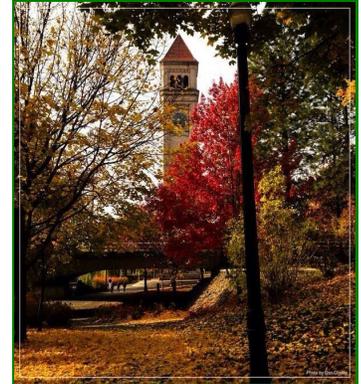


September 2016



SPOKANE COUNTY  
CHAPLAINCY  
SERVICES

In  
partnership  
with the  
Sheriff's  
Office



## THE GREAT HARVEST

September is here - amazing. I have said it before, and I will say it again, I love this time of year. And what a city we live in to experience September as the season changes to Fall. Spokane really does have some outstanding Autumns.

As the seasons change, we enter in to the season of harvest. This always brings fresh to my mind the image of God's Harvest, and reminds me that we all have been called to have a responsibility in it. We Chaplains are blessed to be a part of the flock that is the Spokane County Sheriff's Office family. In John 4:35 Jesus talks about the Great Harvest: "Do you not say, 'There are yet four months, and then comes the harvest'? Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look on the fields, that they are white for harvest." Also in Matthew 9:37 Jesus says to His disciples: "The Harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few." Each of us are the workers. There is not one of us too weak, meek, or even too sinful to decide to make a change and

turn their life over to God to become a worker for Him.

As workers in His Harvest we are to bring the Good News of the Gospel. Proverbs 25:25 says: "Like cold water to a weary soul, so is good news from a distant land." Isaiah 52:7 says: "How lovely on the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who announces peace and brings good news of happiness, and who announces salvation." Although these scriptures were spoken to Israel in 712 B.C. they are just a relevant today. As we were all reminded last month, God is the same yesterday, today, and forever. He still offers the Good News of His salvation through His Son Jesus Christ to whoever chooses to believe in Him. But sadly there are those who have never had the opportunity to hear that Good News. They have never had the opportunity to hear of the unending love and grace and mercy of our Heavenly Father. Some have heard a

distorted view and understanding, they think that God could never save them from their darkness because of what they have done. That is where our work comes in to play. John 3:17 says: "For God did not send His Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through Him." We are to share that same Good News! So when does this Great Harvest take place? When the last fruit is ready for the picking. John 14:1-3 Jesus says: "Let not your hearts be troubled: believe in God, believe also in Me. In my Father's house there are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you; for I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go, and prepare and place for you, I come again, and will receive you unto myself; that where I am, you may be also." This Harvest is taking place in our midst as we speak. Join us as we seek to live out today as workers in His fields. Be mindful and watch for those in need of God's Good News. The field is ready.

- Mark Smith

CHAPLAINS TO  
SERVE YOU

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