

 **American Legion Auxiliary – Department of Arizona**

Chaplain's Message – May 2026 “Memorial Day”

May is the month of remembrance and community. As we approach Memorial Day, we honor the men and women who gave their lives in service to our nation. Please consider offering special prayers, moments of silence, or support to families who feel this season deeply. This month also invites us into a season of renewal. Across Arizona, we see reminders of blooming in the desert, warming days, and communities preparing for summer rhythms. As chaplains, we are called to notice these signs of hope and help others see them too.

This month, consider offering moments of quiet reflection to those you serve. Encourage gratitude practices, gentle routines, and conversations that help people reconnect with purpose. Many are carrying invisible burdens; your presence may be the calm they need.

This is also a time when many in our communities face transitions – school years are ending, traveling beginnings, and routines shifting. Your chaplaincy can provide grounding and reassurance during these changes.

Let us continue to serve with compassion, courage and steady hearts.

Thank you for your continued ministry across Arizona's VA hospitals, clinics, bases, congregations, communities, and Legion Posts.

NOTE: Don't forget your annual chaplain report and award narratives were due to me by May 1st. If you didn't get it done – please do so ASAP.

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In service and faith,

DeDe Dexter

Department Chaplain

American Legion Auxiliry

Department of Arizona