



COWLITZ CHAPLAINCY

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Chaplains Activity

During the months of May and June the Chaplains were called out 28 times to assist first responder agencies in our county. All of the calls we respond to in the county are serious, but May and June found us involved in very difficult calls. There were three children who drowned. Two were revived and are on the path of unknown levels of recovery, but one teenager died. We responded to four suicides, and Woodland Police experienced an officer involved shooting.

We hope that our reporting on the difficulty of sad events does not discourage or depress you; because in the midst of tragedy the Lord finds ways to encourage us and strengthen us. We are encouraged by your support of the Chaplaincy, and we are strengthened by the opportunity to respond to the calling God has given to us to come alongside citizens and first responders with the ministry of presence, and the opportunity to bring the ministry of compassion to citizens going through crisis, and to our first responders who are called into the midst of many sad events.

After the initial hours of responding to crisis events in the county our focus shifts to our primary mission which is the care of our first responders. After the Woodland Police Department had the unfortunate event of an officer involved shooting we had the privilege as Chaplains to be involved in the care for the department and the officer. We led a Critical Incident Stress Debriefing for the department, and also provided personal follow-up care for the officer and his family.

All of the difficult incidents of the last two months have provided us many opportunities to come alongside and support our law enforcement and fire service personnel. This is our passion, and this is why we do what we do. Even though we walk through sad and difficult situations with our first responders it provides opportu-

nities to serve them, and the last couple of months have also opened up new doors and started important discussions on how we can serve more of our first responders in new ways and on deeper levels.

During the month of May the Chaplains completed this year's rotation through the high schools assisting the Sheriff's Office with the "Every 15 Minute" program discussed in the last newsletter. We also completed attending the city and county counsel meetings in connection with Law Enforcement Memorial Week in mid-May. We also performed 3 weddings and 10 funerals, and participated in several services in connection with Memorial Day weekend.

Chaplains Training

In June Chaplains Doug and Tom participated in a mass casualty drill with members of Longview Fire, and crews from Cowlitz 2 F&R and Cowlitz 5 F&R.

In the event of the unthinkable it is important to be prepared. All first responder agencies, including the Chaplains, are trained in the Incident Command System (ICS) which is under FEMA. It is important that each person understands his/her role under the Incident Commander (IC). As we participated in this drill we learned some valuable lessons about our own preparedness as Chaplains to assist during a large critical event. One of the things we learned is our field portable radios lacked a channel that the fire service often uses during a critical incident. We want to say a BIG thank you to **Cascade Networks** who updated our radios for free so we will be better equipped to serve. This is important training we hope we never have to use!

Remember Chaplains Mario and Tom as they attend the International Conference of Police Chaplains convention in Sacramento, California July 13-17.

Summer Fundraisers

SWEET SPOT

JULY 24, 11:00 A.M. TO 10 P.M.

Come to Sweet Spot Frozen Yogurt on July 24 and a percentage of the profits will go to support Cowlitz Chaplaincy!



Tri-angle Center
1015 Ocean Beach Hwy #115

BURGERVILLE

August 22, 4:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M.

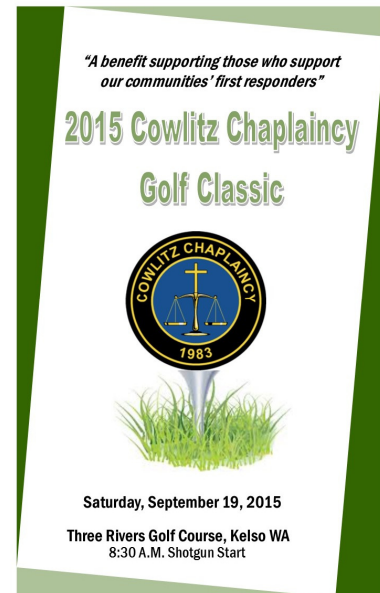
Join us at Burgerville on August 22 and a percentage of the profits will go to support Cowlitz Chaplaincy.



600 West Main St.
Kelso, WA 98626

2015 GOLF CLASSIC

September 19, 2015



Get Your Team Together Now!
Join the List of Sponsors!

Go to
www.cowlitzchaplaincy.org
for all the details and registration forms!

We have discount Black Bear Tickets
Each ticket is \$20.00 for four tickets or four games. They can be used Sunday through Thursday home games. Call the office to get yours now!

Cowlitz Chaplaincy



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"Supporting those who support our communities' first responders"