

Chaplain Reflection – January 12-19, 2026

Jeremy Eubanks

I have always enjoyed team sports. All of the sports I played growing up were team sports. I don't have anything against individual sports-and there are some things about them that require a mental fortitude that I admire; but team sports like basketball, baseball, football, and soccer have always had a place in my heart.

The thing about team sports, is that for the team to succeed, everyone matters and has to fill their roles. A star player, who gets all the attention, can't be ultimately successful unless those surrounding them-from coaches, to trainers, to the players who block or set screens or pass...all do their jobs well.

The Apostle Paul has something similar in mind when he talks about the church being a body in 1 Corinthians 12. He says that everyone has a gift and unless they use that gift well, the body isn't as healthy or successful as it should be. He reminds them not to despise their gifts or wish they had different gifts because God uses those different gifts to bring together a body that is able to accomplish His mission.

Now, I know that not everyone in the Department shares my faith, and that the department is also not the church. But, I will say, that the department also needs each person who is a part of it, to do their jobs, using their giftedness well – for it's success and the good of the city.

I don't want to mention specific jobs or divisions for fear that I would imply some are more important than others. I just want to say that what you do matters-regardless of your role in the department. And my prayers are that we all will work together in ways that make our community better because we are a part of it.

I pray that we will demonstrate the unity that Paul describes in 1 Corinthians 12:25-26 so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should

have equal concern for each other. ²⁶ If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it.

Know that you are supported and cared for. We are praying for your good. If you ever need to contact us, maybe just for a confidential prayer. You can call or text **816-726-7729**

That number is manned by the chaplain on call (so this week it's me)— and when it comes to our phones, it comes from the number I just posted, so we don't have your number unless you want to give it to us.

May you be filled with peace as you fulfill your divine calling.

Chaplain Jeremy Eubanks 6941