As a Cathedral that claims a national role, identifies itself as a house of prayer for all people, and is located in the heart of the Nation’s Capital, we see a desire to serve our nation’s veterans as an important part of our ministry.

From its institutional beginnings, the Cathedral has held high regard for military service. This esteem is reflected in War Memorial Chapel, Norman Prince’s tomb in St. John’s Chapel, and countless stained-glass windows, carvings, needlepointed kneelers, and other articles made by master craftsmen and women. In addition to the building itself, worship services and commemorations throughout its history have honored military service through two world wars and conflicts in Korea, Vietnam, and other places around the world.

The Cathedral also recognizes that for almost 17 years our country has been in a constant state of military conflict. During this time, thousands of men and women have served in the U.S. Armed Forces, many of them deploying on multiple overseas tours. As volunteers, these professional soldiers and their families have sacrificed and faithfully served our country. They deserve our respect and our support.

As with earlier generations, some have returned home and found it difficult to reintegrate into civilian life. Some struggle with PTSD and moral injury. Others are working to rebuild marriages, families, and relationships that may have suffered after long overseas deployments. Far too many are coping with the long-term effects of traumatic injuries.

Washington National Cathedral seeks to be a source of comfort and God’s healing love for veterans, active duty service members, and their families.

The Cathedral desires to be:
- A spiritual home for veterans, active duty military, and their families
- A place of pilgrimage and spiritual healing for the military community
- A place of retreat and learning for veterans, active duty military, and their families to:
  - Find spiritual support and meaning
  - Seek healing from moral injury
  - Strengthen marriages and families
  - Deepen faith
- A place to support military chaplains:
  - In their training
  - In continuing education
  - As a venue for retreat and renewal
- A dependable partner with other veterans’ organizations seeking to improve the lives and spiritual wellbeing of the military community.