



Castle Oaks Covenant Church Uniform Services Support Ministry Newsletter

Issue 2: October 2021

MISSION STATEMENT:

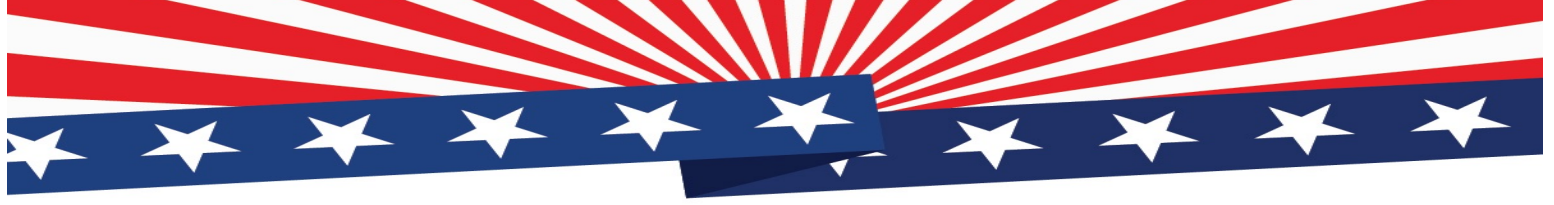
In accordance with our Covenant Affirmations, the mission for the Uniform Services Support Ministry is to join with the Castle Oaks community to recognize and proactively support active and veteran members of the uniform military armed forces and first responders within Castle Oaks Church and the larger Castle Rock community.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

National First Responders Day on October 28 recognizes the heroic men and women who make it their business to take immediate action when disaster strikes. Congress designated October 28th as National First Responders Day in 2017. The resolution honors the firefighters, police officers, paramedics/EMTs, medical personnel and all those who are first on the scene in stressful situations. For all church members who are part of the First Responders team, we thank you. When you see a police officer, fireman, EMT, etc., please recognize them and thank them for their service.



Veterans Day is coming up on **November 11th**. Veterans Day is a time for us to pay our respects to those who have served. For one day, we stand united in respect for you, our veterans.



This holiday started as a day to reflect upon the heroism of those who died in our country's service and was originally called Armistice Day. It fell on Nov. 11 because that is the anniversary of the signing of the Armistice that ended World War I. However, in 1954, the holiday was changed to "Veterans Day" to account for all veterans in all wars.

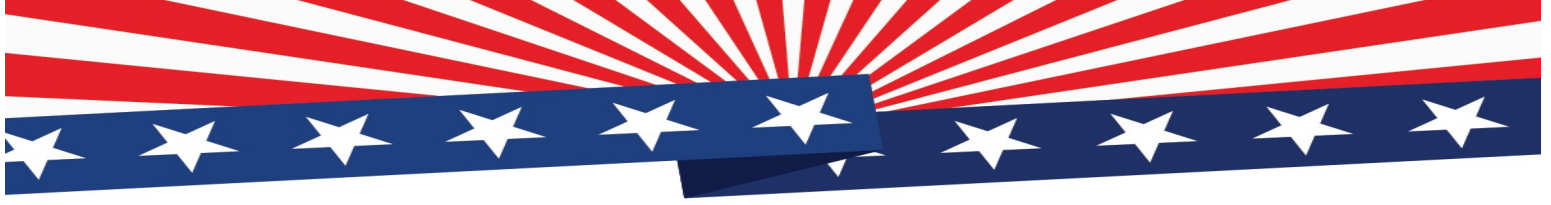
Castle Oaks Church will have a special recognition of the men and women who have given the ultimate sacrifice in serving the country at the morning services on November 7th. The USSM ministry will also host a **Meet-and-Greet** between the two services in the church's Café. There will be plenty of donuts available, so grab a cup coffee on your way in. All veterans, active military, and first responders along with their families are welcome to join with the social gathering in the Café.



Wreaths Across America: Each December on National Wreaths Across America Day, our mission to Remember, Honor and Teach is carried out by coordinating wreath-laying ceremonies at Arlington National Cemetery, as well as at more than 2,500 additional locations in all 50 U.S. states, at sea and abroad.

This year's ceremony will be on **December 18th** at Castle Rock's Cedar Hill Cemetery. The observance will start at 10:00. Please plan to be there early as there is limited parking along with many volunteers. Cedar Hill has over 450 veterans interred in the cemetery. The observance at Cedar Hill Cemetery will be held at the Veterans Memorial gardens at Cedar Hill Cemetery, 880 E. Wolfensberger Road, Castle Rock.

Christmas Cards for Troops and First Responders: Like last year when we sent over 80 Christmas cards to active military members, we are planning to exceed that number this year to include First Responders currently working in the Castle Rock community as well as family members within our church. There will be bundles of Christmas cards made available mid-November for all of us to sign and return to the church. Watch the Castle Oaks eNews for information in November.



In addition to events above, the following dates are recognized through the rest of 2021:

- Military Family Appreciation Month: November
- Marine Corps Birthday: November 10th
- Pearl Harbor Day: December 7th
- National Guard Birthday: December 13th

PASS THE WORD: If you are currently serving or have served in the military or as a first responder, we want to be a support to you and your family! Please let us know you are here, and if you know of others, tell them about USSM. You can share this newsletter or an information card (available in the Welcome Center at Castle Oaks), or you can share our website. You can find more info, complete a survey, and share your information with us there:

[Uniform Services Support — Castle Oaks Covenant Church](#)

<https://www.castleoaks.org/ussm>

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES: There will be volunteer opportunities for both adults and children. Pick up a Castle Oaks Church Uniform Services Support Ministry information or visit the USSM web page.

We continually seek ideas and suggestions from our USSM members and friends, so if you have an idea that fits within our mission, please let us know. We'd love to hear from you!

CONTACT US: You can contact us by email at USSM@CastleOaks.Org, or reach out to USSM Team Leads, Dave Ells: dave_lynne@comcast.net, Bob Nelson: nelsonabob@hotmail.com Britt Bailey: pwr440@yahoo.com.