



“WELCOME THEM HOME, HELP THEM HEAL”

Strengthening the ways we extend care & support to Veterans

Mini-Conference Invitation

Thursday, September 9, 2010

10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church, 1063 Prim Road, Colchester

On behalf of the Chaplain’s Office of the Vermont National Guard and The Veteran’s Administration Chaplain’s Office, I would like to invite you to an excellent learning opportunity that focuses on pastoral care and ministry with service members returning from war and their reintegration with family members, friends, workplaces and communities. This conference, **“Welcome Them Home, Help Them Heal”** is being hosted by Reverend Lisette Baxter and St. Andrew’s Church on Thursday, September 9th from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Lunch will be provided. We welcome your attendance and the opportunity to learn about the support and care of Veterans and their loved ones, and to understand the resources that are available to them as they return home and as they heal.

This September 9th gathering at St. Andrew’s Church is part of a series of statewide conferences entitled: “Four Corners Conferences for Local Clergy”. While the primary focus of the conference is rooted in how faith communities and their leadership and pastoral care teams can become effective caregivers and supporters of Veterans returning from war, these conferences have also included mental health caregivers, law enforcement personnel, physicians, nurses, social workers, and indeed any person concerned about the physical, mental and spiritual care of Veterans. Please feel free to share a copy of this letter of invitation with a colleague who may have an interest in and exposure to the urgent needs of Veterans at this time due to the unique characteristics and challenges of the Iraq and Afghanistan Wars.

Among the presenters who will offer their expertise at the September 9th conference are Reverend Jim MacIntyre, Chaplain, Vermont National Guard and Reverend Joseph O’Keeffe, Chief, Chaplain Service, Department of Veterans’ Affairs. Attendees at the conference will have time to ask questions, to network and will receive a packet of informative written materials to guide them in the care and support of Veterans.

Please RSVP to me at 951-1790 or aromablessings@yahoo.com **by September 1st** so that we can be aware of the numbers attending and adequately prepare lunch. Please contact me if you have any questions.

On behalf of Reverend Lisette Baxter and St. Andrew’s Church, we are pleased to invite and welcome you to this conference to strengthen the ways we extend care and support to Veterans.

Blessings,

Valerie J. Pallotta

Proud Mom of deployed VTARNG Soldier