



## Presbyterians Caring for Chaplains and Military Personnel

A Ministry to Those Who Serve Our Nation



Chaplain Russ Ferguson (US Navy) administering ashes on Ash Wednesday

## Thank You!

We thank the Lord for your interest in Presbyterians Caring for Chaplains and Military Personnel (PCCMP). Our chaplains are truly unsung heroes supporting our young men and women who serve our country. They are there to provide comfort, guidance, and hope to those in need.



Chaplain Steven Voris (US Navy) on left with the unit doctor at an undisclosed location. Chaplain Voris recently separated from the US Navy.

## What PCCMP Does

PCCMP has the important role of screening, selecting, and endorsing Presbyterian Chaplains\* to ensure that military personnel and veterans get the very best spiritual care from the pastors who serve alongside them. As a friend of PCCMP, you partner with us as we offer Presbyterian Chaplains and their families the church's gratitude, prayer support, continued mission interpretation, connectivity with their spiritual base, family retreats, visits on duty, and a constant sounding board with skilled advocacy. Our office is the bridge between the church and chaplains who minister to U.S. armed forces and hospitalized veterans.

## What Chaplains Do

Military chaplains perform a specialized ministry within the world's largest young adult congregation. Their flock includes heroic young men and women between the ages of 18 and 23 who are often on their own for the first time in their lives. They take responsibility for military equipment worth thousands if not millions of dollars. They stand guard, patrol streets, and deliver food and supplies to frightened people living in the midst of violence, putting themselves at risk as they defend freedom. They are asked to make monumental decisions daily. These are not your typical college kids, although many of them are also taking a college class while serving far from home and living in tents in foreign lands. Chaplains are there to ensure that their religious needs are met.

## Your help is critical and appreciated.

- 1) **Pray! Pray for our chaplains and their work. Pray for their families who also sacrifice so much.** As simple as it is, prayer is still the greatest gift you can give us in this work.
- 2) **Adopt a chaplain...become their prayer partners.** Send them care packages when they are deployed; adopt their family during deployments. Cards and letters of encouragement really make them feel good on bad days.
- 3) **Talk to young people who are contemplating service in the military.** Let them know we have Presbyterian chaplains in all branches of the military.
- 4) **Friend PCCMP on Facebook and ask your church to add a link to our website** at <http://www.pccmp.org/>
- 5) **Sign up for a copy of "Frontlines" our newsletters highlighting our chaplains** and what they are doing around the world. It comes free; via email or post.
- 6) **Consider making a financial gift to the PCCMP annual budget.** We receive half of our funding from our



Chaplain Mary "Mel" O'Malley (US Army) helping an Afghan Student



Chaplain Zach Nash (US Air Force) and family at a Veteran's Day Ceremony. Ch Nash was stationed at Spangdahlem Air Base, Germany when this picture was taken.

four member denominations. We need support from churches and individuals like you to continue caring for our chaplains and their families.

- 7) **Encourage your church and presbytery to support this important mission.** Ideally we would like all Presbyterian churches to dedicate a portion of their annual giving as a way of supporting our chaplains and their families.
- 8) **Let us know your story.** Many young people come to be Christians and Presbyterians while serving in the military...because of the ministry of a chaplain. We would like to hear those stories and share them.
- 9) **If you know of a person who might be interested in ministry as a chaplain,** give them our contact information below and have them talk with us.

\*The PCCMP endorses ministers of the Presbyterian Church (USA), Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America, and the Korean Presbyterian Church (Abroad).