

PUBLIC SAFETY CHAPLAINCY

SUMMER UPDATE

A NOTE FROM WAYNE PATTERSON, PSC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

When asking PSC Chaplains what the highest Core Value of a Chaplain is, they said, "Growing in Christ-likeness." In other words, our Chaplains are growing to be like Jesus and are committed to do the things that Jesus did.

However, with over 2 billion Christians globally, representing 45,000 Christian denominations, one can assume that "growing in Christ-likeness" can mean many different things to people. So let's focus on an aspect of Christ-likeness that we see in our Chaplains and is what we call Christ's example of "self-emptying." The New Testament Greek word that describes this aspect of Jesus is kenosis which means "emptying."

In a prevailing culture that emphasizes an importance on upward mobility and success, PSC Chaplains routinely express "downward mobility" that emulates Christ's example of going to the broken and hurting places in our world to offer comfort and hope. When PSC Chaplains show up at a critical incident, they do not have an attitude of knowing the "right answers" or "fixing the problem". Rather, they go with a heart to serve in any way that may be helpful, because deep down, they realize when it's less about them, it can be more about Christ and His love for the hurting. We love this about our Chaplains!

We currently mobilize 56 Chaplains in seven counties around the Portland Metro area that serve over 57 municipal, county, state and federal law enforcement, fire, EMS and dispatch agencies. We are committed to supporting not only First Responders, but also the communities they serve, which might be a family who just lost a loved one in a fatal car crash or other tragedy. No one should have to experience the worst day of their life alone.

Your faithful support of this work helps ensure they don't have to.
THANK YOU!

MEET ONE OF OUR NEW FIRST RESPONDER CHAPLAINS: JAYME WATANOWSKI







What are the reasons for wanting to serve as a First Responder Chaplain?

After years of working with Mt. Hood Hospice both as a volunteer and on the Board, The Trauma Intervention Program TIPNW, Shepherd's Door, leading countless women's groups and working for the City of Sandy I have encountered people in their most heartbreaking moments, I've seen firsthand the emotional and spiritual toll that crisis takes. Not just on the individuals and families affected, but on the First Responders who show up day after day. I want to serve as a Chaplain because I care about the well-being of our First Responders and those they serve. The First Responders carry heavy burdens, and it's important to me that they know they don't have to carry them alone. Being present, offering prayer, and listening without judgment is what I hope to provide.

I'm a long-time resident of East County and have worked for over 30 years in both professional and volunteer roles serving the public. I recently began working with the Gresham Police Department. My heart is rooted in service—whether that's standing alongside someone in crisis or helping a First Responder feel seen and supported. I also lead Bible studies for women in recovery and believe deeply in the power of healing and faith. I have 3 kids and 3 granddaughters. Matt and I will be getting married the first week in September and I look forward to what the future holds. I love to run, paddle board, hike and attend outdoor concerts. I have a small farm of ducks, chickens, dogs, and goats.



Oregon Chaplains Academy Basic Training Sept 8 - 11, 2025

*Every 449.00 donation pays for full tuition, room and board for One Chaplain to attend.



