

Coastal Crisis Chaplaincy

Fall 2011

CHIPPING IN FOR THE CHAPLAINCY

On October 3rd, the forces of the CCCs combined. The Coastal Crisis Chaplaincy teamed up with the Country Club of Charleston to “Chip In” for the Chaplaincy. Together, we hosted 80 players for a Captain’s Choice tournament. A great time was had by all as they enjoyed the tastings of Southern Food for the Soul and the libations of Coca-Cola and Pearlstine’s. The weather could not have been better to enjoy a beautiful day on one of the finest courses in Charleston. The fun continued at The Charleston Crab House where players participated in an auction and raffle. The night wrapped up as our tournament winners were announced. As always, we are extremely grateful to all of our donors who helped to make this event possible. Sponsors and players alike helped us to raise over \$14,000!!



Tournament Winners with their trophies and prizes.
David Kent, Ryan Castle, Cece Stricklin, and Gary Tasker.



CCC Board of Directors sponsored a team for local
Law Enforcement.



Chaplain Rob Dewey with members of the Town of Mt. Pleasant
Team, Roy Neal, Nick Collins, Mayor Billy Swails, and
Ted Summerford.



Many Thanks to Board Member John Keener for his dedication to the
tournament, the CCC, and our ministry.

“Providing a calming, trusted ‘Ministry of Presence’ during times of need!”



AN INTERN'S REFLECTION

Charlotte Morrow writes of her experience:

“It was a seemingly normal Sunday afternoon as I headed back to school at Clemson University. However, as we idled through a wreck on I-26 a conversation about my fascination with the Coastal Crisis Chaplaincy quickly began to unfold into what I thought to be unimaginable plans. Several days later I began to talk with Chaplain Dewey about my interest in getting involved with the CCC. Weeks later I was in awe as I was offered the opportunity to become a part of the Chaplaincy as the paid Summer Intern.

In reflecting on this wonderful experience, I am reminded of a very well known Bible verse, ‘For I know the plans I have for you declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.’ (Jeremiah 29:11)

The Lord has really revealed this verse to me through unfolding His plans for my summer, and more importantly presenting the opportunity to watch

REMEMBERING 9/11

Ten years ago, our nation stood in awe of the attacks on America. This September, we stood still again as we paused to remember those attacks. The Coastal Crisis Chaplaincy served as a lead agency in the planning of a 9/11 Ten Year Memorial Service at the North Charleston Performing Arts Center, and it truly encapsulated what a memorial service of this magnitude should. We invited the public to join in as we teamed up with local first responders to pause and remember the tragic events of 9/11.

Charleston Air Force Base officials, the Charleston County Fire Chief’s Association, South Carolina Highway Patrol, North Charleston Police and Fire Departments, Coastal Crisis Chaplaincy, and other public safety agencies were represented as the entire ceremony consisted only of public safety and military personnel. Guest speakers included Capt. Laurie Rose of the North Charleston Fire Department who was with a fire department in Virginia on the day of the attacks and who responded to the Pentagon, 2nd Lt. David Palawasta with the Charleston County EMS who grew up in New York and who shared stories of friends and mentors whom he lost that day, and Brian Womble of the Charleston FBI office who responded the days and months following the attacks. The invocation and benediction were given by Chaplain Eddie Driggers and Chaplain Rob Dewey. Many thanks to the Royal Baptist Church Choir and the Academic Magnet Vocal Ensemble who provided lovely music.

Chaplains and a ministry share these words of encouragement with so many. The Chaplaincy has given individuals in crisis a special and rare gift, the ability to hope and trust in the good that the Lord provides. Whether responding to the many deaths by suicide, natural deaths, car accidents, or when simply leading the staff meetings, they always shared a calm, comforting sense of encouragement. I have been blessed beyond words in seeing the great power God has in each individual working at the Coastal Crisis Chaplaincy. I look forward to seeing this ministry grow in unfathomable ways as they continue to change the lives of so many, just as they did mine this summer.”

Charlotte is a sophomore at Clemson University who makes her home on John’s Island.





FALL 2011 STAFF UPDATE

Shannon Vaughn joined the Coastal Crisis Chaplaincy team in August 2011 as the Administrative Assistant. Her main responsibility is to keep the Chaplaincy running smoothly. A Charleston native, Shannon graduated from The College of Charleston with a Bachelor's Degree in Communication in May of 2011. She brings many gifts to the ministry that will surely help it thrive. She is excited to be a member of the team, and is eager to get to know the entire Chaplaincy family. She grew up at St. Thomas Episcopal Church North Charleston, where she is still a member.



Shannon Vaughn

PEOPLE ARE TALKING

Dear Reverend Dewey,

I just wanted to take a minute or two to express my appreciation for the work that you and the other chaplains in your organization do. Having spent a number of years on patrol as a street officer I have had numerous occasions to respond to situations where tragedy has struck. Oftentimes these situations become chaotic. Handling grief-stricken family members and friends of the victims adds to the officer's difficult task of gathering facts and generating reports. It is situations like these that the calming effect of a chaplain's appearance on the scene is a most welcome sight. The chaplain's training and understanding are certainly a welcome assistance to the police.

A second benefit of your efforts, perhaps one that goes unnoticed, is the fact that the officer benefits from working these situations in a less stressful atmosphere. His or her attitude, composure, and abilities benefit them in the long-term as well as in the short-term. Oftentimes the chaplain serves as a bridge between an upset community, who are skeptical of police work, and the patrol officer. It is a win-win situation for all involved.

So again, I thank you and the other chaplains for your dedication and for your service to the community. Keep up the good work.

Sincerely,
Corporal Fred Bowie, Charleston Police
Department/Crimestoppers

Chaplain O'Connell,

Thank you so much for assisting our family during this difficult time. The prayer, support and presence helped us a great deal, and it is greatly appreciated.

The Murphys

Chaplain Youngblood,

Thank you for providing the comfort you shared with our family during the death of my husband. Your continued prayers will help us through the days ahead.

Brown and Wilder Families

Thank you, Coastal Crisis Chaplaincy!

Fr. Rob Dewey and his team have been a saving grace to me and my family. My husband, Anthony, was murdered along with a police officer on Jan. 19, 2002. Anthony, who was an RN, went to the aid of a motor vehicle accident victim.

Through the years my family and I have overcome many stumbling blocks. I believe this to be because we have a strong faith as well as we've kept communication with Fr. Rob and the CCC...The staff has been welcoming and helpful when we've needed spiritual guidance as well as profession opinions. I speak for my family and believe there are many other individuals who feel as we do...

Yes, Fr. Rob and the CCC continue to encourage us! Blessings to the Coastal Crisis Chaplaincy.

Cindy Pirraglia

Memorial, Honorarium, Congregation, Business, and Organization Contributions August to November 2011

Memorials

Judge Louis Condon
James Callahan
Bubba Driggers
Grace Driggers
Mr. & Mrs. Bobby Ezell
David Perry
Mr. & Mrs. Stewart Crisler
Emma Leigh Thomas
Mr. & Mrs. Stan Orenstein
Jason Crowell
Colonel and Mrs. Don Lundy
Randall Heffron Jr.
Randall, Martha, Ran and Ellie
Stoney
Barney Jackson
Mr. and Mrs. Philip Minges
Harris Cohen
Paul Cohen
Phyllis Cohen
Cameron Berry
Faye Minshew
Herbie Wilcox
James Decker
Marie Condon
Brittin Penninger
Colonel and Mrs. Don Lundy

Honorariums

**The marriage of Gordon King
and Sue Minton**
Mr. and Mrs. Neal Weinmann
Kerry Koon
Emily Burrous
Mr. and Mrs. Homer Burrous
Sam Stevens
Colonel and Mrs. Don Lundy
Catherine Puckette
Thomas, Libby, Stephen, Erin,
and Elizabeth Puckette
Rev. Rob Dewey
Col. and Mrs. Alvin Taylor
Dr. Thomas Rivers
Doug Galluccio
Old St. Andrews

Congregations

Christ our King Church
Christ St. Paul's Episcopal
Parish
Grace Episcopal Church
Church of the Cross Bluffton

John Wesley United Methodist
Church
Seacoast Christian Community
Church
Second Presbyterian Church
St. Andrew's Church Mount
Pleasant
St. John's Episcopal Church
St. Paul's Summerville
Christ Episcopal Church Mount
Pleasant
Church of the Holy Cross
First United Methodist Church
The Men of St. James
Episcopal Church
St. Timothy Lutheran Church
Goose Creek
Isle of Palm's Baptist Church
Old Saint Andrews Parish
Church
Red Williams Class
The Women of Old Saint
Andrews Parish Church
James Island Presbyterian
Church

Businesses and Organizations

Charleston County
Sheriff's Office
ProPac Inc.
The Houghton Fund of Coastal
Community
Foundation of South
Carolina
Charleston RiverDogs
Cooper River Bridge Run
Palmetto Survey
Corporation
The Trailer Shop
Ziff Properties Inc.
Rotary Club of St.
Andrews
The Pines Foundation Inc.
Wade Surveying
The Clekis Law Firm

**Many thank to ALL of
our donors and
supporters!**

THE CCC AROUND TOWN



ABOVE: Chaplains O'Connell and Cooper at the Suicide Awareness and Prevention Expo in September.



ABOVE: Chaplain Dewey with the head of the Japanese EMS, Dr. Tetsuji Suzuki, at the National EMS Director's Conference in Las Vegas. Thanks to EMS Colonel Don Lundy for providing Chaplain Dewey the opportunity to share the CCC story.



LEFT: Members of the Chaplaincy family with General Manager Dave Echols from the Charleston Riverdogs in September. Many thanks for the continual support!

WHO ARE OUR VOLUNTEERS?

Chaplain Gale Cooper



Chaplain Gale Cooper immigrated from England to the US with her family at a young age. They settled in Richmond, Virginia where Gale lived for some time. She moved South when answering a call to preach in the Charlotte, North Carolina area.

She and her husband, Elliott, have been married for 43 years. They have two married daughters and three grandsons.

Three years ago, Gale retired from St. John's Episcopal Church in Charlotte, and moved to Charleston. She currently serves as a volunteer preacher and officiant at St. James Episcopal on James Island.

When planning her move to Charleston, a "Volunteer Chaplaincy Charleston" Google search led her to the CCC. She said she was delighted with the "coincidence" of encountering the Chaplaincy so quickly. Gale said, "I think coincidences are sometimes God's way of remaining anonymous." She met with Chaplain Dewey and began training almost immediately. She says it is a humbling honor to serve with her fellow chaplains, and the first responders have completely stolen her heart and admiration. It should not go unnoticed that Gale completed the Chaplain-In-Training program quicker than anyone in CCC history!

Thank you for all you do, Chaplain Gale Cooper!

THANK YOU!

Many thanks to Board Members

Lewis Lee and Steve Peper
(and their gracious wives!)

For hosting the October
"Cocktails & Conversations"

Contact the office to get information about
hosting our next CCC Social Event.

John Keener



Board Member John Keener was born in Montreal, but raised in Atlanta, Georgia. He and his wife, Brandy, live on John's Island, just over the bridge from one of John's Crab House restaurants. He is the father of three children he adores, Kendall (17), Cary Ellis (13) and Ty (11).

Besides volunteering time from his busy schedule to be an active CCC Board Member, John is also on the board for several other organizations including the Charleston Restaurant Association and the Cruise Business Council. He is also a member of the Charleston Visitor Bureau's Board of Governors.

Seven year ago, Chaplain Dewey responded to a tragic situation with a Crab House employee. It was that day that John first became aware of what the Coastal Crisis Chaplaincy and its volunteers do for victims and first responders. Chaplain Dewey led one of the victims to Christ and healed many other grieving souls that day.

John wants to stress to everyone the importance of getting the CCC message out to the public. He would like for everyone to know the peace that the CCC Chaplains bring to the victims of tragic events. He asks that you spread the word!

John received the J.V. Nichols Dedicated Service Award in 2007. We are very grateful for his years of dedication to the CCC!

UPCOMING EVENT

The Charleston Crab House

What: Oyster Roast Fundraiser

Date: Friday, January 6, 2012

6:00pm-9:00pm

With Music from Common Ground



*For more details on this event
call the CCC office at (843)724-1212 or email
administrator@coastalcrisischaplain.org*

Coastal Crisis Chaplaincy
P.O. Box 21833
Charleston, SC 29413

Return Service Requested

OUR TEAM

Volunteer Chaplains

Robert Carter
Spike Coleman
Gale Cooper
Phillip DiDomenico
Doug Farmer
Byron Foster
Melinda Jones
Dennis McGowan
Robert O'Connell
Alfreda Owens
John Prioleau
Angela Raney
Yossi Refson
John Smith
Herbert Temoney
Bill Youngblood

Chaplains-in- Training

Aaron Sherman
Ari Sytner
Emanuel Williams
Jesse Jennings

Staff

Chaplain Rob Dewey
Chaplain Eddie Driggers
Shannon Vaughn

Send a Holiday Blessing

The Holidays are right around the corner! Please remember the Reason for the Season. Pay tribute to your loved ones with a donation to the Coastal Crisis Chaplaincy!

When you send a donation, the person you wish to Bless will receive a Christmas/Holiday Blessing Card. The Card will acknowledge your name, but not the amount of your gift. Your gift will also be acknowledged in our Spring 2012 Newsletter. Remember, all donations to the Coastal Crisis Chaplaincy are tax deductible and go directly back into the community.

*I would like my donation
to be in honor or in memory of*

Donor's Name: _____

In Memory: _____

In Honor: _____