

# Pagans of JBMDL

## Who are we?

The Pagans of JBMDL are a collective of Pagan military members and their families whose beliefs and pantheons have come together to create a local community. The Pagans of JBMDL have established togetherness, a sense of belonging, a safe place to discuss our beliefs, and a resource for those who are new to a pagan religion. Open to all who want more information on what it means to be pagan, or those with decades of experience who just want to find a like-minded community.

Pagans of JBMDL are all-inclusive and our organization is open to all races/backgrounds/nationalities, pantheons of paganism, sexes/gender identities, ages, and more!

## Who can join?

In Pagans of JBMDL, we strive to be a welcoming place for all pagans looking for a group to call their own. Anyone associated with JBMDL and their friends and family are welcome to participate in all events and join any social media group. This includes DoD civilians and any military branch as well!

Filled with many different pantheons of paganism; we provide resources, community

support, mentorship, community events, volunteer and leadership opportunities, and much, much, more!

Even if you are not sure what type of Pagan you are or choose not to identify with one certain path, you are welcome!

## Where are we located?

Pagans of JBMDL is a loosely scattered group of members and volunteers from many different pantheons all over JBMDL and the surrounding area. So, no matter where you are located on JBMDL, there is more than likely other Pagans sitting in the same building as you!

When trying to get in touch with Pagans of JBMDL, you can reach out to the Distinctive Religious Group Liaison, or DRGL, through the Chaplains office if you don't know who they are.

You can also join the Facebook page titled Pagans of JBMDL to get in touch with everyone!

## Why should I join?

Due to Pagan beliefs typically being low-density, we feel that creating a community of local members is crucial in our development not just spiritually, but physically and mentally. Whether you are Norse Pagan, Wiccan, Celtic, or any other form of Pagan; you are welcome here to share your beliefs and finding others who are like minded and welcoming.

Because Pagan beliefs are often underrepresented, this group is a great place to find a community of like minded people to

share in the same benefits that members of other, more visible, religions get.

With joining Pagans of JBMDL, you also get access to the online community where ideas, questions, crafts, events, and anything else can be shared without fear of getting targeted from non-pagan communities.

Finally, by being part of Pagans of JBMDL we are able to stand with you and advocate for and with you on anything that you may need to help practice your faith. With members experienced in many different aspects of the DoD and several waiver processes, we are able to help advocate and assist wherever possible.

## What do I get out of joining?

If you decide to become part of Pagans of JBMDL, you have the opportunity to be part of a community larger than yourself with people who share in your religious beliefs, much like followers of larger and structured religions get.

Additionally, there are plenty of opportunities to participate, lead, and create volunteer events as well as let your strengths shine by creating opportunities for yourself, whether it be through idea sharing, crafts, seminars, or whatever you can imagine!

Also, there is plenty of room for advancement. Whether you want to be more involved by setting up volunteer or other types of events,

help with the mentorship program (coming soon!), or can find another way to help with the group, you will have that chance to shine!

Finally, you have a support system that can help you both spiritually and personally. We pride ourselves on being able to help members grow as individuals, so that we can make the community stronger.

### **How much does it cost?**

We are 100% volunteer based, and you may leave the group whenever you see fit. There are also no requirements for how involved you are. If you would like to be extremely active and participate in every event and every gathering we have, you are more than welcome.

However, if you want to be a wall-fly and just watch from a distance, you are welcome to that as well. We want to encourage our members to grow in the way that helps them the most, and that means having multiple ways to do that. We are also open to new and innovative ideas, so if you join and feel like we are missing something, just bring it up! If it is possible to do, we will try our hardest to get it done.

### **Mission Statement**

The Pagans of JBMDL mission is to support all Pagans in ensuring they have the same rights as the followers of other beliefs and religions, and to support military members and their families while they are associated with JBMDL. Our main aim is to promote a positive profile for Pagans and Paganism through the provision of information and support of the media, official

bodies and the greater community about Pagan beliefs and practices.

Pagan families encounter a wide range of obstacles, which can prevent them from practicing their beliefs, attending meetings, gatherings, and events, or engaging fully with pagan communities. The Pagans of JBMDL secondary mission is awareness and to work towards overcoming barriers and challenges encountered by Pagan families.

The Pagans of JBMDL also recognizes the rich diversity of traditions that form the body of modern Paganism. As our third mission we encourage growth and education for all pagans who want to learn more about traditions and religious practices of their pagan ancestors as well as the traditions and religious practices of their neighbors.

### **How can I contact Pagans of JBMDL?**

Please feel free to join our Facebook group, found by searching "Pagans of JBMDL", through email, or reach out to our Distinctive Religious Group Liaison.

If those ways don't appeal to you, you may always contact the Main Chapels Office at 609-754-HOPE(4673).

Us at Pagans of JBMDL hope you decide to join us and share in this growing and vibrant community!

### **Distinctive Religious Group Liaison:**

SSgt Tyler Santy, USAF

[Tyler.santy@us.af.mil](mailto:Tyler.santy@us.af.mil)

### **Facebook Page:**

Pagans of JBMDL

### **Chapels Office:**

(609) 754-HOPE (4673)