

# *County-Wide Chaplaincy*

## *Thanks you!*

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**August 2023**

### Symphony

I can not even begin to count the times the Lord has used a song to encourage my heart. Most often it happens when I get in the car and the radio plays a song that is just exactly what I need to hear.

This happened recently while my hubby and I were doing a roofing job. The morning had felt overwhelming as we kept running into unexpected issues. The weather was also really hot and we decided to take a break and go get a cold treat. We got into the truck and the song started playing that says, "Through all of this chaos, you are writing a symphony." Wow! It was like the Lord was saying I know this feels like a mess, but I am making something beautiful....a symphony. How encouraging and what a great reminder!

This got me thinking about some things, one of those being that before a symphony begins, if you arrive early, it sounds very chaotic. Then, the conductor steps to the podium, there is silence and attention, and something beautiful begins.



I also think about this with our chaplains and the calls they go on. Most often, they are called to a scene of chaos, at least in the minds of those closely affected by the event. None of this was expected or planned for and it feels chaotic; just to try and take it all in. I like to think that as our chaplains arrive on a scene, it is like the conductor stepping to the podium and hopefully, just the very beginning of a sense of peace and a bit of a guiding light in the darkness of grief. As Chaplain Rob Pool said in last month's letter, he normally introduces himself and says, "I am here to be helpful, however I can." That is beautiful and those few words can mean so very much in dark times.

Jesus is the Light of the World and as Rob said last month, the only real source of hope, comfort, peace and salvation, but He does use his followers to be His hands and feet here on earth. In other words, He is the Master Conductor writing the beautiful symphony of our lives, but a symphony requires people to be involved and play their instruments well and be willing to follow the conductor. May we all take that to heart and look for opportunities to help when it hurts.

Thank you for your support of the chaplaincy and helping to make it possible for our chaplains to be those hands and feet in times of deep distress.

Jan Richards

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