

Fire Chaplains Call

TENNESSEE FEDERATION OF FIRE CHAPLAINS

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Why We Do What We Do

By Chaplain Paul Trumpore TFFC Executive Director

As Emergency Service Chaplains, we often get asked, "Why do you do this?" People often scratch their heads and try to come up with some supposition of why these people give the time, money, attention, availability, and wear and tear on their vehicles to show up when people are having a bad day. Many have some thought that perhaps we get overtime from our department or some bonus from our place of worship for the service that we provide. While there may be a few short-lived novices who think that they may attain some kind of fame, the vast majority receive their drive from a different direction.

The education, networking, and attention that it takes to become and remain certified as an Emergency Service Chaplain takes time away from family, work and leisure. Many of our chaplains have made a great sacrifice of time, money and vacation days to obtain this never-ending education. Too many of our chaplains have attended these training opportunities with no departmental support whatsoever, only to go back to those departments and continue to serve in countless ways behind the scenes.

Chaplains get called upon to provide emotional and spiritual care in the middle of the night, while at the elementary school open house, during a dinner date, during their child's soccer game, or even during – well, you know.... Chaplains

provide the assistance of death notifications, critical incident stress management, hospital visits, suicide interventions, visits to families after the birth of a child, resource management, networking with other agencies, emergency service funerals, and plain-old basic support. I wonder some times if the job description for the Chaplain should simply be, "and other duties as assigned."

What drives a chaplain to get up in the middle of the night or leave the dinner table? Is it some insatiable need to escape – or to be in some way "special"? While those new to this specialized service may think so, the enduring drive is a willingness to BE THE SERVANT. Chaplains, in particular, need to be willing to be the one at the bottom of the totem pole and to meet the needs of everyone above – without the need to hear a word of appreciation.

You know: the more I think about it, the more I think that we are just like the rest of the Fire, Rescue, EMS, and Law Enforcement professionals around us. We ALL provide our differing fields of expertise because we are willing to BE THE SERVANT. I appreciate what ya'll do! I appreciate you taking on the heart of a servant and meeting the needs of the people in your community. You make an incredible difference!

With my salute to you,

Paul Trumpore

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Paul N. Trumpore

President
Darrell Cook

Secretary
Wynn Batson

Regional Directors
David Woody
East Region

Dennis Allen
Central Region

Garland Kimble
West Region

Registrar/Bookkeeper
Ann Trumpore

Newsletter Editor
David Woody

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The Greatest of these is Charity

When we see the word “Charity” all too often we pass it off with that’s another word for love. Or we look at charity as giving to someone in need. Yet if not careful we miss the whole essence of the word.

Have you ever given a gift because you were “supposed to”? It was the expected thing to do? Something like a wife’s anniversary or Valentines—just try skipping that. At times we confuse that kind of giving with charity.

CHAPLAIN DAVE'S FIRE SERVICE

HEAVENLY FATHER ... AS WE REMEMBER OUR
FALLEN HEROES, PLEASE BRING COMFORT TO
THEIR FAMILIES, FRIENDS, AND FIREFIGHTERS
THAT ARE LEFT BEHIND ...



DEH 8/08

NATIONAL FALLEN FIREFIGHTERS
MEMORIAL WEEKEND OCTOBER 3 - 5, 2008
EMMITSBURG, MARYLAND

Sometimes we all give gifts hoping to get one in return. If I get a real nice Christmas gift for this friend perhaps he will get one for me. That is not the charity that was extended to a destitute brother in his time of need, nor should it be our attitude in giving.

Charity is love, a gift of love from the heart. The word “charity (agape) means unmerited love, love that does not expect anything in return, self giving love. Faith and hope are important, but only CHARITY unmerited love, binds God to man and man to man.

From time to time that means extending love to the unlovely, compassion and empathy to the apathetic, and maybe even acceptance of the unacceptable. As humans we cannot accomplish that, but with the spirit of God’s charity we can and must—that is our calling.

Darrell Cook, TFFC President

Offering to Benefit the TFFC

Chaplains,

I am asking that each of you request that your congregation collect a gift offering for the Tennessee Federation of Fire Chaplains during the months of December of January.

These offerings will support our missions of Chaplain education, Credentialing and Certification; Crisis Response; Line-of-Duty Death Response; and Disaster Preparedness. We would like to overcome several major hurdles this next year in these areas in order to provide a better service state-wide.

I have prepared an 11-page, 5 to 10 minute Power Point presentation about the work of the Tennessee Federation of Fire Chaplains that you could show during a worship service. The presentation is suitable for both the public and members of the emergency services.

Please feel free to contact me at (865) 805-2890 if you have any questions or for a copy of the Power Point presentation.

Thank you for **Serving Those Who Serve!**

PAUL N. TRUMPORE, Executive Director
Tennessee Federation of Fire Chaplains

Fire Chaplains Call is a publication of the Tennessee Federation of Fire Chaplains (TFFC) providing news and information for the members of the Federation.

Comments, news items, or articles may be submitted to the TFFC for consideration for publication.

TFFC reserves the right to select and/or edit articles for content and space.

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TFFC, Attention: *Fire Chaplains Call*, 908
Kimberlin Heights Rd.,
Knoxville, TN 37920-8926,
or email
PNTrumpore@aol.com.

Upcoming Training Events

07-08 March 2009 0800-1700 Sevierville, TN

Basic Chaplains Academy at the Sevier County Fire Chief Association Smoky Mountain Weekend. This course provides the foundation for Fire/Rescue/EMS chaplain service and teaches an established and credentialed system of protocols in order to provide chaplain service to emergency service workers and the public. Course fee is **\$100**. Early bird price of \$75 if received by 01 January 2009

07-08 March 2009 0800-1700 Sevierville, TN

Engaging Instructional and Ethical Tools at the Sevier County Fire Chief Association Smoky Mountain Weekend. This Train-the-Trainer-type course for chaplains will provide the novice and experienced instructor with the requisite knowledge to master preparedness, lesson plans, difficult participants, teaching the adult learner, teaching appropriate learning preferences, assessments, instructional ethics, modeling desired behavior and mentoring. Basic Chaplains Academy is a prerequisite for this course. Course fee is **\$100**. Early bird price is \$75 if received by 01 January 2009.

19-21 March 2009 0800-1700 Bell Buckle, TN

CISM: Individual and Group Crisis Intervention At the Tennessee Fire Service and Codes Enforcement Academy. This double course will cover both "Assisting Individuals in Crisis" and "Group Crisis Intervention". These courses will be held back to back from Thursday through Saturday 8AM till 6PM. Lodging and meals are available at the Academy for \$50 per night to be paid with this registration. The class fee for both courses is **\$100 for both classes**. Early bird price is \$75 if received by 01 February 2009.

Pay Your 2009 Membership Dues

Tennessee Federation of Fire Chaplains

908 Kimberlin Heights Road, Knoxville, TN 37920-8926 (865) 577-3095

TFFC Members,

Please remit 2009 Annual Dues of \$75.00 to the address listed above. This covers dues for the Tennessee Federation of Fire Chaplains and we will automatically pay your 2009 annual dues to the Federation of Fire Chaplains (International) when we receive your state dues.

Members wishing to keep Chaplain Certification and remain active with the FFC need to make sure that dues are paid by 01 January 2009.

The TFFC is a 501c(3) organization and our FEID number is: 38-3655646.



16 Firefighter Life Safety Initiatives

www.everyonegoeshome.org/initiatives.html



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“Serving those who Serve”

The Mission of the Tennessee Federation of Fire Chaplains is to promote the implementation and training of Emergency Service Chaplains, primarily within the State of Tennessee, and to provide chaplain service mutual aid during times of crisis.

Membership Application

Individual Information:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone Number: (_____) _____ - _____

Cellular Number: (_____) _____ - _____

Pager Number: (_____) _____ - _____

E-mail Address: _____@_____

Date of Birth: _____

Spouse's Name (if applicable): _____

College: _____ Degree: _____

Graduate: _____ Degree: _____

Date of Ordination: _____

Pastorate Information:

Name: _____

Denomination: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone Number: (_____) _____ - _____

Emergency Service Agency Information:

Name: _____

Chief: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone Number: (_____) _____ - _____

Date Appointed Chaplain: _____

Type of Department: Paid _____ Volunteer _____

Type of Chaplaincy: Full Time (Salaried) _____

Volunteer _____ Part Time (Paid) _____

Applicant's Signature: _____

Please include with your application:

___ Letter of appointment by your agency

___ Letter of endorsement by ecclesiastical body

___ Dues of \$75.00 payable to
"Tennessee Federation of Fire Chaplains"

___ A copy of your ordination certificate
(if not ordained - please include a letter from an ordained clergy-
person who will serve as your clergy supervisor. Please explain
the system of supervision in your letter.)

___ A copy of your resume (if available) or a listing of specialized
training attended.