

...BECAUSE EVERY CRISIS MATTERS...

# Emergency Chaplains



Durham, NC

November 2012

## HOMETOWN HEROES BANQUET HELD ON NOVEMBER 4TH



Eight First Responders received awards during our first Hometown Heroes Banquet.  
Front row: William Carson (Durham Sheriff's Office), James Richardson (Durham Emergency Communications Center)  
Mike Smith (Durham EMS) and Marianne Bond (Durham Police)  
Back row: David Addison (on behalf of Bill Johnson, Durham Police), Willie Alston (Bethesda Fire)  
Tad Ochman (Durham Police) and Steve Kincaid (Durham EMS)

The Family Life Center at **Grey Stone Baptist Church** in Durham was the setting for our first annual Hometown Heroes Banquet on November 4th. Over 350 people gathered to show appreciation to men and women who have dedicated their lives to serving us and to honor them for going above and beyond the call of duty to be peacemakers in our community.

Our guests were treated to a delicious meal from **Home Plate Restaurant** in Durham and some fantastic desserts donated by **Cakes by Faith**.

Following dinner, each award winner was introduced by a video presentation and presented with a plaque recognizing them for their selfless service to the people of our community.

**Chaplain Jeff DeGrow** of Emergency Chaplains was our keynote speaker. Everyone's attention was fixed on Jeff as he shared his story of how he survived being ambushed while serving with the Charleston County (SC) Sheriff's Office. During a foot chase, Jeff was shot six times by the suspect that he was chasing. One of the bullets entered Jeff's eye, broke his jaw and lodged near his ear.

Although Jeff is now blind in his right eye and has medically retired from Law Enforcement, he knows that God spared his life that day for a reason. Now called to prepare for ministry, Jeff and his wife, Lisa, moved to the Raleigh area where he currently attends The College at Southeastern Seminary in Wake Forest and serves as a Chaplain for the Franklin County Sheriff's Office and Youngsville Fire Department.



*Chaplain Jeff DeGrow*

## OUR TEAM

### CHAPLAINS

Grant Bennett  
 Richard Brown  
 Danny Bryant  
 Ricardo Correa  
 Jeff DeGrow  
 James Dodson  
 Andre Gilliard  
 Johnny Hewett  
 Mike Jobe  
 Chris O'Guin  
 Keith Kimball  
 Don Sharp  
 Joe Thomas  
 Mike White  
 Phil Wiggins

### CHAPLAIN INTERNS

Craig Alexander  
 Brian Fleming  
 Art Klose  
 Bill Oakley  
 Floyd Pearce

### COUNSELOR

Carter Thompson

### COUNSELOR/INTERPRETER

Pedro Valladares

### PHOTOGRAPHER

Russell Hill

### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Ralph Thompson

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Michael Perra  
 Clay Stevens  
 Jay Veasey  
 Kimberle Walker

## AGENCIES WE SERVE

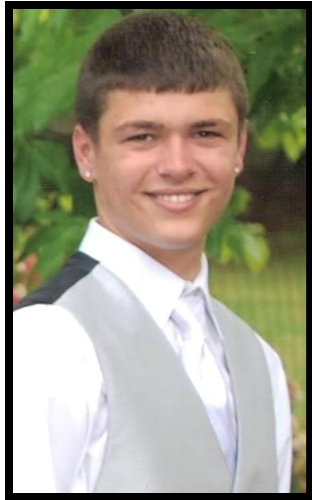
BETHESDA FIRE DEPT.  
 CARRBORO POLICE DEPT.  
 DURHAM COUNTY EMS  
 DURHAM COUNTY SHERIFF  
 DURHAM 911 CENTER  
 DURHAM POLICE DEPT.  
 FRANKLIN COUNTY SHERIFF  
 KANNAPOLIS FIRE DEPT.  
 LEBANON FIRE DEPT.  
 NC HIGHWAY PATROL  
 PERSON COUNTY EMS  
 REDWOOD FIRE DEPT.  
 ROXBORO POLICE DEPT.

## CONTACT US

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## BRANTLEY PEARCE MEMORIAL



*Brantley Pearce*

*Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God. (2 Corinthians 1:3-4)*

On August 28, 2012, 18 year old Brantley Pearce, died in an automobile accident. Brantley's best friend, Miles Moorman also died in the accident. Two other friends in the car were injured.

Recalling the night of the accident Brantley's mother, Karen, wrote, "Every community needs a chaplain who takes care of people the way Emergency Chaplains does. No one should ever have to be alone when something like this happens."

This memorial has been established by Brantley's family out of the pain caused by his loss. They want this memorial to be a testimony of their faith in Jesus Christ, acknowledging that He is the source of their comfort, strength and hope. They want others who are suffering in the midst of crisis to be offered the same hope and comfort they have.

As Emergency Chaplains works to establish a chaplaincy presence in every county in North Carolina, this memorial fund will be used to provide training for those chaplains. Our goal is to produce an army of chaplains across our state who are always ready to take the comfort of Christ to those in crisis.

Steve Kincaid (Sr. Medic) and Mike Smith (Director) of Durham EMS received the first Brantley Pearce Memorial Awards at the Hometown Heroes Banquet on November 4th.

Kincaid was chosen because of his dedication to Emergency Medicine and for providing his patients and their families with extraordinary care and compassion. Smith was recognized for his commitment to providing chaplaincy care for his employees and the people of Durham County and for his visionary leadership in the establishment of Emergency Chaplains.



*L to R: Mike Smith, Karen Pearce and Steve Kincaid*

### **Special thanks to these who helped make our banquet a success:**

- Grey Stone Baptist Church
- Women Serving Jesus
- Cakes by Faith
- Home Plate Restaurant
- 12 SEBTS students
- 22 Banquet Sponsors
- 41 Table Hosts
- Countless other volunteers and Prayer Partners.

## UNITED WAY

We are pleased to announce again this year that you can designate a pledge to Emergency Chaplains through the United Way of the Greater Triangle. Just write in "Emergency Chaplains/Durham" on your pledge sheet.

**Our United Way code is 60000731.**

## YEAR END GIVING

Now is a good time to consider your part in helping Emergency Chaplains take the comfort of Christ across our state. Use the enclosed envelope to send your gift today and consider becoming a monthly ministry partner in 2013.