



Spokane County Sheriff Chaplaincy

December 2022 Newsletter

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Sheriff Chaplain's Corner

"Christmas: A Time of Hope"

(written by Chaplain David Causey)

Greetings Spokane County Family, This month's newsletter is offered in honor of a mentor and friend, David Causey, who has gone on to heaven.

Noel Regney was deeply discouraged. He had reason to be. His dreams of writing classical music had gone unfulfilled and now, in his fifties, it booked like they never would be. Besides all this, his recurring nightmares, born out of the horrors he witnessed in World War II, became intensified by the subsequent wars in Korea, Vietnam, and the ever-present tension between America and the Soviet Union.

Noel was born and raised in France. His sensitive heart loved and nurtured one thing - music. But his dreams of one day composing classical music were dashed to pieces when the Nazis conscripted him into their army. Horrified by the cruelty and atrocities of the German war machine, Noel deserted, fled back to France and became a fighter for the resistance. But Noel's sensitive nature, unfit for the pain and heartbreak of war, suffered the deepest emotional scars from his experience.

Then life seemed to lead Noel on a brighter path when he immigrated to the United States and married a beautiful and talented pianist/songwriter, Gloria Shayne. Gloria enjoyed a measure of success as a writer of Rock and Roll songs. But for Noel, there was neither success nor peace of mind. And now, in the 1960s - with the Rock and Roll as the undisputed king and classical music a mere relic - all hope of success was fading. Far worse than the discord in his own heart, was the fading hope for world peace in the shadow of the Soviet and nuclear threats.

In this time of despair, Noel's mind went back to the Bible stories he had heard and read as a child. He recalled the story of a star that appeared in the East announcing of the birth of the long-awaited Prince of Peace and the Savior of the world - the holy child of Bethlehem. Noel realized that with the birth of every child comes a message from God that He is not yet finished with us. How much truer with the birth of Christ, our Redeemer! From his re-discovered faith Noel found inspiration to write the following words, that his wife Gloria put to music.

*Said the night wind to the little lamb,
do you see what I see
Way up in the sky, little lamb,
do you see what I see
A star, a star, dancing in the night
With a tail as big as a kite
With a tail as big as a kite*

*Said the shepherd boy to the mighty king,
do you know what I know
In your palace warm, mighty king,
do you know what I know
A Child, a Child shivers in the cold
Let us bring Him silver and gold
Let us bring Him silver and gold*

*Said the little lamb to the shepherd boy,
do you hear what I hear
Ringing through the sky, shepherd boy,
do you hear what I hear
A song, a song, high above the trees
With a voice as big as the sea
With a voice as big as the sea*

*Said the king to the people everywhere,
listen to what I say
Pray for peace, people everywhere!
listen to what I say
The Child, the Child, sleeping in the night
He will bring us goodness and light
He will bring us goodness and light*

Within a matter of days after the husband-wife collaboration that produced "Do You Hear What I Hear?" Noel and Gloria's song was recorded by the Harry Simone Chorale and became a phenomenal success. Author Ace Collins explains, "The couple could not have dared imagine the effect (this song) would have on the nation. At the height of the Cold War, millions, like Noel, were yearning for peace and hope. This Carol's combination of words and music powerfully voiced those prayers. Newspaper stories of the time wrote of drivers hearing it for the first time on the radio and pulling their cars off the road to listen. It was sung by church choirs, became an integral part of television specials, and inspired numerous magazine features and even sermons." (Stories Behind the Best-Loved Songs of Christmas)

In our times of discouragement and profound fear, remember the message bound up in the babe of Bethlehem. God is not yet finished with us. He will bring us goodness and light.

PRAYER: Dear Father in heaven, turn our hearts and minds to the Child of Bethlehem, the Prince of Peace, this holiday season. May His kingdom and peace fill the world and bring healing to the nations. Amen.

Merry Christmas everyone! Remember that The Child sleeping in the night is our Reason for this wonderful Season, and beyond. He is truly bringing us goodness and light.

I am so grateful for having Chaplain David Causey in my life and in my Army career for the past 12 years. His Insightful illustrations and encouraging words have always inspired people in their Faith journey; and has done so even now, in this message of hope that he wrote in 2011. I look forward to seeing David, my Brother in Christ (and so many loved ones) with God in eternal glory. "And Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight; The clouds be rolled back as a scroll; The trump shall resound, and the Lord shall descend; Even so, it is well with my soul." This truth brings me much peace in challenging times.

Let's all hug our loved ones a little tighter, as we cherish every moment we have together.

In Christ, Chaplain Robert Kinnune





Thanksgiving Dinner blesses the working Deputies

It's no surprise that law enforcement is one of those careers where someone has to be on-duty, 24/7, 365 days out of the year. However, what was a surprise, was when the Deputies from the Spokane Valley Precinct walked into the employee lounge on Thanksgiving day and a FULL meal greeted them. Big shout out to chaplain support staff volunteer, Christy Fiske and her husband Mike, who took many hours to organize, receive donations, and cooked the food to bless our Deputies on a day they weren't able to be home with their families. We pray this showed them how appreciated they are!



"Holidays & Heroes": A Great Community Event

A definite "kick off" to the Holiday season, is the annual Holidays and Heroes event that always brings smiles to many. Children are selected by the school district to participate. The students picked up in the early morning by a Deputy in their patrol car and driven to Wal-Mart for a morning they won't forget. To watch the Deputies walk around with the child they are shopping with and fill a grocery cart with gifts for themselves and their family members is amazing. Each gift is then wrapped up and after enjoying breakfast, each participant is given a large box containing everything needed for a delicious Christmas day meal. Thank you to SCOPE Volunteers, Community volunteers, Explorers and the many businesses who donated!

Talk to a Chaplain

Whether you're an officer, county employee, community member, or friend our chaplain team is here for you.

- 24x7 Support Spiritual
- Guidance & Referrals
- Pastoral Counseling
- Conversation
- Crisis Intervention
- Weddings & Funerals

Resource of the Month



Heritage Funeral & Cremation

We appreciate the professionalism & partnership we have with Heritage. An annual "Chaplain Appreciation" breakfast each Fall held at Heritage is also appreciated.