

Rural Clergy Training

September 9, 2015

Educating community clergy about how they can support Veterans and their family members through the readjustment process.

Many Veterans and their family members seek help for their problems from clergy. An upcoming event in White Rock can help prepare you to support them.

Rural and smaller-town Veterans in particular have limited choices for healthcare. As a member of the clergy, you and your house of worship are an important contact point for Veterans in your community. Sometimes clergy members aren't aware of the Veterans in their congregation or how they might help a Veteran and their family following deployment. Clergy may recognize Veterans who are struggling in their return to civilian life, but not know how to support them.

The National Chaplain Center of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) invite clergy of all faiths to attend a free interactive training in **White Rock, SC**. This event will be held on **September 9th** from **8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.** at the **Bethel Lutheran Church**.

Training topics will include:

- Identifying potential conflicts between civilian and military cultures.
- Identifying actions community clergy can take to assist military personnel and their families with a healthy adjustment to a civilian culture.
- Types of common military events that can cause adjustment problems for military personnel and the psychiatric and psychological responses that often follow.
- Identifying the relationship between spirituality and "meaning making."
- The importance of Personal Narratives and Past, Present and Future Stories.
- Identifying pastoral responses and resources for clergy and their congregations.

This workshop will be held Wednesday, September 9th from 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. at the Bethel Lutheran Church, 2081 Dutch Fork Road, White Rock (Chapin), SC 29036.

Check-in at 8:30 a.m., program starts at 9:00 a.m. Lunch break from 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Seating is limited for this free event, so please register TODAY. Registration closes September 3rd. You can complete the Registration for this training online at www.ruralhealth.va.gov/clergytraining or contact Pastor Roy Butler at (803) 781-2134/roy.m.butler.mil@mail.mil, to reserve your seat.



A collaboration of the National VA Chaplain Center, Veterans Health Administration (VHA) Office of Rural Health (ORH), and Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA).



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White Rock (Chapin), South Carolina

Wednesday, September 9, 2015

8:30 a.m. (Check-in) - 4:30 p.m.

Coffee and Fellowship 8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

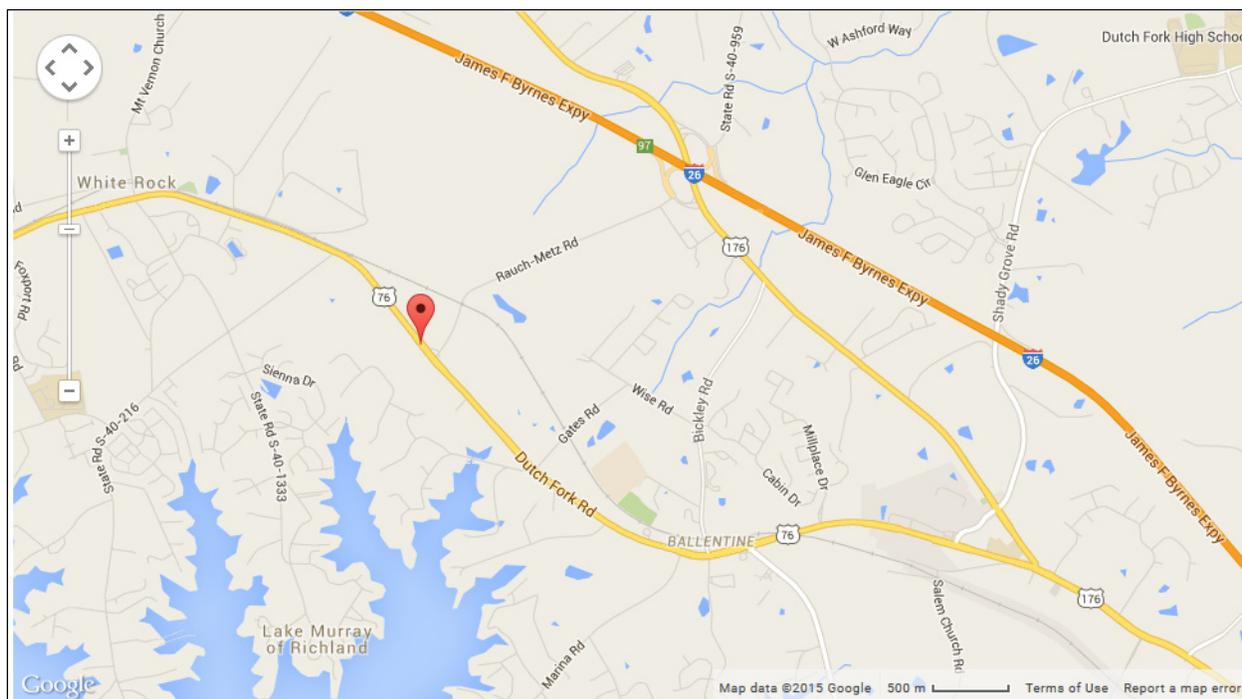
Bethel Lutheran Church

2081 Dutch Fork Road
White Rock (Chapin), SC 29036

Local Contact:

Pastor Roy Butler, (803) 781-2134

roy.m.butler.mil@mail.mil



[View Interactive Map - https://goo.gl/maps/F1Oad](https://goo.gl/maps/F1Oad)

The Rural Clergy Training Program is sponsored by the National VA Chaplain Center (NCC) and supported by the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) Office of Rural Health (ORH). For more information about the Rural Clergy Training Program, please visit <http://www.ruralhealth.va.gov/ruralclergytraining> OR contact Chaplain Keith Ethridge, Associate Director, National VA Chaplain Center, at 757-728-3180 or Keith.Ethridge@va.gov.

