

What Every MMCP Should Know

1. At the 76th General Convention of the Episcopal Church, Resolution number 2009-CO51 was passed, entitled "Support, Care and Fellowship for Veterans." Each diocese was encouraged to create an Episcopal Veterans Fellowship to minister to military/veterans. Our DWTX Military Ministry is a response to this call.
2. Military Ministry includes active duty, reserve, and national guard members in the Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force and Coast Guard, as well as veterans from those branches and all associated family members. You may also have Department of Defense civilians who made a career with one of the military branches and therefore have a strong connection to that service.
3. There is no one model for military ministry. Each congregation must prayerfully discern their own call to care for military members/veterans. No act of support is too small. And in many situations, simple actions will be sufficient to meet local needs.
4. Numbers are important to get grants and funding. The Military Ministry Diocesan Committee would benefit from knowing how many military/veteran parishioners you have, as well as how many people your ministry serves.
5. You are the best person to educate your clergy, vestry, other lay leaders and parishioners on military ministry in your parish.
6. The Military Ministry section of the DWTX website is an excellent resource. You will find it under departments. It contains a Military Ministry Toolkit with lots of helpful information.
7. In Texas, there is a Veterans Service Organization in every county. This is a good contact for you about military matters in your area.
8. The Texas government, US Veterans Administration and Texas Veterans Commission websites are excellent resources.
9. Beware fraudsters, even if the umbrella organization is legitimate. Veteran services attract money and people may think the church is just one more source of something free. If a request or proposal seems odd, check it out first.
10. The Military Ministry Diocesan Committee are here to help you establish your ministry and work through any challenges you may face. Call or email us when you need to talk to someone!