



VFW Department of Hawaii Chaplain's Corner

What is a Chaplain?

Chaplains are our nation's comrade veterans who minister to our nation's sons and daughters, and their families. Like any chaplain or minister, they must provide a dynamic and genuine ministry with a shepherd's heart. Whether leading worship, visiting a hospital, conducting a final farewell to our comrades, or even answering a phone call just to talk, *Chaplains* are always at the frontline of our veterans' lives.

Chaplains serve both God and country by bringing their unique gifts with which they are endowed by God, to the veterans of our nation in the broad, challenging, diverse, and ever changing environment.

Courtesy of Reverend Tom Darling (Past VFW National Chaplain)

BEING A CHAPLAIN

You were elected or appointed to the office of Post/District Chaplain.

You have an important responsibility to your Post/District.

Whether you have been selected for your religious training or past VFW experiences, you are expected to be the spiritual advisor to your organization and its members.

You are not expected to know everything but are expected to search for the answer and get back to the individual. Do not be afraid to ask questions when necessary. There are many ministers of faiths/denominations and chaplains that are willing to assist you. As

you meet them, create a contact list and offer veteran/VFW/chaplain assistance when they need it. All will benefit from the experience.

Courtesy of Deborah Halter (Past VFW National Chaplain)



Links to VFW Chaplains Handbooks 3 June 2025:

https://lotcs.org/VFW_Chaplain/Manuals/VFW%20Chaplain%20Handbook%202025%20JUN%203rd.pdf

Chaplain's Resource Manual

Resources for Chaplains

Various Prayers for 9-11 Remembrance

Graveside Service basic template

Monthly Chaplains Training meetings

3rd Thursdays of most months 1530 HST.(rotating topics and speakers)

To sign up for VFW Chaplain Zoom training, you can email Reverend Peter Hook at: PeterHook@verizon.net. Be sure and enter the information below if you email him directly. Message Body: I wish to sign up for the VFW Chaplain training sessions. My name is: My email is: My phone number is: My state is: My district is: My post is:

[Scan this QR code to sign up for VFW Chaplain Training on Zoom](#)



The content varies each month and is well worth your time. It's a fantastic resource for training and equipping all our chaplains.

Dashboard Reporting for Chaplains training video

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jiGC4xMZHPs>

Dashboard Reporting PowerPoints [/uploads/Documents/Dashboardreporting.pptx](#)

There is a new option for veterans who prefer burial in private cemetery or personal urn retention by family by the VA starting June 1st.

<https://news.va.gov/131136/nca-adds-options-for-ommemorative-plaques-and-urns/>

Primary site for Archives of Chaplains training and multiple resources

Link https://lotcs.org/vfw_chaplain.html Select blue "Training" tab and then select the link for the video or PowerPoint you want to see.

Here's the link to the YouTube video for the Ethics and VFW Ritual training:

https://youtu.be/eu3lDmb_8xs.

The Suicide Prevention Training Zoom session is now live on YouTube:

<https://youtu.be/rxjpSuPyq4M>. It's also under the Training tab on the VFW National Chaplain web page: https://lotcs.org/vfw_chaplain.html.

Chaplains Basic Training Video link

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1TRkZ8Mgbl-W1PTvAvFOM1PiMOxVjGSWX/view?usp=sharing>

Please check out our [National Chaplain's Page](#) (its hosted on the Cootie Site)

Link to VFW Chaplain Service Dispatch monthly newsletter

https://lotcs.org/vfw_chaplain.html use "News" tab

Mobile VFW Prayers

VFW Chaplain Meeting Prayers

The-Public-Reading-of-Ritual-Prayers by Reverend Peter R. Hook, Chaplain,
Department of Pennsylvania

Post Memorial Service (PDF)

Draping of the VFW Charter

CLICK HERE FOR CHAPLAIN MOBILE FOR YOUR PHONE OR TABLET

LINKS TO RESOURCES

- VFW Chaplain Training Videos - <https://www.youtube.com/@VFWChaplainTrainingVideos>
- VFW Chaplain's Guide - <https://vfwpa.org/di/vfw/v2/default.asp?pid=88797>
- VFW National Chaplain Site - https://lotcs.org/vfw_chaplain.html
- VFW Chaplain's Corner - <https://movfw.org/di/vfw/v2/default.asp?pid=76106>
- Armed Services Ministry - <https://armedservicesministry.org/>
- Plus Nothing - <https://plusnothing.com/about/>
- The Jewish Publication Society - <https://jps.org/free-jps-tanakh-offer/>
- Faith Comes by Hearing - <https://www.faithcomesbyhearing.com/>
- GriefShare - <https://www.griefshare.org/>

Hawaii VFW Chaplain Reporting Program:

All chaplains regardless of being at post or district level should report their activities through the normal VFW Reporting system. Most of what we do is covered under Community or Americanism areas. When in doubt ask!

BUT PLEASE REPORT YOUR ACTIVITIES! It is important to let the VFW know we are out there working!

Things to report:

Funeral and or Commitment Services for a veteran.

Memorial Day Services held outside of your post or district.

POW/MIA Services held for the public,

Offering prayers before any organization other than your post or district.
Participating in yellow ribbons or other recruiting events.
Helping during floods or other disasters. ie. helping at a shelter or collecting
blanks and clothes.
Working as a VFW Chaplain while at a food bank or serving meals to the
homeless.
Talking to a veteran other than in your post.
Going to the National Home and helping with a party for the children.

Stan Fernandez

State Chaplain, Department of Hawaii

Robert “Lopaka” Correa III

State Deputy Chaplain, Department of Hawaii

Veterans of Foreign Wars

Chaplain Email: ulckahu@proton.me