

# CHAPLAINCY AT NEWDAY SERVICES

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## Meeting families at their point of need.

God uses NewDay staff in our community to transfer hope by being a tangible expression of His love. NewDay's programs are strategies to build redemptive relationships in the context of real-world family distress. NewDay staff assist individuals in navigating complex personal and systemic barriers to moving forward. This includes spiritual care, parenting and life skills education, pastoral counseling, family mediation, advocacy, prayer, mentoring, life coaching, and Bible classes.

NewDay's programs are strategies to build redemptive relationships in the context of real-world family distress. NewDay Chaplains are located at the Tarrant County Family Law Center and Juvenile Justice/Detention Center.

**"Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.**

**For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."**

Matthew 11:28-30

## CORE BELIEFS

- **Our God:** God is all powerful, all-knowing, creator of all things-- the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit as one. God loves His creation and He is full of truth and grace.
- **Our Calling:** Transformed by God's love, we are called to serve those with whom we come into contact and to share the love he so freely gives us. We are people serving people.
- **Our Neighbors:** Created in the image of God, the people we serve are valuable and unique. They come to NewDay broken by family crisis, seeking to change their circumstances.
- **Our Service:** We meet people at the point of their need. We walk beside them offering Spiritual support and Advocacy. We give parents and youth the opportunity to embrace sustainable change for themselves and their children.



## Sr. Chaplain Don Mansfield, Family Law Center

Don meets parents in the Family Law Center at the point of their need and walks and beside them. His gentle, pastoral presence is a breath of fresh air to parents overwhelmed with grief, frustration, or loneliness. He has a way of introducing God's hope in the darkest moments.

One afternoon, Don received a call from two parents asking for some Co-Parenting coaching. They expressed the hardship of navigating this new way of parenting their child now as a divorced couple. The first meeting was a highly tense battle -- they could hardly stay in the same room with each other. They seemed to disagree about everything, only being able to find middle ground on two issues: they knew they both loved their children and wanted their children to go to church.

Sensing the high tensions, at the close of the first meeting Don asked for permission to pray for the two of them. Tensions began to release, and the clients agreed to take NewDay's Co-Parenting and Anger Resolution classes.

After both completed the Co-Parenting class and dad graduated from Anger Resolution, the parents began having better communications and started working together. They began meeting once a month at a park to spend time with their children. It wasn't long before they noticed their children's moods being lifted and were doing better in school.

The last time Don met with both parents they all laughed about how the parents acted on that first meeting. They both admitted, though sometimes it is still hard, they now have tools they need to navigate the challenging times of co-parenting. When asked which tools they found themselves using the most, they both contemplated and said, "The best tool Don Mansfield gave us when we first met was that he prayed for us. That changed us. We figured if a stranger could pray for us, we could do it too, that changed everything."



## Chaplains Mike Brown and Kristi Lambert, Juvenile Justice Center

Children 10-16 that are determined to be delinquent or awaiting sentencing for serious crimes are placed in temporary detention at the JJC. Chaplains Mike and Kristi help detainees develop a healthy attitude toward themselves and staff in the detention center, and help youth by promoting spiritual growth that will assist an orderly transition from a detention environment to the outside community.

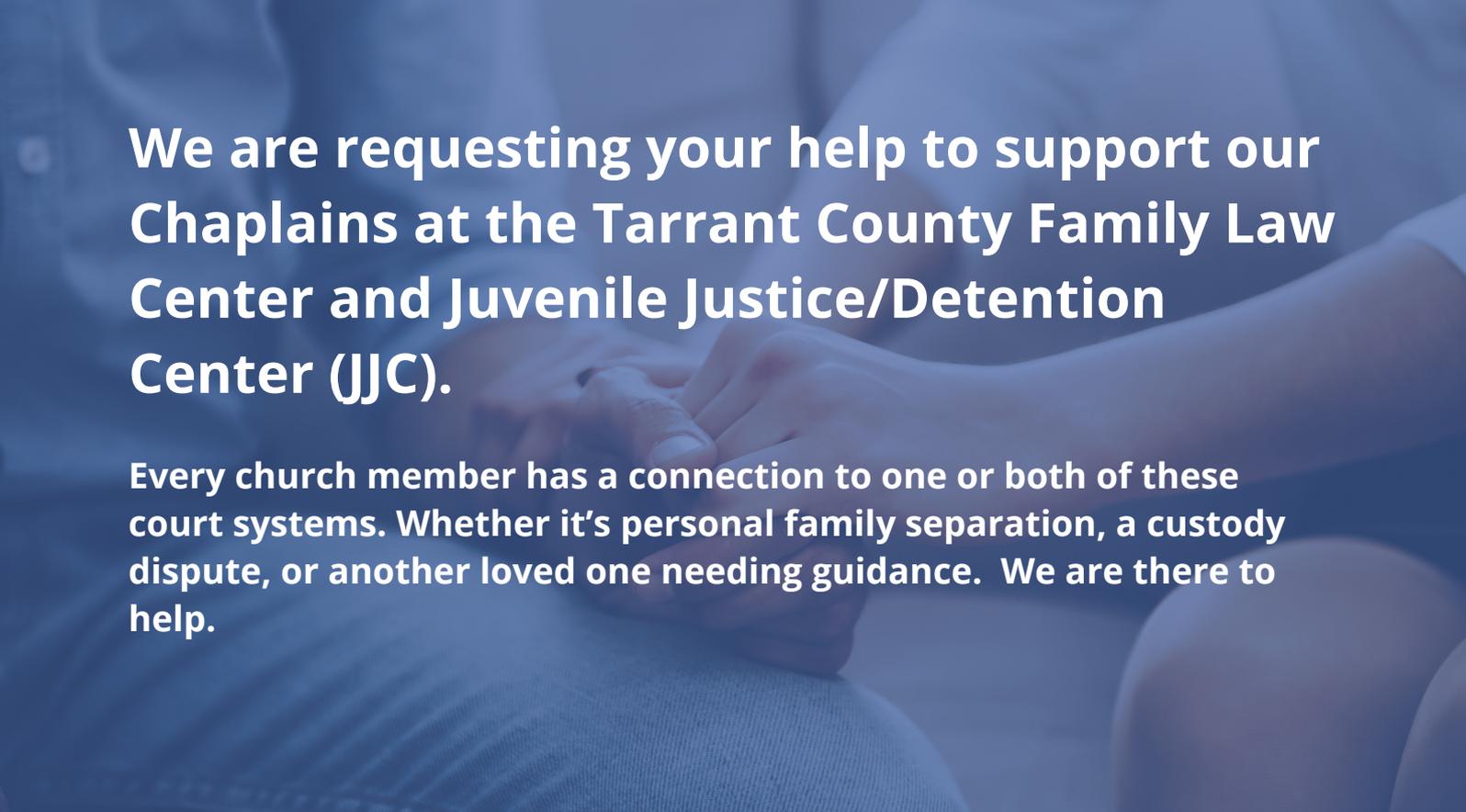
Kristi works to provide Spiritual support and advocacy for the girls at the JJC. In When checking on a girl before her 10-day detention hearing, the girl was excited to see her. She wanted to read aloud what she'd been reading in her devotional.

*"I am leading you, step by step, through your life. Hold My hand in trusting dependence, letting Me guide you through this day. Your future looks uncertain and flimsy--even precarious. That is how it should be. Secret things belong to the Lord, and future things are secret things. When you try to figure out the future, you are grasping at things that are Mine. This, like all forms of worry, is an act of rebellion: doubting My promises to care for you.*

*Whenever you find yourself worrying about the future, repent and return to Me. I will show you the next step forward, and the one after that, and the one after that. Relax and enjoy the journey in My Presence, trusting Me to open up the way before you as you go."*

She said the devotional helped to set her mind right before court. Even though she might not leave yet, she trusted that God cared about her and would work it out. She said she wasn't going to worry but just relax.





# **We are requesting your help to support our Chaplains at the Tarrant County Family Law Center and Juvenile Justice/Detention Center (JJC).**

**Every church member has a connection to one or both of these court systems. Whether it's personal family separation, a custody dispute, or another loved one needing guidance. We are there to help.**

Since 1996, NewDay has been afforded office space in the Tarrant County family and juvenile courts to meet people at their greatest stress. This is a one-of-a-kind ministry not found anywhere else in the country. We are in the perfect place to be an extension of your congregation in a place few are equipped to navigate, and we want to be there for YOUR church family when they need us.

NewDay Chaplains are authorized by the Family and Juvenile courts to interact spiritually with these hurting people. They are a light in the darkness and will be a great help to you in helping your church or community navigate these systems. We'd love to partner with you!

## **Ways to partner:**

- Support NewDay Chaplaincy as a local missions outreach
- Host a half-day co-parenting seminar for your members and/or court-referred parents
- Connect those you love with a chaplain when they must go to family or juvenile court

**To make an online donation, visit**

**<https://www.newdayservices.org/chaplaincy-campaign.html>**