

When You Support LMVFM You're Helping us Help Them



"Thank You for helping LMVFM help us!!!"

Donations of these items help us to keep our programs and services **free** to those we serve.



Gift Cards (especially *gas* and *general merchandise*) of any amount, **Unused stamps**, Small/Large Business Envelopes, File Folders, and General Office Supplies.

### Why your help matters

LMVFM provides veterans, contractors and their family members with **free** counseling services and assessments, help with their VA claims, assistance locating and connecting with other types of resource support.

1. **LMVFM does not solicit, or accept any government funding or resources.**
2. **All LMVFM programs and services are free to our clients.**
3. **LMVFM has never turned a veteran, contractor or family member away for any reason.**
4. **We are good stewards of our resources and we don't waste your donations on cheap advertising trinkets**

## KROGER COMMUNITY REWARDS PROGRAM



Help Lutheran Military Veterans & Families Ministries (LMVFM)  
Provide Free Counseling and Care Services to Veterans & their Family members  
When you enroll your Kroger Plus Card, enter LMVFM's Number "27018" and shop!



ENROLL IN KROGER COMMUNITY REWARDS TODAY!

1-866-221-4141

[www.kroger.com/communityrewards](http://www.kroger.com/communityrewards)



Please Help Us Thrive by Donating Your Thrivent Choice Dollars to LMVFM



### Thrivent Choice members have big hearts!

Thank you to the many Thrivent members who are donating your Choice Dollars to LMVFM. Your donations are having a **big** impact on our ability to continue providing critical programs and services free to veterans, contractors and their family members.

If you're a Thrivent member looking to support a ministry that actively serves our veterans and their family members, we would be very grateful to receive your Choice Dollar donations.

Donating your Thrivent Choice Dollars is easy

To donate your Thrivent Choice Dollars call 800-847-4836 to speak with a representative.

### Thrivent Seed Money Donations



*Thrivent Seed Money donations have been a blessing to our ministry and have helped us in our mission in many ways. Here are a few ways Thrivent members have contributed to LMVFM's mission.*

- ♦ *We receive a number of requests for our resource materials which we send at no cost to churches- which can be hard on the budget. One of our Thrivent members used her seed money to purchase postage stamps for the ministry to help with our mailings.*
- ♦ *Thrivent members have also used their seed money to purchase the food and supplies we use for our training programs.*

*If you are interested in helping us with Seed money please give us a call so we can tell you what things we are in need of. 260.755.2239*

To make a Thrivent Seed money donation call 800-847-4836 to speak with a representative.



Lutheran Military Veterans and Families Ministries, Inc.

3480 Stellhorn Rd., Fort Wayne, IN 46815

260.755.2239 [www.lmvfm.org](http://www.lmvfm.org)



## How Old?



As my best friend and battle buddy SGM Bell would say if he was here-Wowzer! Lutheran Military Veterans & Families Ministries officially opened its doors Just ten years ago on October 21, 2007. The realization that LMVFM will celebrate its tenth year of providing free care and counseling services to Military Veterans, Contractors and their family members is a testament to just how much God can do through His weakest vessels-His people. It is also quite humbling.

LMVFM began as a ministry that would do what no church body was doing, provide free counseling and direct care services, without caveat, to any veteran or their family member in need of care. In 2011, we welcomed another group of people into our ministry mission, military contractors. Initially we worked with clients in the four surrounding states. A short time later we found ourselves working with both individuals and congregations from one end of the country to the other. To say these past ten years have been a "bed of poppies" would indeed be untrue. However, God who is faithful and just has always given us the strength, will and resources needed to keep us in the fight for the lives of those we serve.

As we celebrate our **tenth anniversary**, and look forward to days to come. Our hearts are full of gratitude to the Lord for His unfailing grace, **promises, presence, protection, and provisions**. We are also grateful for the faithful prayers, support, and encouragement of our ministry friends and partners. To God be the Glory!

*leslie*



## LMVFM: Focus on Education

### Mission: Education and discovery!

An invitation from Bethel Lutheran Church in Holdrege, Nebraska spurred this mission, and aren't we glad we said yes! This May, the LMVFM Team met up with CH Cathi Braasch for the five-day education mission.

*Mission Highlights:* Three different educational presentations for pastors and laity, teaching at Bethel, visits with Nebraska veterans, regional newspaper and radio interviews, and receipt of generous gifts from Bethel Church and several individuals. We saw first-hand the challenges that veterans and their dependents face, made contacts with two prospective new client-families including lay leaders with a heart for this ministry and pastors of ten congregations from three states in all kinds of situations.



### Reaching And Teaching Community Leaders

In order to be effective in our communities, we have to be out in our communities. The LMVFM team gladly accepts opportunities to work with and train secular groups and community organizations. During May of this year, we were granted the opportunity to speak to the Indiana Federation of Business Women. Our presentation focused on the challenges veterans and their families face, and how we at LMVFM work to help these veterans.



Pvt Lilly-Bell and team member Roger Ford take a few moments to regroup between sessions. At just 7 months old, Pvt. Lilly Bell performed well on her first extended road-trip. Lilly-Bell demonstrated her natural gift of being able to relate to and provide unconditional love to those she met.

### Reaching And Teaching Church Leaders

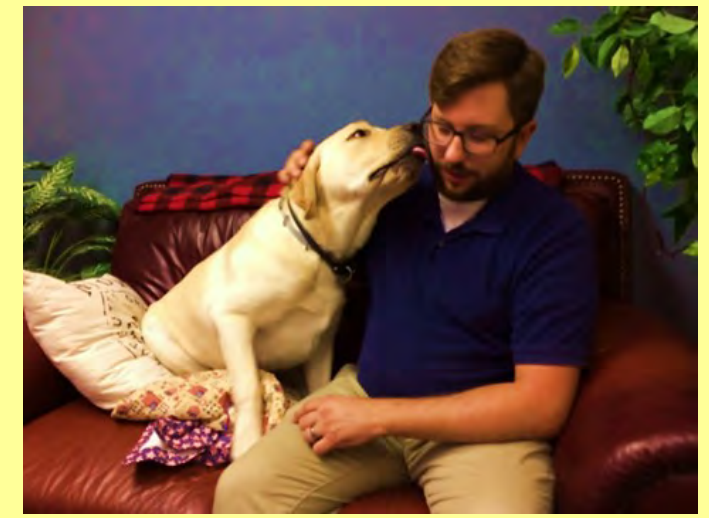
What a joy to be invited to our third IN-KY Synod Assembly and to spread the message of how lives have been changed through the Christ-centered ministry of LMVFM. *Mission Highlights:* Pvt. Lilly-Bell continued her training at her first large convention, meeting and greeting and opening up conversations in a way only a dog can do!



## Paws & Effects

### How does LMVFM use therapy dogs?

### Counseling



PFC (Private First Class) Stanley Tucker, who is almost two years old, primary role at LMVFM is as a therapy dog who works directly with our folks. He has the gift of knowing when someone needs his attention and can be counted on to lend a non-judgemental ear, unlimited love and kisses.

### VBS

Our outreach through Vacation Bible School has gone from zero in the last 9 years to 3 in two states during this Summer. The little ones and the adults who lead VBS learn important lessons that apply to *all* of life, including respect for veterans, knowledge about service dogs, and the importance of connecting their faith in Jesus to care for their veteran friends. Pvt. Lilly Bell loves kids and captures their attention to the message we bring. *Bonus:* Each VBS visit includes a presentation to the host congregations as a well.



St. John's Lutheran  
Danforth, IL

Note: Lilly-Bell has been known to deflate a ball or two...

### VBS x 3



St. John's Lutheran, Lake Twp  
Fort Wayne, IN



Suburban Lutheran  
Fort Wayne, IN