

Chaplain Bill Roberts, Retired

His official title was Police and Fire Chaplain and he served police, fire, and medics as well as 911 dispatchers. He has been a chaplain for over 30 years starting at Woodburn Fire and Marion County Sheriff's Office. Over the years, he served agencies in Marion County as well as agencies in southern Clackamas County including Oregon State Police. He has served Canby Fire, Canby Police and Aurora Fire for about 26 years while also serving the other agencies in the Willamette Valley.

When he first started as a chaplain, a Marion County Deputy gave him a short prayer to use as he was about to give a death notification to a young wife. This prayer has helped me give death notifications and deal with trauma on calls.... "Lord, help me."

He gives credit to Jesus and his wife, Cleo and Pastor Ron for supporting me as he served in the chaplaincy world. He has tried to be transparent and let our Lord's love shine through him to those who needed comfort and support in their challenging times.

Over the past 30 years of his chaplaincy, he has received extensive training in the International Crisis Incident Stress Management (C.I.S.M.) program to assist me in coping with intense situations. he used the C.I.S.M. training when deployed to Waveland, MS during Hurricane Katrina, Okanogan Washington wildfires, Oklahoma City bombing, Umpqua Community College murders, Eagle Creek wildfire and most recently the wildfires in our area.

He has been richly blessed to serve many wonderful men and women in the various agencies and has been impacted by the way civilians has recovered from life-changing challenges and dealt with horrific trauma.