

## HOW CAN I SUPPORT MY SOLDIER

*“Pastor I need help with my soldier, I do not know how to help him.”*

When a loved one is deployed overseas, the entire community of family members, friends, and neighbors is affected. It is difficult to ascertain the high levels of stress and uncertainty that separation can cause in families.

To date, over 3200 Wisconsin Army and Air National Guard soldiers have been deployed to the Middle East. It seems to me that it will not be long when a family member comes to their pastor for help. So it begs the question - what can the pastor offer? Perhaps the following information will be of service to the pastor and the family member.

Each of the military resources listed have the trained people to ascertain the needs of the family including: *communication, counseling, emergency assistance, reintegration, pay and finance, Red Cross, and veterans benefits*. The agency's focus is to help the family with issues that may arise while the service member is deployed.

### **Military Family Assistance Center**

Wausau	715-307-4384	Tara Zarm
Chippewa Falls	608-516-3599	Jerry Clark
Milwaukee	414-531-2093	Rebecca Boehlke
Madison	608-219-8672	William Hasz

Services are available to all military members called to active duty and their families. No military personnel or family member will be turned away from a Family Assistance Center regardless of their branch.

Additional sources of help are:

### **U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs**

#### **Clement Zablocki VA Medical Center**

Milwaukee 888-469-6614 ext. 42442 Andrew Hendrickson, RN

### **Vet Center**

Milwaukee 414-536-1301 Bevelyn Johnson, Licensed Clinical Social Worker