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ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

April 28

1942

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KEEP YOUR CHURCH WITH HIM



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THIS ISSUE OF THE LUTHERAN WITNESS

Is Dedicated to the Chaplains, Lutheran Center Pastors, and Key Pastors who are Breaking the Bread of Life to Our Men in the American Armed Forces on the Land, on the Sea, and in the Air.

☞ May God bless their labors.

☞ And may our people respond liberally to the plea presented in these pages.



"I am an American"

O BLESSED DAY — the day which witnessed the laying of the foundation for a nation in which freedom of religion and liberty of conscience were made a principle of its fundamental law!

☞ O blessed land in which we are permitted to enjoy this freedom! Even as our country guarantees civil freedom to the exercise of religion, so may religion bring heavenly blessings to this land!

☞ But let us not be satisfied to enjoy this freedom of religion. God will demand a heavy reckoning from us for the manner in which we have employed this inexpressible benefit. Therefore let us as citizens of this country labor for the preservation of its freedom, manfully fight for it, and, if necessary, willingly shed our blood for it. Let us be ready to do all this, particularly also for the preservation of this golden crown of its free institutions — religious liberty. Let us on our part do everything that it may remain a refuge for all who are persecuted by reason of their religion among all nations of the earth.

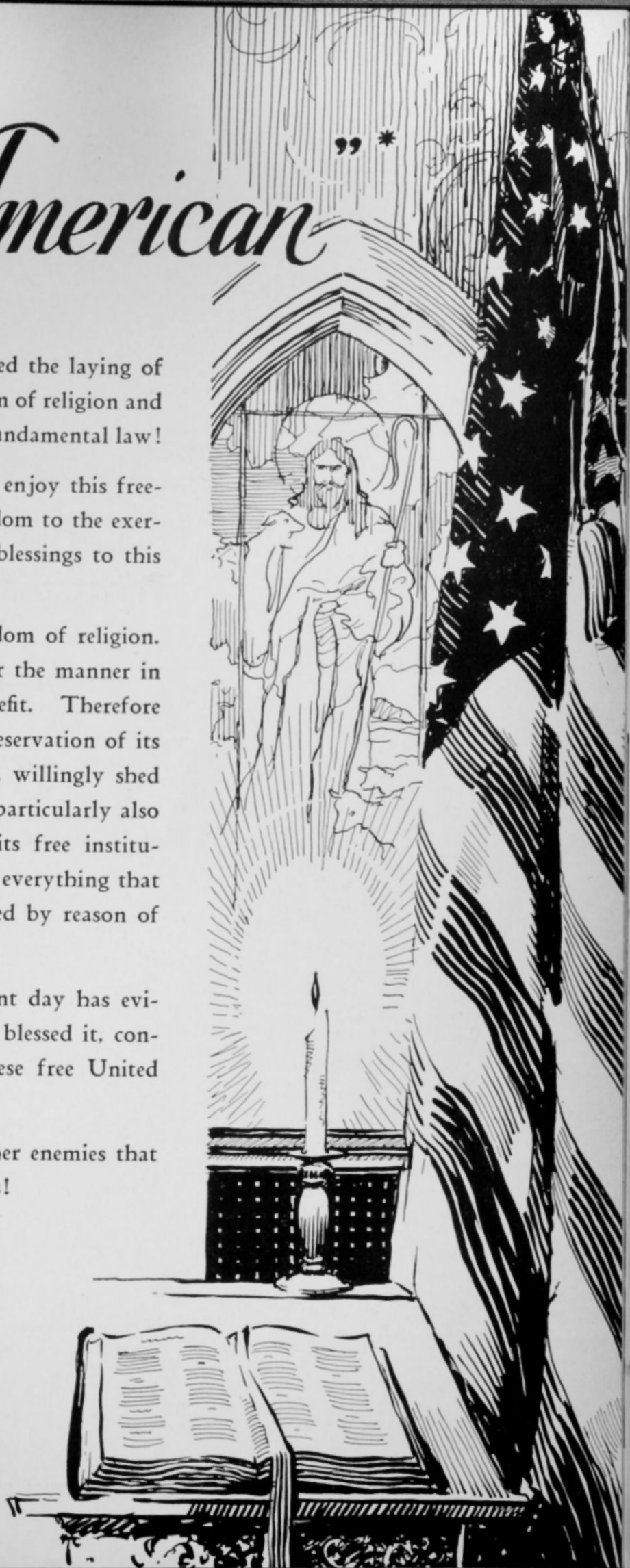
☞ May the Lord of Nations, who to the present day has evidently watched over our land, has governed and blessed it, continue to make His face shine benignly over these free United States of North America!

☞ May He bring to naught all the schemes of her enemies that are being plotted against our land and its liberties!

☞ May He train unto Himself a pious, free, and happy people and ever place at its head virtuous men of wise counsel and of courageous action!

CARL FERDINAND WILHELM WALTHER

* The President of the United States has chosen this name for May 18, established by Congress on May 3, 1940, as "Citizen Recognition Day." Dr. Walther was one of the founders of the Ev. Lutheran Synod of Missouri, Ohio, and Other States, today a body of more than a million and a third souls and represented in every State of the Union. The sentiment is taken from one of Dr. Walther's sermons.





Chaplains in Field or Combat Setup

What the Church Does for Your Son in the Armed Forces

1. *251 Missouri Synod Pastors* — 73 chaplains, 166 contact key pastors, and 12 service pastors — are ministering to him and his fellow Lutherans in the armed forces.

2. *TEN Lutheran Service Centers* have been opened in his behalf.

3. *A Communion Record Card* is presented to him by his home pastor before he leaves for camp. The card identifies him as a member of the Church and encourages him to make faithful use of the Sacrament.

4. *The tract "Your Orders"* containing an appropriate inspirational message is given him by his pastor before he leaves home.

5. *His Name and Military Address* are forwarded to the chaplain at his camp or the service pastor or contact key pastor in the community adjacent to camp, as soon as his address is on file in the executive offices of the Army and Navy Commission.

6. *The Service Prayer Book* is mailed as soon as his name and military address reaches the executive offices of the Commission.

7. *"Loyalty — Christ and Country,"* a devotional pamphlet with hymns, order of service, prayers, Scripture reading and a meditation, is forwarded to him each month.

8. *"Loyalty News"* is sent to him once every three months.

9. *Additional Devotional Material* is provided for him from time to time.

10. *Free stationery* is provided for him by Lutheran chaplains at many camp reading rooms and at all Lutheran Service Centers.

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Missouri Synod Chaplains on Active Duty

As of March 10, 1942

ARMY

Ahl, Kenneth L.
Ahlemeyer, E. H.
Bauer, Herman M.
Baumgaertner, M. W.
Behnke, Albert A.
Berger, Harold E.
Bertram, Arnold H.
Busse, Otto C.
Claus, Alfred Byron
Cook, Martin L.
Daib, Walter C.
Daniels, John F.
Deffner, Edward G.
Doege, Arthur J.
Dorre, Walter E.
Du Brau, Richard T.
Frank, Victor C.
Frankenstein, K. F.
Frerking, Horace R.
Fricke, Robert W.
Gaertner, John F.
Gerken, Walter C.
Golisch, Clarence F.
Graebner, Eugene J.
Griessel, Albert C.
Grimm, Herman J. C.
Grothe, A. F.
Halboth, Victor F.
Harre, Elmer C.
Hartman, Ervin H.
Hemmeter, Henry C.
Heuer, Ernest E.
Heuer, Herman H.
Hoffmann, Ben. G.
Katt, Alvin A.
Kautz, George W.
Klaustermeyer, W. H.
Kroencke, Edward J.
Kuchnert, E. C.
Larson, Leland R.

List, Hugo Karl
Lohrke, Waldemar C.
Lohrmann, Markus E.
Luedke, Henry W. C.
Mehl, L. J.
Miller, Fred M.
Niermann, Fred W.
Panning, Paul H.
Piepkorn, Arthur C.
Poch, Martin C.
Reiss, William J.
Robinson, Eugene G.
Rubel, Leo E.
Saar, Werner R.
Scharlemann, Martin
Schleede, Karl W. F.
Schlichten, A. P. von
Schliesser, Luther G.
Schnedler, Wilfred J.
Schoech, Oscar W.
Schoech, Theodore G.
Schrader, Carl W.
Senne, Arthur M.
Stahnke, Herbert H.
Theiss, Henry O.
Tomasovic, Paul
Tschirley, Richard A.

Tubesing, Karl A.
Westerman, John W.
Weber, Edmund W.

NAVY

Dreith, J. Floyd
Herrmann, Otto D. F.
Hohenstein, R. C.



Above: A Unit
in Bivouac;
Our Chaplains
with Their Regi

Left: The Choir
(and Band) Pra
before Service
during Maneuve

When the World Is at Its Worst, the Church Must Be at Its Best

"They Shall Not March Alone"

THE caption expresses the solemn promise which our Church made to God and to the young men whom our beloved country has ordered to active duty.

Grim, dreadful, terrific things have happened since that promise was given. The enemy's treacherous attack at Pearl Harbor, followed by several declarations of war, has hurled also our beloved United States into the maelstrom which is working havoc with practically all nations of the world.

Our solemn promise is assuming an ever deeper and more serious meaning. Additional thousands of our brethren in the faith have been called to the colors. Some passed through the tragedy at Pearl Harbor. Some are today in zones of bitter combat. Some are with General MacArthur's valiant defenders of our island possessions. Some are with American Expeditionary Forces in different countries of the world. Thousands are receiving intensive training.

To all these fellow Lutherans we want to say again: "They shall not march alone." We shall do everything within our power to keep our Church with them. It may mean the establishment of many more Lutheran Service Centers and the calling of more pastors to work at these centers—and with the establishment of additional military posts, camps, and training centers it cannot mean anything else. It may mean the calling of many more chaplains. It may mean more prayer books and other material. It may mean greater expansion. It may mean sacrifices such as we have not known heretofore. But, regardless of efforts and costs and sacrifices, "They shall not march alone."

We want our fellow Lutherans in the armed forces to know that we are vitally interested in their welfare. We do remember them again and again in our prayers both privately and in public worship. We urge our pastors and congregations to maintain direct contact with them. We have an Army and Navy Commission, which procures chaplains for both Army and Navy, does its part according to special agreement with other Lutheran bodies to establish and maintain Lutheran Service Centers and to call pastors for these centers, enlists the services of key pastors near military centers, maintains direct contact with the men under the colors, furnishes Service Prayer Books for them, also much other material.

We certainly realize that our fellow Lutherans in the armed forces face problems and difficulties, trials and temptations, pitfalls and dangers such as they have never faced before; but this makes us all the more determined to do everything within our power to serve them with God's wonderful means of grace, the Word of God and the blessed Sacrament, whereby God will graciously strengthen and preserve them in the faith. We shall not fail them in this crucial hour. We want them to have Jesus with them. "They shall not march alone."

We acknowledge with gratitude that God has graciously blessed our efforts. The men under the colors have voiced their appreciation. Some state that they have been brought closer to Christ. Many have become active missionaries and have brought unchurched "buddies" with them to the services, have persuaded them to read their Testaments, prayer books, *Loyalty*, and other material, or have brought them to the chaplain or Service Center pastor for instruction and confirmation. Some have been baptized.

We want our brethren under the colors to know that we thank God with them for results achieved. We want to tell them anew that we shall not forget them. We want to support and strengthen them. Also in our special effort to raise larger sums for this purpose we shall say: With God's help we shall not fail them. "They shall not march alone."

J. W. BEHNKEN, *President of Missouri Synod*

Love Victorious

1 John 4:21: "He who loveth God, loveth his brother also"

BUGLES are calling—drums are rolling—flags are waving—alarm bells are ringing—men are marching!

Men are flying—men are dying!

We are at war—an all-out war!

From city, town, and countryside the flower of America's young manhood is being trained for war in army camps, air bases, and naval stations.

Among these men who are taking up arms for the defense of America and the final conquest of our enemies there are thousands of our fellow Lutherans. All these are our brethren in the faith, and just because they are our brethren, we are to love them.

Our Christian love is to go out to all men; we are to love even our enemies, but our brethren in the faith are to be the special objects of our love. God is Love, and if we love God, we will also love the brethren.

As our brethren go to the training centers throughout the broad reaches of our land, as these, our brethren, go to the battle centers of the wide world, it is something holy and solemn and inspiring and glorious to ponder that we are knit to them heart and soul; closely united to them by the bonds of one spirit, one faith, one Baptism, one hope, one Savior.

And as our brethren go forth to defend our land, our way of life, our possessions, our lives, all of them ready and willing and strong to give their all for us, our love goes out to them.

Wherever our brethren may be—on land, in the air, at sea—our love follows and enfolds them.

Our love prompts us to do the best thing we may possibly do for them: Bring to them the comforts of God's holy Word and the gracious tidings of the blessed Gospel of Christ.

In the hours of utter loneliness which may come upon our brethren when in the training centers far from home, while being transported to the arenas of war, before going into battle, we want them to hear and read about the great and glorious God who has the destinies of individuals and nations in His almighty hands, a God who is "our Refuge and our Strength, a very present Help in trouble," a God who is ever nigh His loved ones and ever ready to take them underneath the shadow of His wings.

Constrained by the love of Christ and actuated by our love of the brethren, we will get behind the entire spiritual welfare program of our Church in the interest of the men in the armed forces of the nation. We will rally to the spiritual ministry of our chaplains, service pastors, and contact key pastors, and we will send forth a steady stream to them of prayer books, magazines, tracts, bulletins, and the like.

Men and women of our great Church, will you not be such as love these brethren? This is your special call to a service of love for your brethren with the armed forces of the nation. As one man, stand by this work. You and I know that all the great achievements in the Church have been wrought by Christians who brought sacrifices, flaming souls who burned themselves out for God and humanity; you and I know that all the power and all the glory and all the loveliness in the long centuries of the world's history have come from men and women who have poured a Christ-inspired love into the hearts of their fellow men.

Such a love sweeps aside all barriers, denies itself, and brings real sacrifices.

It is a love victorious!

PAUL L. DANNENFELDT

Chairman of Army and Navy Commission

Forward!

With Their Church

Behind Them!



THE banners of the King go forward over warring nations and battlefronts, over maps and strategic maneuvers, through days of turbulence and upheaval, as kingdoms and nations rise and fall. This is the Kingdom which the God of heaven has set up, a Kingdom which will stand forever and march onward towards its glorious victory. This Kingdom is marching onward also in these days of world-wide distress. The Church of Jesus Christ moves forward regardless of the plans of men and the wickedness of the world, regardless of suffering and death. The golden call of the Gospel trumpet sounds forth over all the battlefields, it floats over the seas and reaches up into the skies.

It is because of this undaunted belief in Jesus Christ, the Captain of the hosts of the Lord, and because of the divine power of the Gospel in the hands of the Church that we do not abate our church work during these troublesome days. And therefore we also give all spiritual support to our men in the service. This work has reached large proportions and is growing in leaps and bounds. The office of our Army and Navy Commission now carries 20,000 names of our men in its files, with names coming in at the rate of 500 a week. Twelve large Service Centers are being maintained, in which the men can attend divine worship and also spend pleasant social hours. 73 chaplains are now on active duty, and 166 civilian pastors are serving in various camps. The "Loyalty" magazine goes to every man once a month. 27,000 Service Prayer Books have been mailed to our chaplains and our men.

The collection for this purpose in 1941 amounted to somewhat over \$200,000 and would have carried us until September, 1942, if we had not been drawn into war. That has immediately changed the whole picture and brought on a tremendous expansion of our work, so that the funds at hand will be exhausted by May of this year. Something of the financial difficulties confronting this Commission will be realized when we are told that the magazine "Loyalty" has so far gone out in 206,000 copies at a cost of \$3,495.86. 49,197 Service Prayer

Books have been furnished at a cost of \$7,309.19. Here are some more items: Tracts, \$1,273.06; Communion Kits, \$5,120.70; Office Rent, \$1,587.87; Office Salaries, \$11,677.99; Contact Key Pastors, \$1,071.67; Travel, postage, telephone, telegraph, and many other incidentals, \$8,814.18. And so we could go on and on. If the war continues, we will have about 150 regular chaplains in due time, the number of contact key pastors and other helpers will have to be increased, many more Service Centers will have to be provided, in short, our work and our expenses are already growing tremendously. But that does not discourage us. We will carry on bravely and gladly because we want our men to know that they are not marching alone, but that their great Captain is at their side and that their beloved old Church is standing behind them with a power which far exceeds all earthly might.

We shall therefore have another collection for the blessed work of caring spiritually for our men who are in the service of their country. And we are asking for an offering of \$500,000. This amount will be very carefully disbursed, as the President of Synod and the undersigned can testify because they often attend the meetings of this Board. If God in His mercy will soon put an end to this war, the balance of this collection will be used for missionary expansion. In the meantime the proposed collection for missionary expansion has been postponed, because we hope to be able to take care of the most necessary work by making special provisions for it in our regular budget, in which about \$100,000 have already been allocated for missionary expansion work of one kind or another.

And now, brethren, let's go forward. The armies of the Lord have only one order, and His regiments know only one signal: Forward in the Name of the Lord! Forward especially also to the support and care of our men, the Church's own children. In that spirit we will all fall in line on Mother's Day, May 10, to give our men who stand ready to die for all that is near and dear to us our support and our gifts borne up by our prayers. — "For Thine is the Kingdom." —

PAUL SCHULZ

Chairman of Army and Navy Collection Committee



Our Lutheran Men are Serving with the Air Force on Land and Sea

Do We Need Lutheran Chaplains?

TODAY I round out my first week as a chaplain in the United States Army. It has been a seven-day whirlwind of learning Army customs, practices and etiquette.

In those seven days I learned one important fact: The Army needs chaplains, more particularly, spiritual and pastoral chaplains. Many of the boys are begging for spiritual comfort and advice.

During my second day in camp a sergeant approached my desk and said: "We've never had a chaplain in our battalion, and we're glad you have been assigned to us. I am a Christian, and I have two 'buddies' who want to become Christians. Sir, would you baptize them?" There is a nucleus for an adult instruction class.

The following evening a private entered my office and said in effect: "I used to be a drunkard and a rounder. Last week I married a girl who won't stand for that stuff. I want you to help me keep straight because I love that girl and because I want to be what she is, a Christian." There is another prospect for instruction. I supplied the man with a New Testament and a Service Prayer Book.

That same evening four Lutheran boys came in and told me how they had done their little part in helping to stem immorality and drunkenness among the boys of the battalion. They expressed their gratitude in having a chaplain to help them combat the forces of evil.

Sunday morning I addressed a group of enlisted men and commissioned officers. I preached God's Law straight from the shoulder; then I applied the sweet comfort of the saving Gospel. Remarks after the service: "That's what we need; that's what we want; give us more of it."

A Lutheran boy who had forgotten his Church for a year just left the office. He is coming to service next Sunday; he promised to read the Service Prayer Book I gave him.

Are chaplains needed in the Army? They certainly are. May God give us consecrated chaplains to guide our boys through the conflicts of body and soul that lie ahead.

Fraternally,

A CHAPLAIN

Lutheran Service Centers

PHOTO BY
SIGNAL CORPS, U. S. A.



Service at a Camp Hospital (Hymns are projected on screen facing worshipers)

CENTERS at which our service pastors are extending the glad hand of their Church to the men at various military camps are now in full operation in nine camp areas. Under an agreement with the National Lutheran Council, these centers are being operated jointly by our own Synod and by the Lutheran bodies in the National Lutheran Council. In each case the external management is in the hands of one or the other group. The centers managed by the Missouri Synod are located at Alexandria, La., Tullahoma, Tenn., San Diego, Calif., and Hattiesburg, Miss. Those under National Lutheran Council Management, in which we also have pastors of the Missouri Synod giving their full time to this work, are at San Antonio, Tex., Waukegan, Ill., Norfolk, Va., Columbus, Ga., and Anniston, Ala.

Lutheran Service Pastors

Missouri Synod

Rev. A. E. Going, 1104½ Broadway Street, Columbus, Georgia
Rev. A. L. Hillmann, 5317 Itaska Street, St. Louis, Missouri (Res.)
Rev. Ad. H. Hoyer, 507 E. Travis Street, San Antonio, Tex.
Rev. Wm. D. Kanning, 133 S. Converse Street, Spartanburg, S. C.
Rev. Jos. Hannewald, 212 W. Front Street, Hattiesburg, Mississippi
Rev. Paul Mehl, 325 Jackson Street, Alexandria, Louisiana
Rev. A. E. Richert, Sixth and "E" Streets, San Diego, California
Rev. Theo. Schliepsiek, West Grundy Street, Tullahoma, Tennessee

Rev. Edgar P. Schmidt, 4458 Merrill Avenue, Riverside, Calif. (Res.)
Rev. O. C. Thusius, 405 S. Genesee Street, Waukegan, Illinois
Rev. E. T. Tonn, Noble and 11th Streets, Anniston, Alabama
Rev. B. P. Wallschlaeger, 114 W. City Hall Avenue, Norfolk, Va.

A Service Pastor's Story

"After almost three months' service as service pastor, I am thoroughly convinced of the dire necessity and tremendous importance of the Lutheran Service Centers and their special kind of ministry.

"I am assigned to a service center which serves the men stationed at Camp ——. It is estimated roughly that there are about two thousand Lutheran men at this important military establishment. These young men have come into a strange environment. It is not only strange, but saturated with temptations. At no time in their lives have these young men been more in need of pastoral care and Christian influence.

"It is not, however, in the camp that the soldier is in the greatest spiritual and moral danger. It is when he is on leave and visits the adjacent communities. The forces of evil have not been slow in contriving ways of depriving the men not only of their meager pay checks, but also of everything that a man should hold sacred."

Contact Key Pastors

Where it is not possible for the Lutheran Church to own or operate a service center, our Commission has appointed key pastors by whom our men under the colors are given spiritual care. We have now 166 contact key pastors co-operating in this program. They are scattered over 45 States and in Alaska.

Not only the pastors but also the congregations at these points make real sacrifices in order to serve in the place of the home pastor, the home congregation, and the home folks.



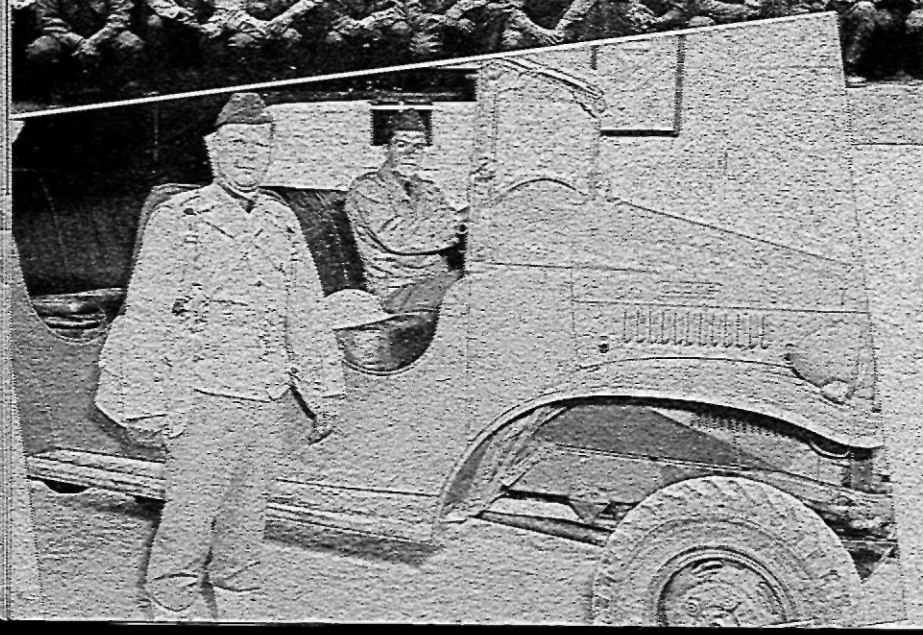
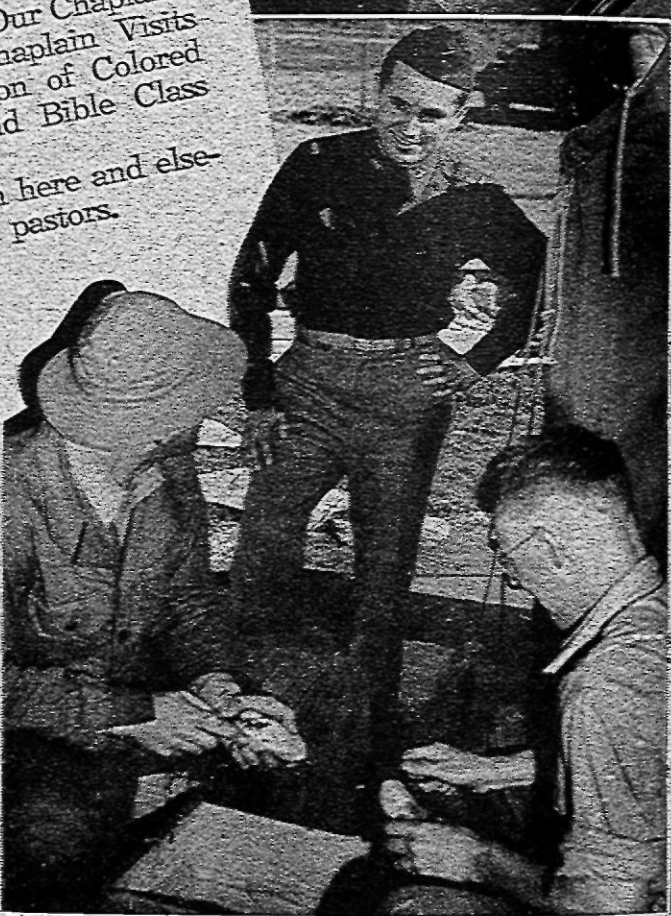
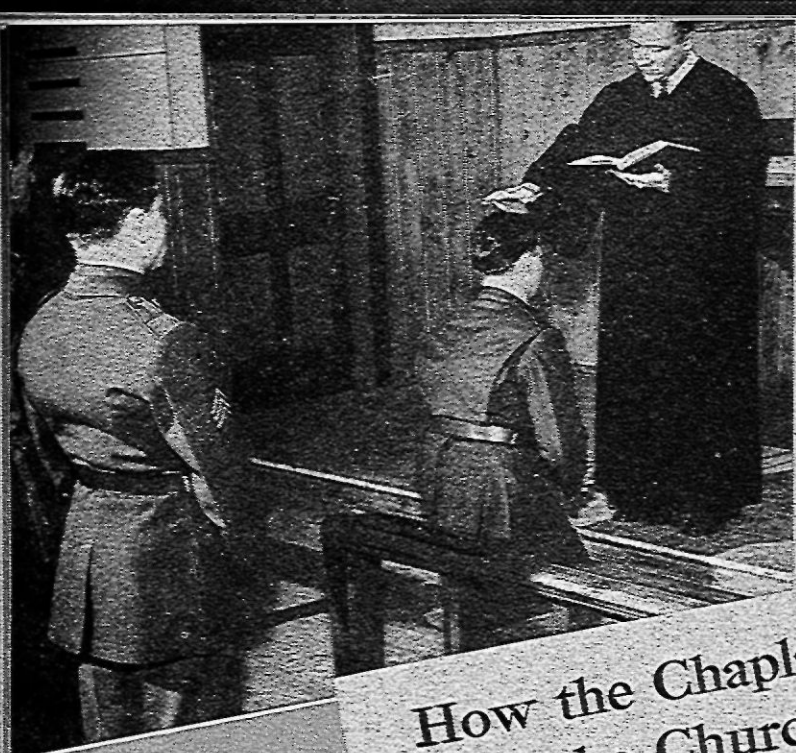
How the Chaplains Are Keeping the Church with Him

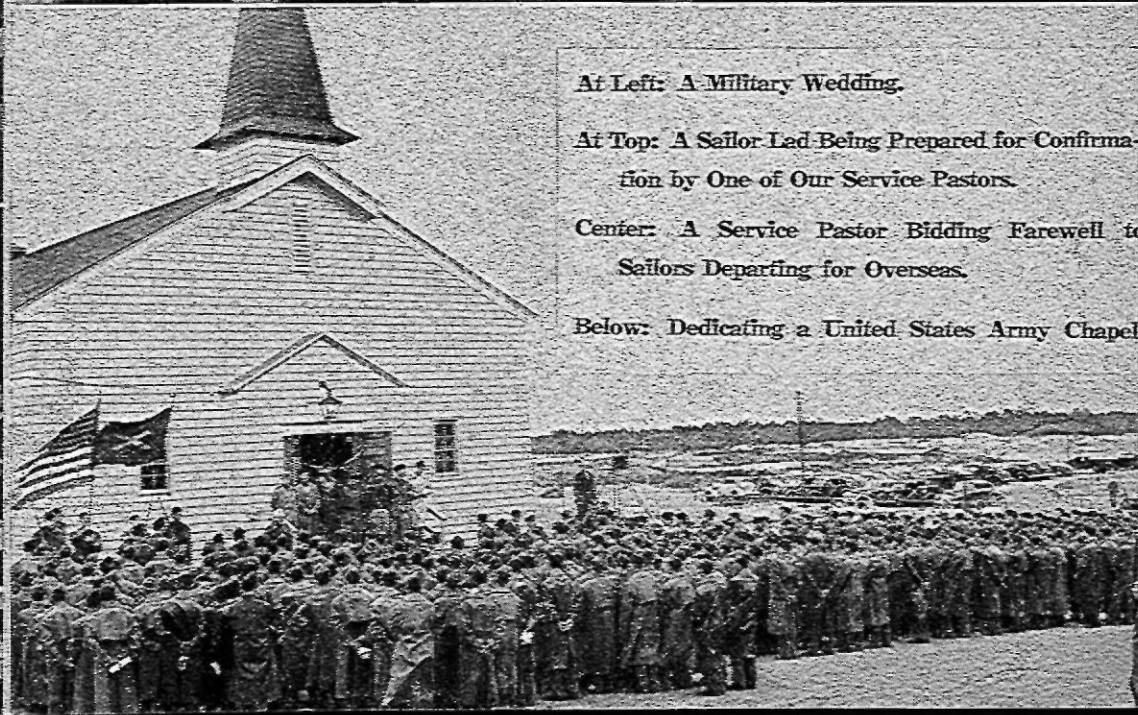
AMONG the scenes shown on this page are: Three Men of the U.S. Army Being Confirmed; One of Our Chaplains Visiting a Field Artillery Division; Our Chaplain Visits Two Soldiers on K.P. Duty; a Congregation of Colored Truck Drivers, Very Active in Church and Bible Class Attendance.

All chaplains and service pastors shown here and elsewhere in this magazine are Missouri Synod pastors.

One of our chaplains writes to the Commission:

"The Church has a great problem on its hands concerning the men in the service. The boys who are going to find it tough are Christian young fellows plunged into great masses of men where big talkers make it sound as if the whole world lives just as they do. It's then that the boy who has never faced such a fight before feels he is all alone, and he needs all the help his Church can give him."





At Left: A Military Wedding.

At Top: A Sailor Led Being Prepared for Confirmation by One of Our Service Pastors.

Center: A Service Pastor Bidding Farewell to Sailors Departing for Overseas.

Below: Dedicating a United States Army Chapel.

As Our Work Looks to an Outsider

(Reprinted from the *Industrial Index*, a prominent Southeastern magazine)

WITHIN the city of Columbus and the civilian community adjacent to Fort Benning various agencies are at work in the interest of the service man's welfare. It is generally recognized that a real problem is created when Army men come to town in large numbers. A number of nation-wide organizations have stepped in to help solve this problem. Federal funds have been appropriated to provide buildings. Other funds have been raised among the general public to maintain and operate these buildings as recreational centers or 'clubs' for the soldier who goes to town.

"Among the several centers which have been opened in the city of Columbus, the Lutheran Service Center is unique in several respects. The entire cost of furnishings, operation, and maintenance is paid for from a fund which the Lutheran Church raised solely among its own members, without either community, Federal, or U.S.O. help. In charge of this center and of the fifteen or twenty others operated in other camp communities by the Lutheran Church are regularly called and ordained clergymen of the Church.

"The Lutheran Service Center, though intended primarily for Lutheran men, is not restricted to them. All service men, their relatives and friends, are welcomed and are invited to return. The full use of the center is theirs, and all of its facilities are at their disposal.

"Located at 1104½ Broadway in the heart of the busiest business block in downtown Columbus, the Lutheran Service Center occupies a spacious second floor hall, which is furnished very comfortably. Soft rugs on the floor, maple settees, rockers and tables, piano and radio, serve to give it a very homelike atmosphere. Visitors help themselves freely from a prominently placed and well-filled cookie jar. Correspondence tables, reading material, recreational equipment, courtesies of many kinds—all are there for those who wish to use them. The distinctive feature of this center is not just its homelike atmosphere; it is, rather, the personal and friendly welcome extended to every visitor who enters by the service pastors in charge. Everyone is made to feel very much at home. As a result, the popularity of the Lutheran Service Center among the men of Fort Benning has grown to a degree which is entirely out of proportion to its size."

Chaplain with an Artillery Unit



For an All-Out Effort to Keep Our Men with Their Lord, Their Church, Their Congregation

I

L I'LL MO' BUTTER?" asked the waiter, and before I could say "No," he had reached into the cracked ice bowl with his fork and had dropped two little patties on the plate. They were not so small at that. When they went out with the dishes, so much waste, I said to my neighbor: "There goes a week's ration of butter for a Frenchman or an Englishman." "And there are countries in which people have forgotten what it tastes like," replied my companion.

We still have all we want to eat of the finest butter that the farms of America can produce. We still have the best of wheat bread, the most palatable and nourishing meats, the most luscious fruits, the finest vegetables that the earth can produce, and have them in such vast quantities that we can send many shiploads abroad without risk of a shortage, while large areas of the world are in the grip of famine.

Why is this so? Is it because we are so much better, so much more deserving of the heavenly Father's bounty? If He did not cover with His mercy the sins of our land, would we have food to eat?

Deaths in Greece from starvation, while this is being written, average 900 a day. In England sparrows are being sold at a dozen for 20 cents and crows for 15 cents each. The Czech child gets nine ounces of apples a week. In France the entire generation under nine years of age is dying at a mortality rate of 29 per cent. Bread is unobtainable in many European countries at any price. Heads and entrails of fish, once used as fertilizer, are eagerly being eaten.

As we sit down to our breakfast of eggs and muffins, or of a stack of wheat cakes covered with butter and syrup, and as we eat our dinners of savory meat stews, vegetables, apple pie, not to speak of sizzling steak, asparagus tips, and fruit shipped in to our table from distant orchards, can we forget what undeserved mercies we are enjoying compared with the rest of the world?

I am speaking of the collection for Army and Navy service. Can we enjoy our bountiful meals—yes, and the peace that is in our borders, our unscathed cities, our immunity from invading hordes—and not resolve here and now that this dollar bill is folded up for the collection envelope on Mother's Day? Maybe a "fiver" is more like it.

And there must be some twenty dollar bills in every congregation, if we are to reach the goal.

II

These pages tell you what the money to be collected will be spent for. I shall lift out of these items a single one—the provision of literature for our men with the armed forces. This is a small item compared with the building or purchase of Lutheran Centers, described on another page. But what inestimable blessings accrue from this distribution of literature *expressly written* for our soldiers, sailors, and aviators so as to meet their special problems—and what problems they are! Tens of thousands of prayer books, tracts, periodicals, are being distributed by our chaplains, service pastors, and key pastors to our enlisted men. Your money is needed to pay for this work.

Is it appreciated?

One private refers to the Service Prayer Book as his "wonderful little buddy." Another thanks for the magazine *Loyalty* and calls it "a real source of comfort to us in the U. S. service, and I should know," he adds, "for I am over here in Hawaii, and there are times when it's plenty tough." "All my friends," writes another, "have read *Loyalty* and are awaiting another copy even though they are of another faith.

When there are no services here, I turn to my paper and find that even to hum the hymn that is printed helps when I am tired." "We are on guard here twenty-four hours; so I carry this handy Prayer Book with me. During my time off I make good use of it." "I remember everything that happened at Pearl Harbor. I have seen it all. It made me take more time to read the little book you sent me."

The office of the Army and Navy Commission has sent us a large number of letters from the men in the service, voicing such sentiments of appreciation. They may be summed up in this sentence, written after the soldier's visit to the Bible Class at the Service Center: "It makes a person feel good that no matter where he goes, his Church will provide for him." No wonder one of our chaplains is able to write to this editorial office: "We are the envy of other chaplains because of what our Church is doing for us." And again: "We can be proud of the work our Church is doing. A Methodist Chaplain friend of mine recently wrote to his bishop, asking why the Methodists don't do something for their chaplains, and he told him how much the Lutheran Church was doing for its men." "Just had lunch with a Presbyterian Chaplain and showed him a copy of the *Lutheran Chaplain*. His comment, 'Why don't some of the other denominations wake up and do what the Lutherans are doing?'" Whether we shall continue this effective program, depends on the result of the collection.

III

A message from the Rev. Paul L. Dannenfeldt, chairman of our Army and Navy Commission, contains this sentence:

"While doing this we hear the heart-throbs of love and gratitude coming back to us from our brethren; our mind's eye sees them wearing the uniform of our country with honor, courageously following the Flag wherever it goes before, utterly loyal to Christ and His principles and His Church; in spirit, even now, we see hosts of them returning from war, chastened yet strengthened in their faith and convictions, and we envision many of them becoming leaders in their church and community, in their state and nation, radiating an influence for Christian faith and Christian living which is simply beyond all human computation."

This strikes the high note in the ideals which should actuate our work for the men in service. It is not only a matter of strengthening their morale so that victory may crown our war effort, to make courageous fighters of them; it is not simply a question of preserving them by God's grace in the faith while subject to the temptations of soldier and sailor life; it is something higher even than this: to bring them back to civil life strengthened in the faith, more willing than ever to confess it before men, and more eager to work for the Kingdom.

We can even now see the leaven of the Gospel working. Writes one "buddy": "It takes something like *Loyalty* to wake one up." A young sergeant writes: "Formerly V—and I attended Lutheran services alone. Now, each time we attend, we have ten or eleven from 'A' Company. It surely makes this soldier's heart feel good to take along a group of this size. And they're steady attenders. About 15 minutes before time, I call them all out, and we make the rounds of all the tents to be sure we haven't missed anyone." "It costs me a dollar," writes a private, "to go to church down here, but I don't mind because who knows how near our end might be."

Is it not true that young men who pass through the fires of this Second World War thus "chastened yet strengthened in their faith and convictions" will upon their return to civil life "radiate an influence for Christian faith and Christian living which is simply beyond all human computation"?

Your Church asks your support on May 10. Will you do your share?
G.

What Lutheran Service Centers Offer Your Son

1. *Church Services*
2. *Holy Communion Services*
3. *Personal Consultation with the Service Pastor*
4. *Christian Fellowship*
5. *Free Stationery*
6. *Writing Room*
7. *Recreational Facilities of All Kinds*



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What Your Church Does for the Parents of Service Men

1. *Loyalty — Christ and Country*, the devotional magazine that is mailed to men in the service each month, is mailed to parents once every three months.
2. *Loyalty News*, a pamphlet describing the work of the Church for the men in the armed forces, is mailed to parents once every three months

"Just a Line to Let You Know"

What Our Soldiers, Sailors, and Fliers Write to Pastors and Home Folks

OUR men in the service admit that they are lonely when they "hit" camp for the first time and like automobile parts are labeled and placed into their respective compartments. Not much of the human touch in that.

But wait! Before long the human touch is supplied not only by kindly officers and friendly "buddies," but also by one of our 166 contact key pastors, whose churches are located in the neighborhood of camps and navy bases. These contact pastors turn over the key of hospitality to our enlisted Lutheran men. Writes one of them: "The members of your church where my 'buddie' and I were permitted to worship for six weeks went out of their way to make us at home."

In seventy-five camps we have our chaplains. This means something. It means that our men in the service may enjoy every spiritual advantage which they had at home. They may worship regularly, partake of Holy Communion, and receive spiritual comfort.

"I was inducted into the Army six months ago, and I have been in three different Army camps and have always found the Church and chaplains of my faith. The first time I attended church in camp it made me feel so good because it just seemed like home." So writes one of our enlisted men.

One of our contact pastors relates how a U.S. sailor came late to the Sunday evening service. After the service he excused himself. His excuse was that his ship had docked half an hour before the beginning of the service, and although he had grabbed a taxi, he couldn't quite make it on time. That's how Lutheran sailors do it.

And this is how Lutheran soldiers do it. One of our key pastors invited a Lutheran soldier to a Sunday dinner after the service. The soldier, however, regretted that he had to return to camp at once. He had come forty miles to attend a service in a church of his own faith.

Besides Sunday services our chaplains also conduct daily devotions. One chaplain reported eighty-one devotions during January.

Keeping Track of the Boys

In what mysterious manner do our chaplains and contact pastors discover the newly enlisted men of our Church in the more than 400 camps? It is no mystery. The Army and Navy Commission of our Synod collects from the home pastors and keeps on file the names and addresses of all of our men the moment they enlist. It is a unique system. No other Church has it.

Our chaplains think it wonderful. Writes one of them: "I can assure you that our Commission is the most alert of any Church. We have a splendid system of keeping in contact with our men. Keep up the good work!"

Here Comes the Mail

Our Army and Navy Commission does more. It establishes and maintains direct contact with our men through the mails. No sooner do our men arrive in camp than they receive by mail the well-beloved Service Prayer Book. It makes a hit with all.

"I appreciate very much your gift of this little prayer book, and may it help me to continue in the Christian life," writes a Lutheran navy man.

"I have received your beautiful prayer book today. I wish to thank you from the bottom of my heart." This from a soldier.

From Iceland comes this message: "Will you please send me another service prayer book? I lost mine in a storm."

"Loyalty — Christ and Country"

Besides the prayer book our men receive each month a leaflet called *Loyalty — Christ and Country*. Not all of our men may or can attend a Lutheran service each Sunday. At the hand of this *Loyalty* leaflet they may conduct their own private devotion.

"I always hold on to my foregoing *Loyalty* until I have received the new one and enjoy reading it again and again," writes one of them.

"That blessed and priceless pamphlet," is what another letter calls the leaflet.

Marching Together

Our men in the service need more than mail. They need the companionship of fellow Lutherans. Through the program of our Synod they are brought together.

"It is very lonely when one is first inducted into army life," writes one of our men. "However, I have met several Lutheran

friends, and life in camp improves with each new Lutheran I meet."

So essential is this Lutheran fellowship that our Synod has provided service centers at not a few camps, which are "run" by specially selected service pastors who devote their whole time to this work.

"When we first arrived here," writes a lonely soldier, "there wasn't a thing to do except just to walk the streets, and I am sure that you know what a bore walking can get."

Our service centers are equipped with rockers and tables, piano and radio, reading and writing materials and recreational facilities — with everything to make the soldier feel at home. Don't overlook that cooky jar which requires frequent refilling unless the "grab" is limited to a certain number of cookies.

How well the service centers fulfill their purpose is shown by this letter: "I received an invitation to come to the Lutheran Service Center, and soon after, I stopped in to look the place over. Whenever I get to town, now about twice or three times a week, I always make the center a sure stop. Here we can bring our problems to the pastor in charge and receive sympathetic advice."

The wives of our service pastors have their fingers in the pie. Writes one of them: "My husband leaves the social affairs to us women. At one open house we fed between four and five hundred men on coffee and cookies. We try to make personal friends of all the boys."

Coming Close to Home Life

A marvelous contribution to Lutheran fellowship is made by many a local congregation near the camps. Writes one soldier: "It is the greatest joy a Lutheran soldier can have, to sit down at a meal where the whole family asks the Lord's blessing."

Is Our Work Worth While?

Let's see what the boys themselves have to say about it: "My Church is a friend and never forgets me."

"I am very grateful and thankful that my Church has provided me with so many sources of comfort when my heart is troubled."

How about the parents of our enlisted men? Do they think our program worth while?

"We wish to thank you for what you have done for our son. He wrote us that he enjoyed the Communion service in camp last Sunday. He wrote us that he had peace of mind when he knew that he was among the right bunch. May God bless your work."

The Strength of Faith

Do our enlisted men keep faith? Read what they write:

"Although times are ominous, I have one great Friend who will always guide and protect me, my Redeemer, Jesus Christ."

"It is miraculous how real Christ and His teachings seem to us men in camp now. He is the 'Beam' by which we walk through this darkness."

"No doubt darker days are ahead, but they are only to strengthen our faith in the heavenly Father."

"It is my only consolation as I go into actual battle, I'll know Jesus will be at my side."

Such faith is worth preserving and strengthening by all means.

Let Action Speak

"Dear Pastor: Please forward the inclosed seven dollars for the Army and Navy work of our Synod. I appreciate what Synod is doing. Faithfully yours, —."

Do you know what seven dollars mean to a man in the service? They mean one third of his monthly salary.



The Service Pastor at Work

THE term *service pastor* designates a pastor who has been appointed, or called, by the Army and Navy Commission of our Church for full-time work among and in behalf of men and women in military service, particularly the spiritual welfare of those of our own faith and confession. Unlike the chaplain, he is not a part of the Army or Navy and has no military rank. Unlike the "key pastor," he is not a minister of a congregation in the vicinity of a military post or camp, but is a pastor who has been called away and released from his ministry in a local congregation or other field of church activity and assigned to an area in which several camps or training centers are located, or where for other reasons a full-time worker may be required for the best interests of our service men.

Just what does a service pastor do, how does he spend his time, in what way does he earn the salary our Church through its Army and Navy Commission pays him?

In a general way it may be said that the service pastor in his activities and efforts supplements the work of the chaplain. While the chaplain ministers to the men and women at the post, in the camp, and on the field, the service pastor deals with them when they are away from camp and off duty on passes, leaves, or furloughs.

In unity of spirit and purpose there is closest and most unstinted co-operation on the part of each with the other in a common field of spiritual service. The service pastor is always at the service of the chaplain, ready to assist him in his special concern for the welfare of the men and women of our Church under his care.

At his invitation the service pastor conducts regular or special services or Bible and adult classes at the post, assists him in Communion services, makes pastoral and sick calls, etc. He acts as the chaplain's liaison officer. And if you bear in mind that while the chaplain ordinarily is assigned to one or more military detachments at one camp, a service pastor usually is assigned to an area in which several camps are located, you will realize and understand that he is kept very busy.

If he has a service center, the men come to him there; if he has not, he makes himself available to them at any other convenient place, as at the U. S. O. Clubs and Recreation Camps. Wherever he meets with them, he serves them as a pastor, spiritual adviser, moral counselor, social contact-man, recreational director, information bureau, etc. He is their confidant in their problems, whatever their nature; their friend and helper in every circumstance. He provides, besides private or public religious services, also social and recreational activities of a wholesome, Christian nature, utilizing for these purposes the facilities and services of the local congregations and organizations of our Church wherever possible and available. He organizes, co-ordinates, and directs all the potential activities of the congregations and organizations in behalf of service men, such as church and home hospitality programs, fellowship projects, etc. In short, he tries in every possible way to help keep our members in the service with the Church and under the influence of the Church, and the Church with them and at their service. And that is work which occupies all his time, requires all his strength, absorbs all his interest.

Our Lutheran Service Centers

What Is the Service Center?

The service center is a "home away from home" and a "church away from church." Many a young Lutheran could now witness to the fact that the center has proved a refuge when he was in dire need of some place to go when on leave, a place away from military surroundings and apart from the "world," a place where he could go when he was wanting someone to talk to, someone to whom he could unburden his problems, and in the light of God's Holy Word receive guidance and light for the way.

To these well-equipped, homelike Lutheran centers he can now come, and here he can write to the home folks, enjoy a bit of music, play his favorite game, read, or spend time visiting. At some of these places there is a quiet chapel where he may retreat for meditation. Here he can also worship, attend Sunday school or perhaps a Walther League meeting or some devotional meeting.

Here, too, he will meet a kind, consecrated pastor of our Church who will help him to have a profitable leave and who will be ready at any time to guide him in any personal problem confronting him.

Service Center a Homelike Place

Let us visit one of our centers. It occupies a one-story brick building originally erected for club purposes. The interior consists of two large rooms. The larger has a fireplace on one wall and is furnished with comfortable lounges, rug, floor lamps, writing desks, tract

and magazine tables, chess and checker tables, piano and radio. One grouping of furniture is around the fireplace. This is a very homelike spot. The official periodicals of the Church, a fine collection of Lutheran tracts, and some good secular magazines are always on the table set apart for that purpose. An encouragement to letter writing is the free supply of stationery, of which there is always an abundant quantity in the drawers of the writing desks.

The smaller of the two main rooms is equipped with an excellent set of table tennis. On Sunday mornings this room is used for Sunday-school purposes.

The Center Becomes Church

When Sunday morning comes, many of the Lutheran men in camp have a desire to attend a Lutheran church. But there is not a single Lutheran church in the city. In such cases our service center has solved this problem. The main room of the center is quickly transformed into a very attractive place of worship. Here we have Sunday school and worship with the accustomed liturgy every Sunday morning. A regular schedule of Communion services is carried out. Soldiers serve as organists and provide special music. It is an impressive experience to see the attentive khaki-clad congregation; to hear the boys sing the old familiar hymns; and to see them gather devoutly around the Lord's Table. It makes a service pastor's heart glad to have boy after boy come up to him and tell him how much it means to him.



“Give Us More Lutheran Service Centers”

AFTER five days of Army life as a chaplain it was my pleasure to visit the Lutheran Service Center in — yesterday afternoon and evening. I really don't now how to begin to congratulate our Commission and describe the inspiring activities I witnessed there.

“I imagine my reactions to the center were akin to those of the hundred soldiers who spent the day at the center yesterday, writing letters, playing ping-pong, reading, singing, joining in the impressive Vespers, and lunching. In short, it was the atmosphere of Christian fellowship and home that touched me so deeply that I must write you concerning it immediately and without solicitation from the two pastors who run the center so efficiently.

“No one will ever know of the manifold spiritual blessings that will accrue to the Lutheran Church, and, more important, to the kingdom of God through the splendid and efficient service the center extends to Lutherans and non-Lutherans alike.

With more service centers our Army will be stronger, our Church more firmly entrenched, and the kingdom of God enlarged. *Give us more Lutheran Service Centers!*

Sincerely,

CHAPLAIN — — —

A Quiet Game at the Lutheran Center

A Sailor Comes for Spiritual Counsel

An Easter Sunrise Service

Communing Soldier Laid Up with an Injury



Army and Navy Commission Statistics

| | |
|--|--------|
| Missouri Synod chaplains | 73 |
| Service pastors | 12 |
| Contact key pastors | 166 |
| Number of men on file | 20,000 |
| Number of Service Prayer Books mailed | 49,197 |
| Number of changes of addresses received during one month | 2,426 |
| Number of service men added to files in one month | 2,064 |
| Pieces of incoming mail handled during one month | 4,764 |
| Number of office employees | 16 |



Members of the Army and Navy Commission

REV. PAUL L. DANNENFELDT, CHAIRMAN
REV. O. ADELBERT SAUER, SECRETARY
THEODORE H. SCHLAKE, TREASURER
REV. FREDERICK C. PROEHL
REV. KARL W. SCHLEEDE
REV. OTTO E. SOHN
OTTO C. RENTNER

We Give to the Army and Navy Fund

1. Thousands of our fellow Christians have been called away from their Church and their homes and have joined the armed forces of our country in various parts of the world.

2. The Church of God as the dispenser of the means of grace, the Word and the Sacraments, shall at all times supply its own people with the means of grace.

3. Our Church shall therefore follow with the Gospel of Jesus Christ the members called to the colors wherever they may go.

4. To keep our Church with them under these emergency conditions requires large emergency funds — now.

If the men of our Church are sacrificing the blessed ties of church and of home — their very lives if need be — surely, we at home will not hesitate to sacrifice our money for their spiritual strengthening.

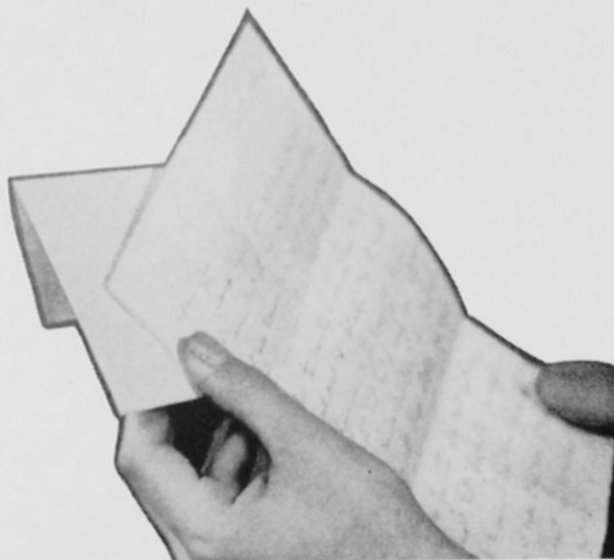
The word of the Savior reads: "As we therefore have opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto those who are of the household of faith." Gal. 6:10. Here is an unprecedented opportunity to prove our household faith.

Give: Our country expects it

Give: Our men in the service desire it

Give: Our Church asks for it

Give: Our God will reward it



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Woman's Work in this war:

to help guard the home base, maintain family morale, strengthen the Church, spread Christian influence, soothe the distressed and heal the wounded