



The Chaplain's CHRONICLES

A FAMILY OF CHAPLAINS

When my husband, Chaplain Dennis Key, and I first came to join the CRM Chaplains in ministry down in the Rio Grande Valley of Texas, we had no idea what to expect. Would they welcome us? Would they be friendly even though we might come from a different church background? Would there be any kind of spiritual or emotional support or fellowship? Well, it didn't take us long to find out that the Lord had led us to the most loving, Christ-like, devoted Christians we could ever want to serve with! They welcomed us with open arms and open hearts. We never felt "on

"They welcomed us with open arms and open hearts"

the outside," but they made us feel like we had always been a part. We have weekly fellowship and support meetings with our section group of chaplains, and we have monthly fellowship and support meetings with all of our Chaplains throughout the Texas Valley. The sweet fellowship and great ministerial support we receive through all the CRM Chaplains down here in the RGV draw us close together like a "family of chaplains" and make it so much easier being away from our families back home. We are so blessed to be a part of Christian Resort Ministries!



2022 ANNUAL CRM CONFERENCE

The 2022 Annual CRM Conference was held October 24-28, 2022, at the Sunshine RV Resort in Harlingen, Texas. Through it, the chaplains had their annual in-service chaplain training. Our excellent guest speakers were Roy Hanschke and Jeff Hastings. Roy spoke on "The Search For Shalom" – the Peace that God wants us to live and minister in. Jeff spoke on Suicide Prevention and PTSD – ministering to the down and out. The teachings were wonderful! The prayer time we had for each other was life-changing! Our food and fun and fellowship ministered to all of us: spirit, soul, and body! There were 31 chaplains and their wives there in attendance ready to take what they learned at the conference and minister to those the Lord brings to us in our various parks across the Texas Rio Grande Valley, Arizona and Florida.



NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS

perspectives

by Paula Key

How To Destroy Unforgiveness

You may be like me and have a long-time friend in your life who, all of a sudden, goes off the deep end and begins living their life in a totally different way than they ever had before. They choose other people over you; they disrespect you and the friendship you have had for years; they seem to not even care about you and your feelings. Your faithfulness to them all these years doesn't seem to count for anything.

You, then, begin to battle hurt, anger, frustration and know you're on the road to unforgiveness and bitterness. How do you gain the right attitude toward them - especially when they keep hurting you?

I knew God had a SOLUTION! He always does, right? He began to give me steps to take to bring about this SOLUTION. First, He showed me I needed to say I forgive them - BY FAITH - and as I obeyed and took the steps in His SOLUTION, He would make the "forgiveness by faith" a reality in my heart! OK, sounds great! What's next? Second, I needed to gather specific Bible verses that I knew were God's will for them, especially those verses that pertained to the problems they were going through. Third, I was to personalize them putting their name in the appropriate places in each verse. Lastly, I was to pray these personalized verses out loud for them regularly. You can't easily feel badly about a person you're praying for regularly!

So, I did what God said to do, and guess what? I got



so much more than I ever dreamed possible! This is what happened for me and will happen for you if you carry out God's SOLUTION. How do I know it will happen for you too? Because it's all based on God's Word that never fails.

The Results of this SOLUTION:

- You'll be praying God's will for them
- You'll have God's perspective on them
- Your attitude will totally change toward them
- You'll be set free from all the negative thoughts and feelings
- You'll have God working on your side and be full of peace
- And, hopefully, they'll get back on the right track with God and with you

How does all this work? Jesus said in John 6:63b - "...the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life." God's Word builds up our spirits and blesses our lives and our mindset. Peace, and Joy, and Faith are the rewards of bringing God and His Word into our challenges.

So, as always, God's got a SOLUTION for each and every one of our problems. He wants us to live by faith in His Word and in peace and joy. We just need to cooperate with Him!

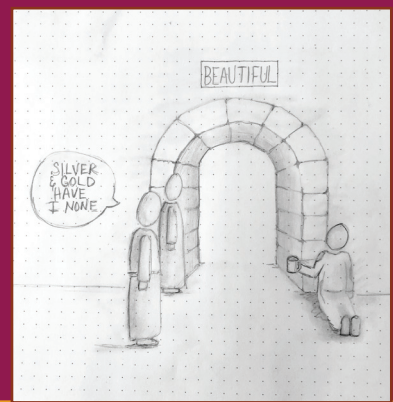
Normally, Aris Roman would have been at home in bed at the time that a bolt of lightning lit up the sky and struck her 5th wheel on the night of November 11, 2022. Had she been inside at the time of that strike she most likely would not be here to tell us how grateful she is to be alive or for the help she has received since losing her home along with all of her possessions! Aris' daughter, Shawma, had persuaded her mother to stay next door at her house to watch a television series with her and Aris had obliged. Shawma's persistence that Friday night helped save her mother's life!

Both Aris and Shawma work and live at Americana The Birding Center RV Resort in Palmview. When the residents next door at Mission West Resort RV Park received word of what had happened to Aris they quickly rallied together and began taking up both household and monetary donations. Mission West asked their resident Chaplain, Mark, and his wife Stacy, of Christian Resort Ministries, to deliver those donations to Aris.

During their visit with Aris they learned that she is a woman of much faith. She expressed to them that one of her biggest heartaches was losing her Bible in the fire. Despite her losses, however, hope was radiating from her smile as she spoke of her faith in God - a faith that God was busy rewarding as He made known that He already had someone working to help replace her Spanish Bible. So, on top of sparing her life from the fire, God was sending His people to keep Aris' faith alive in the face of much loss. Chaplain Mark and his wife Stacy were blessed to be a part of God's plan for Aris. That's what Christian Resort Ministries is all about, being outreach oriented as we bring Christ to those who know and don't know Him.



Sheila Freeland, one of the Chaplain's wives creates drawings from scripture to share with others so they may dig into God's Word and find the scripture that it is depicting. Can you guess where these are found in scripture? Answers will be on the bottom of last page.



WELCOME TO OUR NEW CRM CHAPLAINS!

We have new chaplains in Texas! We'd like to welcome Larry and Nancy Nau from Wisconsin, Bill and Dena Wade from Maine, Mark and Stacy McDonald from South Carolina, Doug and Candy Schmitt from Kansas, Larry and Mary Allen from Michigan, and Mike and Mickie Harden from Oregon. The Naus are serving in Citrus Mobile RV Park in Edinburg, Texas. The Wades are serving in Mission Bell RV Park in Mission, Texas. The McDonalds are serving in Mission West in Palmview, Texas. The Schmitts are serving in Big Valley in Donna, Texas. The

Allens are serving in Sunshine RV Park in Harlingen, Texas, and the Hardens are serving in Trails End in Weslaco, Texas. We have a total of 16 chaplains in 18 RV parks throughout approximately 500 square miles of the Rio Grande Valley. We're always looking for more chaplains as we grow and spread the Good News of Jesus here in the RGV as well as in Arizona and Florida! Pray about joining us as we plant the good seed of the Word of God and bring in the Harvest!



Bill & Dena Wade
Maine
Mission Bell RV Park
Mission TX



Doug & Candy Schmitt
Kansas
Big Valley
Donna TX



Larry & Nancy Nau
Wisconsin
Citrus RV Park
Edinburg TX



Mike & Mickie Harden
Oregon
Trails End
Weslaco TX



Mark & Stacy McDonald
South Carolina
Mission West
Palmview TX



Larry & Mary Allen
Michigan
Sunshine RV Park
Mission TX

IN THE BEGINNING

“In the beginning” to borrow a well-known phrase; actually it was in the spring of 2002, a group of people met in San Antonio, TX, for an RV Rally. Many were experienced RVers like Bob and Barbara Ruesch, and some were full-time RVers like Dennis and Sally Maloney, and of course there were those who were just beginning their adventures. The Ruesches and Maloneys soon became fast friends and never realized where that friendship would lead them. While enjoying a cup of coffee and conversation about Rving, they began sharing their life stories and dreams which just happened to parallel each other in more ways than they ever imagined.

The conversation went from how to fix problems on your RV to kids, grandkids, church, and dreams. Both couples felt a call from the Lord to reach out to the hundreds of people who had become full-time RVers due to skyrocketing housing costs, job placement and other financial concerns, and to the ones traveling south every winter to stay warm during long and very cold conditions back home. It seemed more and more people were living in RVs and not just going camping on weekends or on vacation.

The next step seemed easy to these two couples. Go to an RV park where folks from up north come south to stay warm in the winter. They are known as “winter Texans” or “snowbirds” depending on where they stayed, Texas or Arizona. Well, it seemed simple enough but it wasn’t. Traveling preachers were a thing of the past, or so it seemed to the RV Parks first contacted. Then, the Maloneys weren’t headed to either of those states but rather to Florida, and the Ruesches were headed back to their home in

Colorado. All that really mattered to these friends was that they wanted to share the love of Jesus with people away from their homes for 5 or 6 months out of the year. They wanted to minister to their spiritual needs, so the concept of Christian Resort Ministries started to take hold.

That’s how Christian Resort Ministries (CRM) began. Through the first 20 years, Bob and Barbara Ruesch have continued to work alongside of and encourage men and women who also loved to travel in their RVs but wanted to do something more in a spiritual arena. Many are retired pastors from several denominations, and that began the vetting and appointment, training and supporting of Chaplains residing in various RV Parks in Arizona and in south Texas. Bob made sure the Chaplains had adequate training because there is a definite difference between being a Pastor of a church and being an RV Chaplain.

Since the Maloneys retired and went into a different ministry, Bob has worked hard to hold the RV ministry together from his home in Colorado and has often travelled to and from all the RV Parks or Resorts where the Chaplains are assigned. Today, there are approximately 30 Chaplains and their spouses serving in Arizona, Texas, and Florida. His dream of serving the Lord in a setting of transitory residency has come to fruition, and Bob would say, “there’s always room for more Chaplains and more RV Parks to serve in.”

So, if you have an interest, please go to the CRM website at <https://www.crmintl.org> and check us out. You’ll find out who we are, what we do, and how you can become a part of a growing ministry. God’s work is never

done, and He always needs workers. The website is full of Bob’s ideas and making CRM the ministry it is today.

In his spare time, Bob is a published author and would love to share stories with you anytime. He’s a true chocoholic and has been married to his high school sweetheart (who he affectionately calls “the babe”) for over 30 years. They have five adult children and when he’s not working on another book, counseling friends, and assisting their pastor, Bob is helping Barb care for their disabled son Shane.

As with all good things, it has come time for Bob to step down and take care of himself, his wife, and their family. Hard as it is to turn over your “baby” to someone else, the transition has been made, and the choice appears to be “just what the Lord intended.” Although Bob will be missed by the Chaplains and their wives, he definitely misses being actively involved in CRM. As the saying goes, “gone – but NEVER forgotten.”

Enjoy your retirement Bob – you definitely deserve it.



14 How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? 15 And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things! *Rom 10:14-15 KJV*

ANNUAL PRAYER BREAKFAST



The Alamo Chamber of Commerce held their Annual Prayer Breakfast at Winter Ranch RV Resort in Alamo, Texas. Chaplain Dennis Key who is the Chaplain at Winter Ranch gave a stirring testimony of his new life in Christ that he received when he was only 15 years old at a youth camp in Glorieta, New Mexico. He then presented a check from WR Christian Ministries (which is the congregation at Winter Ranch) for \$700 to the Chamber for their Toys For Tots program. It was gladly received and appreciated! The Winter Ranch congregation is very involved in missions and supports many outreaches in the Alamo area and beyond.

whatever
**YOU DO
DO IT ALL**
for the glory of
GOD

THE LIFE OF A CRM CHAPLAIN

So, we asked our chaplains to write down what a typical week in the life of a CRM chaplain would look like. Here's what Chaplain Marty Ziegler from Southern Comfort RV Park in Weslaco, Texas, wrote:

Sunday

Chapel Service with Sermon, Set Up, Clean Up, and Fellowship

Monday and Tuesday

Activity Meetings, Bible Studies, and Sermon Preparation

Tuesday

Men's/Women's Bible Studies

Wednesday

Prayer Time, Work on Bulletin, Visitation, Sermon Preparation

Thursday

Online Bible Studies and Class, Sermon Preparation

Friday

Visitation/Catch Up, Chapel and Sermon Preparation

Saturday

Catch Up

Then we asked what have been their most gratifying experiences in their park.

Chaplain Marty wrote:

We have great love in our hearts for the people here. They are family to us. Being able to see how God has worked in us and through us and through others has been so rewarding.

I BELIEVE EVERY SINGLE ONE OF OUR CHAPLAINS WOULD SAY
A HARDY AMEN TO THAT!



ANSWERS TO DRAWING THE WORD

And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

Luk 2:7 KJV

Then Peter said, Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk.

Act 3:6 KJV



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