



July 2026



America the Beautiful

"When in the Course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation."

It was Thursday, July 4, 1776. After years of unjust acts by Britain, the Colonies declared their independence. So begins the story of the United States of America and for the past 250 years, the story of our country has been marked by incredible success, significant loss, and an undying spirit.

I truly believe in America the Beautiful, but I also believe that we have lost our way. While I am not of the opinion that the Founding Fathers were all born-again Christians, it is evident that there was a shared reliance upon God from the very foundation of our Nation. These phrases from the Declaration of Independence indicate that this indeed was the case.

“...to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them...”

“...endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights...”

“...appealing to the Supreme Judge of the world for the rectitude of our intentions...”

“...with a firm reliance on the protection of divine Providence...”

There is a need for us to return to beginning; to the time when it was realized that it would take more than man's wisdom to create a country, more than man's strength to secure a nation, more than man's insight for America to be beautiful. We would need to rely upon our Creator, the Supreme Judge, divine Providence. We would need to rely on God.

I don't believe everyone understood or approached God the same way at the beginning of our country. However, there was a consistent, generally accepted reliance upon and adherence to the Judeo-Christian worldview. This worldview, based on God's Word, provides guidance on how America can be beautiful. Proverbs 14:34 says, “Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin condemns any people.” For America to be beautiful, we need to return to righteousness; right living, right choices, right ways. And right is defined as it has always been defined, by absolute truth; God's truth.

The interesting thing about beauty is that it truly is in the eye of the beholder. Many would choose to look at our country today and see anything but beauty. And while we indeed have many flaws, faults, and scars as a Nation, I choose to see in America a Nation that God has blessed and a Nation that God has called to be beautiful for the sake of the world.

O beautiful for spacious skies,
For amber waves of grain,
For purple mountain majesties
Above the fruited plain!
America! America!
God shed His grace on thee
And crown thy good with brotherhood
From sea to shining sea!

As we consider America the Beautiful, let's not forget the closing words of the Declaration of Independence. “And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes and our sacred Honor.”

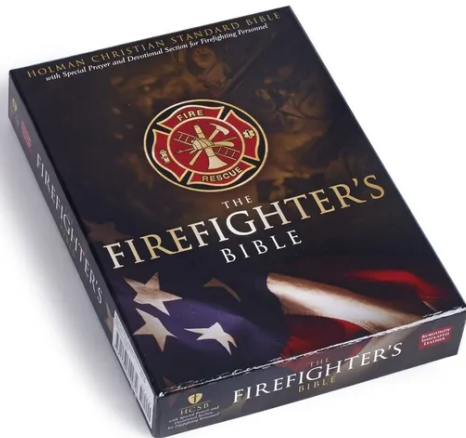
--Chaplain Joe LaCognata

Website Resources

Have you ever been to the Resources page on our website? Click on the image to the right to find help with stress management, spiritual growth, marriage, and parenting.



Click image for more information



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.



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.

Steps to Better Sleep

Do you feel tired? If so, you're not alone. Most Americans simply don't get enough sleep. And rest for your body and your mind is crucial. Here are the Steps to Better Sleep from the Mayo Clinic.

- Stick to a sleep schedule
 - Pay attention to what you eat and drink
 - Create a bedtime ritual
 - Get comfortable
 - Limit daytime naps
 - Include physical activity daily
 - Manage stress
-
-

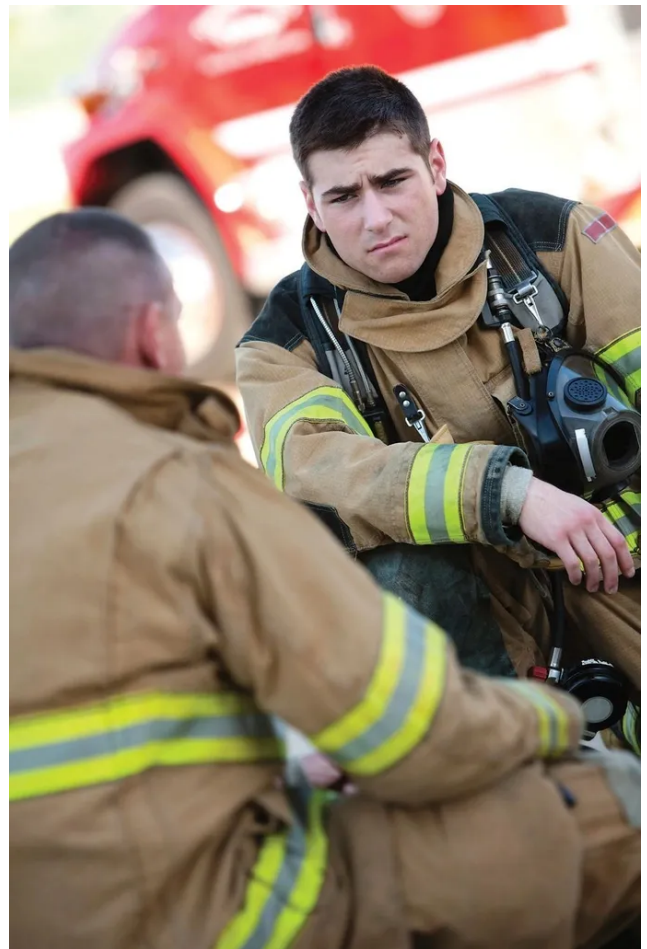
Upcoming CISM Training

August 25-27, 2026
Gulf Shores, AL

Sep 21-Oct 1, 2026
Windermere, FL

October 13-15, 2026
St. Petersburg, FL

Contact us to host training at your agency



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



Stress Management Information

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



In Remembrance

5/1 - Fire Chief Russell "Rusty" Shoultz - Walker, MI

5/4 - Firefighter Thomas Kelly - New Haven, CT

6/9 - Chief Harold Osborn - Seelyville, IN

6/14 - Assistant Fire Chief Wayne Woodbury - Searsmont, ME

6/14 - Lieutenant Isai Huerta - Odessa, TX

6/27 - Fire Chief Charles "Charlie" Woodard - Mabank, TX

6/27 - Federal Wildland Firefighter Emily Barker - Mesa County, CO

6/27 - Federal Wildland Firefighter Nick Hutcherson - Mesa County, CO

6/27 - Federal Wildland Firefighter Sydney Watson - Mesa County, CO

38 firefighters have died in the line of duty in 2026



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.

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



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. Click on the image and search for Fire Rescue Support.