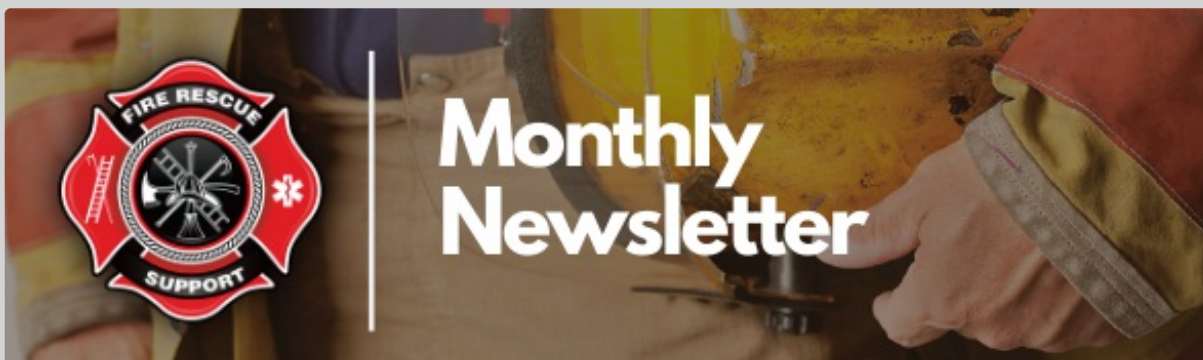


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**May 2025**

*The Power of*



**AND**



“To this end I labor, struggling with all his energy, which so powerfully works in me.” Colossians 1:29

Many times in life we find ourselves having to make choices. Do I stay with the company I’ve been with or go to a new place? Do I care for my elderly parents at home or through an assisted living facility? Should I use paper or plastic?

It seems that life is a series of complicated choices.

But it doesn’t have to be this way when it comes to our relationship with God. Rather than choices (either this or that) God moves in and through our lives with the power of AND.

It is in this AND where we find the power to live.

Often in our life of choices, we look at what is before us and are forced to decide. Is this for me to take care of or is this for God to care of? Does this require my effort or His strength?

By using the word AND, we bring all that we have to bear AND all the resources of heaven to our lives. This is exactly what Paul was referring to in the verse above. It would take all his effort ("I labor") AND all of God's strength ("all His energy") to accomplish what was set before him.

The power of AND requires great balance. It requires that I fully invest myself into all that God places before me AND that I fully release His very presence in my life.

The next time you are faced with a choice, consider the power of AND. Think about all God can do through you when you bring your choices together.

--Chaplain Joe LaCognata



### **R.E.A.C.T.** **Recognize. Evaluate.** **Advocate. Coordinate. Track.**

In response to the pressure, stress and demand placed on our first responders, UCF RESTORES® - the National Center of Excellence for First Responder Behavioral Health - is offering R.E.A.C.T. training for those interested in peer support.

R.E.A.C.T. is peer support training designed for first responders by first responders and provides clear techniques to help identify individuals who may need additional behavioral health support at the peer or professional level.

Training will be held at  
Polk State College, Center for Public Safety  
1251 Jim Keene Blvd, Winter Haven  
Friday, May 30, 2025  
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

To register contact Chaplain Hanley at:  
[muphyhanley@polk-county.net](mailto:muphyhanley@polk-county.net)

**FD Chaplain Services, Inc.  
&  
Florida Forest Service  
Present**



**“ESSENTIALS OF  
FIRE CHAPLAINCY”**

**16 hours for Florida Fire Inspectors & Fire Service Instructors**

**Foundations of Fire Chaplaincy--Personhood of the Chaplain  
Ministry to Firefighters--Crisis Victim Ministry--Chaplain Operations--Much More**

**Cost: \$250 (includes FFC Basic Fire Chaplain Certificate & FFC Manual-USB)**

**Dates: June 23-24, 2025 (8:30am start each day)**

**Location: Caloosahatchee Forestry Center 10941 Palm Beach Blvd. Ft. Myers, FL 33905**

**REGISTRATION FORM (Limited to 30 students)**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **FCDICE#** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Cell/Text#:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Agency/Department:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Occupation:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Chaplain at this time Y or N (circle one)**

**Will be paying for course on our website** \_\_\_\_\_ **Mailing Check** \_\_\_\_\_ **(check one)**

**If another person or agency is paying, please provide name** \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\*\*\*\*Download, Fill out and Scan/Email this form back to ChaplainFD@gmail.com.\*\*\*\*\***

**Mailing address is 10221 S Golden Elm Dr. Estero, FL 33928**

**For more info call 239-405-1737**

**Instructor Mark Goodman is a veteran of the fire service with over 45 years' experience as a Firefighter, Fire Inspector, Fire Marshal, and Fire Service Instructor III. He currently serves Estero FD, South Trail FD, San Carlos Park FD and Lehigh Acres FD as Chaplain. He is also a Peer member of the Tri-County CISM Team.**

**Mark is a Master Chaplain and Instructor III for the Federation of Fire Chaplains.**

I understand and agree that if I decide to cancel my registration for this course, I must notify FD Chaplain Services, Inc. seven (7) calendar days prior to the first day of class in order to receive a refund. If a refund is approved, an administrative fee of \$35 will be charged.

In the rare circumstance that FD Chaplain Services, Inc. must cancel a class, a full refund of tuition will be made.

**[www.FDChaplainServices.com](http://www.FDChaplainServices.com)**



# **HUMAN** OF THE FIRE SERVICE **SIDE**

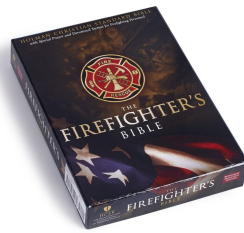
You have probably had the experience of being helped by someone who knew their job well, but they just were not very nice as they did it. That is, they were proficient in completing the task assigned to them, but they did so in a manner that was not very personal. Think of a highly competent doctor who gets a bad rap for having poor bedside manners.

Ability, competency and proficiency are all sought after qualities of those in the fire rescue profession. Your work is comprised of intricate technical skills based on a strong educational foundation. On-going training makes sure skills such as hose line deployments, medical procedures and extrication techniques stay sharp.

However, beyond the skills, training, and experience is the reality that everything you do is done in the context of others. Think of the people you serve, as well as the people you serve with. Consider the way you take care of your family and the way you take care of yourself.

This spirit of caring for others is what defines the fire service. That's why you are called public servants. It's your willingness to selflessly serve those in need that makes you who you are. Beyond your tools and techniques, it's the person-to-person nature of your work that really matters. That is, it's the human side of the fire service that makes a difference.

Over the next couple of months we will discuss "The Human Side of the Fire Service," helping you maximize your relationship with the people around you. Specifically, how to better provide care for the victims you serve, the peers you work alongside of, your family at home, and one of the toughest people to care for – yourself. You'll learn four simple truths that will completely change the way you interact with each of these groups.



*Click image for more information*

## Faith in the Fire

Chaplain Joe LaCognata shares about some of the unique challenges faced while trying to live out faith in the fire service.

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*Each month, in an effort to continue to promote the conversation about critical incident stress management, we'll discuss a topic relative to crisis intervention. This will be helpful as a refresher to those who have already been trained, as well as something to create interest among those who have not.*

### **CISM and Peer Support**

Peer support is a great philosophy. That is, the idea of peers supporting peers is strong. Who better than a firefighter to know the struggles and concerns of another firefighter? Who better than a firefighter to know how to cope with the challenges of the job?

But a peer support program seems limited to identifying those with challenges and making sure they get the help they need. I believe Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) goes further. CISM goes beyond by providing real solutions to help mitigate the acute stressor most concerning the member. Here are some differences between CISM and Peer Support...

- Peer Support identifies; CISM assists.
- Peer Support is the bridge to other resources; CISM is one of those resources.
- Peer Support is limited to working with individuals; CISM is useful for individuals and groups.

Unfortunately, CISM is viewed as a narrowly focused, single resource for a group dealing with a major incident. This is only one of the CISM tools called the Critical Incident Stress Debriefing. There are four other tools that are part of the CISM umbrella.

The tool most frequently used is the individual intervention using the SAFER model. CISM has gotten a bad rap over the years because of this limited

understanding and poor implementation. The CISM SAFER model allows the interventionist to provide specific help to those in need. While referring someone who needs additional assistance is one outcome of the SAFER model, it is also possible that person in need is found to be okay and able to move forward on their own.

Finally, CISM training provides more insight into “why” we do what we do. CISM does more teaching, gives more background, and presents underlying research and rationale.

I believe local-based CISM is the best of both: CISM skills and peer support relationships. I don't see any conflict between the two.



## **Upcoming CISM Training**

June 17-19, 2025  
Sarasota, FL

July 22-24, 2025  
Ft. Lauderdale, FL

Contact us to host training at your agency

[\*\*Click here for more information and to register\*\*](#)

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## **Stress Management Information**

Click the logo for information on how to better manage your stress.

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## **In Remembrance**

The following firefighters died in the line of duty during the month of April

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4/2 - Fire Chief Garry G. Moore - Whitewater, MO

4/4 - Firefighter Chevy Gall - Beaufort, MO

4/5 - Firefighter/EMT Roy A. Smith - Staunton, IN

4/14 - Sergeant John Robinson - Lafayette, IN

4/16 - Firefighter John Saunders - Greenwich, OH

4/18 - Lieutenant Paul Charles Mickolick - West Salem, OH

4/20 - Firefighter Charles "Charlie" Shaw - Campbellsville, KY

4/21 - Senior Firefighter Corban Summers - South Jordan, UT



4/23 - Captain David Meyer - Chicago, IL

4/25 - Firefighter/EMT Scott Adams - Milton, IN

4/27 - Firefighter/Medic Graham Hoffman - Kansas City, MO

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## 30 firefighters have died in the line of duty in 2025

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### Our Vision

Imagine an organization committed to one task – supporting fire rescue personnel. From their work in the field to their lives at home, picture an organization working to equip these first responders to be more successful on the job and in life. Envision an organization that extends the support of those serving in fire rescue by offering care and comfort to the people they serve. Finally, picture an organization that would impact emergency services workers all across the country. That organization is Fire Rescue Support – supporting fire rescue personnel before, during and after the call.

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## Donate Today

As a non-profit organization, Fire Rescue Support operates thanks to the generosity of individuals, churches and other organizations. You can give online by clicking the PayPal logo.



**FIRE RESCUE  
SUPPORT INC**

 Round up

Support your favorite local charity every time you shop.

Donate your change by automatically rounding up your orders to the nearest dollar at checkout.

## Round Up at Walmart

You can help Fire Rescue Support every time you shop at Walmart. Choose our organization and round up your purchase.



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