While serving in the US Army at Fort Leonard Wood, MO, Brian Collison felt God leading him away from active duty to prepare for vocational ministry. In 2010, he transitioned into the US Army Reserves and began attending Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary full time. As he approached completion of an M.Div. in biblical counseling, he was called back on active duty to serve with the Protective Services Battalion at Fort Belvoir, VA. During his time there, he recognized the need for more Gospel-centered churches in the Fort Belvoir and Greater Washington, DC areas. While attending Pillar Church of Dumfries, VA, he began to pray that God would use his family to bring a Gospel presence to the National Capital Region and the military services represented at Fort Belvoir.

Brian began working with the North American Mission Board and the SBC of Virginia to seek training and resources for the work ahead. Upon SBC of Virginia’s approval of Brian, his family moved from Wake Forest, NC, to Dumfries, VA, where Brian began serving as a church planter apprentice at Pillar Church of Dumfries in August 2014.

Already, God has provided a meeting place right outside the front gate of Fort Belvoir near Woodlawn Plantation. In addition, Tim Parker, a former “battle buddy” and brother in Christ received PCS (permanent change of station) orders from the Army and is moving his family to Fort Belvoir to serve alongside the Collisons in ministry. Pillar Woodlawn is the first Pillar Church planted to serve a military branch outside of the Marine Corps.

God is at work in the Fort Belvoir area through the Collison family and Pillar Church of Woodlawn. Please pray for them as they seek to reach military families with the Gospel.

Just miles outside the Department of the Army Headquarters in Washington, DC, near the main gate of Fort Belvoir Army Installation, sits a historic church building that has been given to Pillar Church of Woodlawn.