

County-Wide Chaplaincy

Thanks you!

April 2025

April Showers (of Blessings)

As I think about the month of April, I often think of the old saying, "April showers bring May flowers." I have always looked at that saying as meaning "hold on, here comes the rain, but the benefit will be all the beautiful flowers which will follow." Recently, I have thought of that saying in an entirely different way. I thought about showers of blessings, blessing upon blessing upon blessing, as we read in John 1:16, "Out of His fullness, we have all received blessing upon blessing," or in some translations it says "grace upon grace." Implied is a constant and overflowing gift. Wow! I just want to sit in that thought and try to comprehend it. Because of our Savior Jesus Christ, we are given an extravagant and continual outpouring of His goodness and grace. Just try to let that sink in....

And then the "May flowers?" You might think, well, the natural result of a continual outpouring of God's grace would be an outpouring of beauty from our lives. We in turn bless others out of that fullness of His blessing! I don't know about you, but for me this is kind of a mind boggler. I am so often reminded in this life of the "full circle" truth. There are so many things that seem to come full circle in our lives. I could recount many to you from my life, but I encourage you to just ponder that a bit in regard to your life.

As for our amazing chaplains, I assume they can relate to all of this. I think the reason they can spend hours offering their voluntary services to those in need, is because they have received that grace upon grace or blessing upon blessing from our Lord. It really is full circle!

continued on back

Meet the Chaplains

Chad Zoller, County-Wide's Senior Chaplain, has been serving as a chaplain since 1996. Married to Vivian, they have raised five kids here in Clark County.

How did you become a chaplain?

Chad: "My father helped set up the chaplaincy with some pastors and the sheriff's department. I graduated from Bible College and obtained my realtor's license, so I had the flexibility to serve."

How do you find it rewarding?

Chad: "It's not a fun ministry, but I do what God's made me to do."

How can we pray for you and the people you serve?

Chad: "For me to have spiritual and emotional energy, . . . and for the families, a peace that surpasses all understanding."

These are excerpts from the full interview, which will soon be available on our website. Subscribe to our email newsletter on our website form and get the most up to date info at 911chaplain.org.

We receive and we are able to give or share or offer something of ourselves. And then we are filled up again by His grace and the circle continues.

I must say, our God is an awesome God! We often get so busy in the wheel of life that I think we forget to sit and ponder and just soak in all of this reality. That does not mean the reality stops, but we are much less aware of it. Please join me in this month of showers, in a serious attempt to slow down and soak in these gifts and really recognize that we are being filled up in order to pour out.

As always, we thank you for your support and for your prayers for our chaplains. May they experience being filled up, so that they may pour out, and be there to "help when it hurts".

Jan Richards

Resurrection Day

This year we celebrate "Easter" on April 20th in honor of the resurrection of Jesus Christ, the most significant event in human history. His resurrection gives assurance of eternal life, for those who trust in Him.

"Therefore He is able also to save forever those who draw near to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them." Hebrews 7:25

The historian Bede (A.D. 673-735) said the term "Easter" came from the Anglo-Saxon goddess of fertility, Eastre (or Eostre). Her festival was celebrated in the spring of each year. Although there is some difference of opinion about the origin of this word, many scholars accept Bede's explanation. Thus, I much prefer the term, "Resurrection Day."

In 1978 Resurrection Day fell on March 26th. This was also the predicted date for the birth of our baby girl. We chose the name Anastasia. This name comes from the Greek word "anastasis" which means resurrection. Anastasia Joy was actually born a few days later. And joy was ours in abundance!

May you have resurrection joy in the embrace of Jesus the Messiah.

Chaplain Al Walter

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