/Rescue/EMS agencies as well. In this picture the Avoca Fire Department is training for water extraction in the event of a boating accident where victims are thrown from their watercraft. The Avoca Fire Department regularly trains for both firefighting and rescue operations, including boating and motor vehicle accidents. Like the other volunteer fire departments in the area, Avoca's firefighters give up their time for their community and are on call 24/7/365 to serve when called upon.

Northwest Arkansas Chaplain Ministries is also on call 24/7/365, ready to bring spiritual and emotional support for the agencies we serve.

Thank you for partnering with us. Your prayers and financial support are making a difference in the lives of the men and women we serve in Emergency Services, and those incarcerated in the Benton County Detention Center.



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SWEARING IN A NEW CHAPLAIN

Jerry Bolander is the newest member of the Chaplain Division of the Benton County Sheriff's Office. Jerry is shown being sworn in by Benton County Justice of the Peace Carrie Perrien Smith with Jerry's wife, Tandy, looking on. BCSO Major Bob Bersi also watched as the new chaplain took the oath of office.



Jerry bring his years of disaster chaplain experience and Critical Incident Stress Management training to the table, as well as training as a first responder chaplain. Welcome to the team Chaplain Bolander!

SHARPENING SKILLS—GET BETTER AT WHAT THEY DO

Chaplains Galen Percy and Jim Dixon attended crisis response training classes in late June. The classes were hosted by John Brown University in Siloam Springs and presented by K-LOVE and Crisis Response Care. Courses taken by the two included Psychological First Aid for First Responders, Crisis Care During Traumatic Grief. Additionally, Chaplain Percy took Enhancing Resilience and Youth Suicide: Awareness and Prevention.

Working on these skills better equips chaplains who respond to events where trauma is expected or might occur. All of the BCSO Chaplains are crisis-response trained and ready to serve when called upon.

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.



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"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 sick, and you visited Me; I was in prison, and you came to Me." Matt 25:35-36 NAS

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