



# Hamilton County Sheriff's Chaplaincy

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2016

## Meet the HCSC Law Enforcement Chaplains

For law enforcement chaplains, sometimes called "road chaplains," the main objective is to be available to the officers and community as a resource in any way they are called. The Hamilton County Sheriff's Chaplaincy has eight volunteer Law Enforcement (Road) Chaplains. They are Gerry Griffith, Chip Johnston, Tom Kendall, Dave Kurtz, Lloyd Moore, Dave Parkes, and Dwight Williams (pictured below). Chaplain C. Sawyer, not pictured, is also a law enforcement chaplain. These chaplains are dedicated to serving the Sheriff's Department and the Hamilton County community at any time they are called night or day. They are often called by officers at accident or crime scenes to assist in making death or serious illness notifications to family members of the victims. They may be called to a scene to provide emotional and spiritual support to family, friends, or witnesses at or near the scene. This enables officers and the coroner to focus on investigations knowing that care is being provided for any victims. The road chaplains carry stuffed animals to give to children whose family member may have been injured or killed. They offer comfort to these little ones. Chaplain Griffith recalled a time when a little girl was present when her grandfather died and she had been given a stuffed animal.

*Serving Officers  
Serving Community  
Serving Families  
Serving Inmates*



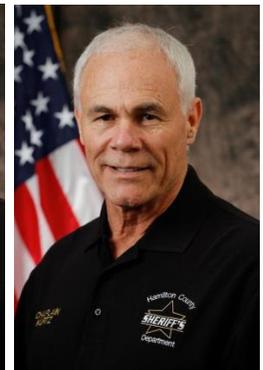
Gerry Griffith



Chip Johnston



Tom Kendall



Dave Kurtz



Lloyd Moore



Dave Parkes



Dwight Williams



*The Chaplaincy is a 501(c)3 charity supported by several local churches and individuals.*

*How you can help:*

*Pray  
Volunteer  
Donate*

*If you would like to donate, please make your check out to the Hamilton County Sheriff's Chaplaincy and send to the address below. All donations are tax deductible.*

**For more information, please contact:**

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Mark Fidler**

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She asked Chaplain Gerry if she would also give one to her grandfather so that he would know that she loved him. So Gerry asked the officer on scene to place the toy on the stretcher as the man's body was carried out so the girl could see it.

In addition to their compassion, the chaplains are continually receiving training going to conferences, attending classes, and gaining certifications in such areas as grief and trauma response, resiliency, suicide and suicide prevention, ministering to officers, ministering to inmates, disaster and emergency response, child abuse, sexual abuse and assault, and more. In addition Senior Chaplain Mark Fidler holds monthly meetings where they receive further instruction on such topics as jail safety and procedures, spiritual assessment, police culture, ethics, body language, criminal manipulation, and working with children during times of crisis.

Many times victims will experience anger and feel that God has forgotten them. The chaplains will comfort and assure them and although our Chaplaincy is a Christian organization, chaplains must be aware and comfortable in dealing with and respecting all faiths.

Many of our chaplains have done ride-alongs with deputies. Chaplain Dave Parkes says this helps build relationships with the officers and communicates that they are available and are highly trained and skilled to assist where needed. The advanced training and experience of the chaplain and the personal relationships built during the ride-along give the officers confidence the chaplains know the proper procedures on a crime scene and trust the chaplain to minister to victims and their families in a professional and caring way. The Hamilton County Sheriff's Chaplains are also interested in sharing with the community about how the Chaplaincy improves the lives of many individuals and families. They are always willing to come to your church or organization to speak. If interested, please call (317) 776-1824.



**Next edition: Meet our Jail and Juvenile Chaplains and learn more about the training our Chaplains receive**

## **2016 Calendar**

Mandatory Jail Volunteer Training – January 11, June 6, August 15, and October 24 at the Christ Community Church of Hamilton County, 772 N. 10<sup>th</sup> Street, Noblesville, IN 46060 from 7:00 – 9:00 pm – Volunteers are required to be trained once annually.

Sheriff's Chaplaincy Conference – October 10-11

## **Mission Statement**

The mission of the Hamilton County Sheriff's Chaplaincy is to serve public safety personnel, those who work or reside in public safety facilities, as well as all residents of Hamilton County. Our mission is to serve as a supportive group of qualified ministers and counselors, assisting in matters of personal, marriage, job, spiritual as needed, and to be available to assist during times of emergency.