

"TURNING THOSE IN CRISIS TOWARD CHRIST"

Emergency Chaplains

MARCH 2024



CHAPLAIN SPOTLIGHT

In our November 2020 newsletter we introduced you to Chaplains David and Kathleen Glover. They had joined EChap in 2019 and were attempting to start a crisis response ministry in Johnston County until the pandemic brought their efforts to a grinding halt.

David and Kathleen had a fascinating testimony. They both came to faith in Christ in their early 50's, about 13 years before joining EChap, and their journey with Jesus had been an exercise of surrendered faith. Shortly after becoming Christians, they sold their business and their home and bought a travel trailer. For several years they lived in various locations around the country, serving in disaster recovery areas through Samaritan's Purse.

Their traveling days ended in 2019 when David was diagnosed with a rare form of brain cancer. David and Kathleen settled down in Johnston County and began making regular trips to UNC Cancer Center, where his oncologist delivered the sad news that David had only 6-12 months to live.

While David and Kathleen knew that their traveling days were over, they still had a burning desire to serve in a disaster recovery ministry. They found EChap on the internet and reached out to us. When we met, I explained that our



crisis chaplains respond to an average of about two disasters every day, primarily where sudden, unexpected death has occurred.

David and Kathleen were wired for disaster ministry and saw the connection. They had a deep understanding of God's mercy and they wanted to be a channel of God's comfort by helping build a crisis ministry in their own community. Despite multiple brain surgeries and facing no known treatment for David's cancer, they charged forward with their mission.

Although they were optimistic that one of the clinical trials would be the silver bullet to eradicate the cancer, new tumors continued to appear, and the old ones came back even larger. David and Kathleen made a difficult decision in

2021 to leave Johnston County and their mission field. They knew that they needed to move closer to their family in South Carolina.

The last time I saw David was on May 25, 2022. He was in palliative care at Duke, and unresponsive. Kathleen called me a few hours later to tell me that David had died.

Knowing David and Kathleen Glover has changed my life. David lived to glorify the Lord. I've seen many believers endure suffering well, but David served Jesus with everything he had, and he genuinely praised God even as the cancer storms dealt their final death blows.

I just got off the phone with Kathleen. She has sold their house in South Carolina and has moved her belongings into the basement of her son's home. Kathleen is going on the road again and plans to work in mission camps and on disaster relief scenes as long as the Lord gives her strength.

Kathleen, please know that I am praying for the Lord to give you thousands of divine appointments to comfort those who are hurting. I pray that many will come to faith in Christ because of your faithful witness and obedience to Him.

Chaplain Ralph



The Yadkin County Opioid Action Coordinator is providing Emergency Chaplains with harm reduction kits and Narcan spray. Chaplain Jerry McFadyen (left) leads our ministry efforts in Yadkin County.

Nine Durham County chaplains received Narcan training in February.

911 Week
April 14-20

EMS Week
April 19-25

National Police Week
May 12-18

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FIELD REPORTS



EChap provided dinner and gave a presentation to the members of Bahama Fire Department on February 19th. Thirteen chaplains from Durham, Orange, and Person counties came out to help.



Five of our chaplains trained in Disaster Response through NC Baptists on Mission on March 9th at The Summit Church in Raleigh.

Three chaplains were dispatched following a motor vehicle crash. The vehicle had left the roadway, went through a fence, down an embankment into a retention pond. The driver was trapped in the car and called 9-1-1 but drowned before responders were able to locate the vehicle. One chaplain assisted law enforcement when they went to the residence of the deceased to deliver the death notification. Another chaplain conducted a group debriefing for the communicators who handled the call and for the officers who arrived first on the scene.

The Durham Crisis Response Team responded to seven suicide calls during a 3-week period in March.

Grace Church in Chapel Hill provided 100 box lunches for first responders along with other items of encouragement on March 23rd. Several EChap members joined Chaplain Bo Moyer to deliver lunch and spend time at the Sheriff's office, EMS, and 9-1-1 centers in Orange and Durham counties.

Chaplain Phil Sheridan along with EChap interns Titus Benfield and Lydia Templeton, served Lebanon Fire Department during the funeral for one of their long-time members on March 23rd.

Two chaplains spent a combined 7 hours on the scene of a homicide where an estranged family member was shot and killed by another member of the family.

EChap provided food for four Durham EMS continuing education sessions in March. Special thanks to Pizza Inn on North Roxboro for donating the pizzas for the two lunchtime sessions. Thanks to Chick-Fil-A on North Roxboro for donating fifty chicken biscuits for one of the morning sessions.

EChap presented a Death Notification training class and provided lunch for Durham EMS, Academy 37.

Law enforcement requested chaplain to respond where CPR was in progress for a woman in the backyard of a residence. The patient was pronounced dead on the scene. The chaplain assisted on the scene for two hours.

Taking Care of Our Own®
 A daylong training program sponsored by the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation
 Saturday, April 20, 2024
 Durham, NC
EChap.org/TCO

GRIN TRAINING
 3-Day ICISF Class
 April 24-26, 2024
 Presented by Durham County EMS
EChap.org/GRIN

PARTNERING WITH EMERGENCY CHAPLAINS

Join the EChap Prayer Team. Pray for our First Responders, Public Safety Agencies, and our Chaplains.
EChap.org/pray

Prayerfully consider becoming a chaplain. The need is growing. We can provide the training.
EChap.org/training

Give monthly to Emergency Chaplains. Your support keeps us on the field to serve First Responders and citizens in crisis.
EChap.org/donate