



## Fire Rescue Support exists to support fire rescue personnel before, during and after the call

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### Before the Call

#### Ironmen for Firemen



For several years, Church @ The Springs has gathered men for an early morning time of challenge and encouragement. Meeting on Wednesdays at 6:45am, Ironmen is designed to allow men to meet before they head off to the challenges of the day.

Unfortunately, this time isn't conducive to the schedule of firefighters, so "Ironmen for Firemen" is held at 9:00am. With shift change happening at 8:00am, this time allows them to participate more often.

While the initial invitation for this gathering was sent out to those from Marion County Fire Rescue and Ocala Fire Rescue who attend The Springs, any firefighter is welcomed to join us. We are going through "The Circle Maker" by Mark Batterson and will meet Wednesdays during the month of October at 9:00am at Church @ The Springs. Contact me if you are interested in joining us.

#### The Human Side of the Fire Service



Fire Rescue Support is pleased to announce a new course called "The Human Side of the Fire Service." Originally designed with the firefighters of Marion County Fire Rescue in mind, we believe it will benefit you and those you serve.

Everything done in the fire service is done in the context of others. You will learn to be better equipped to deal with the people you interact with day-to-day including victims, peers, your family and yourself.

This course will be held on Wednesday, October 22<sup>nd</sup> from 10:00am – 2:00pm at Church @ The Springs in Ocala. Cost of the course is \$25, which includes snacks and lunch. (NOTE: there is no charge for those serving with Marion County Fire Rescue or Ocala Fire Rescue). You can register at [www.firerescuesupport.com](http://www.firerescuesupport.com).

In addition, we are hoping to offer this course in locations throughout the state. Let us know if you are interested in hosting this in your area. You can find more details and a current list of locations at [www.firerescuesupport.com](http://www.firerescuesupport.com).



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### Meeting with Hospice



Recently I had the privilege of being part of a meeting between Marion County Fire Rescue and Hospice of Marion County. This

meeting was called to better coordinate the care given to patients being served by Hospice.

Marion County Hospice is a wonderful organization that provides comfort and peace for families journeying toward the death of their loved one. I have been with patients in Hospice care and know that the staff does this with great care and compassion.

### MCFR Recruits

I always enjoy my time with Marion County Fire Rescue's newest employees.



### Love is in the Air



One of the great joys I have as Chaplain is officiating the weddings of those that serve us. I really like

being able to spend time with a couple away from the stress of the job. This setting also allows me to share how our faith is the foundation for marriage.

This season has me officiating at six fire department weddings. Pray for these couples and their new lives together.



I had the opportunity to visit the nursing program at Taylor College to present information on stress management. I knew several students from their work with Marion County Fire Rescue. I shared about the nature of stress, the field of critical incident stress management and how to be prepared for the stress that is part of the world around us.



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## During the Call

A horrible boating accident that claimed the lives of two adults took place on Sunday, September 21. At approximately 7:15pm I was notified via pager of a water rescue at Half Moon Lake. The initial information was that there was still one person in the water, so I headed to the scene. Just before I arrived, I was redirected to Munroe Regional Medical Center where three of the victims had been transported. Two of the victims were children, who thankfully were in good condition. However, there were no family members en route to the hospital at that time. When I arrived, I was able to stay with the children until their mother arrived.

## Fire Rescue Support



Every day the men and women who serve as fire rescue personnel put their lives on the line for their communities. The work they do is full of unique challenges like dealing with extreme physical conditions and coping first hand with human tragedy. Often these challenges take a toll on their well-being and put incredible strain on their relationships. In addition, the people that fire rescue personnel serve are many times experiencing the worst day of their lives. As they struggle through their personal tragedies, they are faced with the task of rebuilding their lives and going forward.

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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**Thank you!**

Thanks for your interest in and partnership with Fire Rescue Support. Because of you, we have the opportunity to support fire rescue personnel before, during and after the call. Visit [www.firerescuesupport.com](http://www.firerescuesupport.com) for more information or to donate. You can also find us on Facebook. And please don't hesitate to contact me if I can be of assistance personally or professionally. You can reach me at 352-425-1643 or [joe@firerescuesupport.com](mailto:joe@firerescuesupport.com).

