

WARNING ORDER:

OPERATION BARNABAS

JULY 2021

OPERATION BARNABAS

Operation Barnabas is the LCMS' network of care to our nation's military members, families and veterans. We reach out to all branches of the military with a special emphasis on our Reserve members and their families.

JOHN 16:7-11

"Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you. And when he comes, he will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment: concerning sin, because they do not believe in me; concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father, and you will see me no longer; concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged"

THE PLANTED TRUTH!

By Chaplain, Major, Dennis Wenholz

Jesus promised the disciples that the Holy Spirit, the great Helper, would soon come. The Holy Spirit would help them with what Jesus was teaching and preaching. This promise of Christ concerning the Paraclete guarantees the validity of the promises recorded in Scripture. The disciples were eyewitnesses of Jesus' life and teachings; the Holy Spirit helped them remember and record these memories without taking away their individual perspectives. We can be confident that the Gospels accurately record what Jesus taught and did (see **1 COR. 2:10-14FF**). The Holy Spirit can help us in the same way. As we study the Bible, we can

trust the Holy Spirit to plant truth in our minds, convince us of God's will and remind us when we stray from it.

The doctrine of the Holy Spirit is just as challenging as understanding the existence of the Trinity and how God is one true spiritual existence yet three persons. Here is the difficulty: our human understanding has narrow limits and God has no boundaries. Therefore, it is so important that we sharpen our understanding by pushing out the boundaries and limitations through Bible studies and fellowship with other believers. When we spend time in the Scripture, He, the Holy Spirit, will move upon our heart and conscience. He will reveal truth with His power wherever it is known and even where it is not known. He will afford some measure of divine light and gracious influence (**ACTS 2:17-21; JOHN 16:7-11; 1 COR. 2:4-5**).

"The Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you" (**JOHN 14:26 NKJV**). The Holy Spirit is sent to you by both the Father and the Son (**JOHN 15:26**). "In My name" means that the Spirit comes in the Son's name, the name of Jesus Christ your Savior, and thereby brings the Son's presence to you in this very moment. As Jesus represents the Father, The Holy Spirit represents the Son. Yes, He promises to teach you all things and bring all

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Photo: Lightstock



REPORTS

J-1 Personnel

Roll Call: Gather names and record attendance of members. A time to get to know each other.

J-2 Intelligence

Gather and share information. Provide a report on local units and their deployment schedule; also provide contact information for local military contacts upon request. Identify and assess what is going on in the community concerning veterans and their families.

J-3 Operations and Training

Develop a plan. Draft a listing of possible chapter activities, including veterans celebrations, presentations (as desired and available); develop a strategy to expand outreach into the community. Identify and assign tasks to specific people that include standards and timeframes.

J-4 Logistics

Identify and provide materials for meetings, such as coffee, refreshments, etc., to support the plan.

J-6 Communication

Develop communication strategies to support the plan. Place internal announcements (newsletter/bulletins) as well as provide articles for the local paper.

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that you have learned over the years about Him to your remembrance.

The apostles remembered and wrote with the help of the Spirit. John's Gospel and, in fact, the entire New and Old Testament, would not exist if not for this reminding work of the Holy Spirit. It is He who makes the entire Word of God inherent and infallible.

In the case of the disciples, the reminding role of the Holy Spirit uniquely guided the recording of the New Testament. However, the process is still in place. The disciples first heard Jesus speak some 2000 years ago. Today, we discover and hear Jesus speak to us through the words of Scripture. The acts of reading, studying, memorizing, meditating and obeying place Christ's words firmly inside us, and the Holy Spirit reminds us of their further

application as we move through life. He is the one who sharpens our knowledge and pushes the boundaries of our limited understanding to the far reaches of His creation.



The term "illumination" is used to describe the Holy Spirit's process of helping believers understand Scripture.

Without God — the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit — sinful people are unable to recognize and obey divine truths. When a person is born again of water and

Spirit (JOHN 3), the Holy Spirit helps the person to see God's Word with the eyes of faith, love, hope and joy. The Holy Spirit also works in the life of the believer, convincing him of the truth of the Bible, keeping him from misconstruing what it really says, and helping him not to be distracted, so he can see and remember the true meaning of God's Word.

PRAYER LUTHER'S MORNING AND EVENING PRAYERS.

Many of you have seen the latest war movie with Tom Hanks, "Greyhound."

The film is based on the 1955 novel *The Good Shepherd* by C.S. Forester. The plot follows a commander of the U.S. Navy on his first wartime assignment in command of a multinational escort group defending a merchant ship convoy under attack by submarines in early 1942 during the Battle of the Atlantic, only months after the U.S. officially entered World War II. The convoy's escort consists of the Fletcher-class destroyer USS Keeling, radio call sign "Greyhound," captained by

Commander Ernest Krause (Tom Hanks) of the United States Navy.

In the energetic and exciting trailer for the movie, you hear the voice of Tom Hanks as Commander Krause ([youtube.com/watch?v=SQNDIjrGpSO](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SQNDIjrGpSO)). Among the dramatic lines he delivers is actually a portion of a wonderful, powerful prayer. If you listen carefully (12 seconds into the trailer), you will find it very familiar. It is in fact a portion Luther's Morning and Evening Prayer. Lifting up our heart to God is not foreign to those of us who



Photo: Navy

have served. Many of you have rendered prayers in the midst of fear, the unknown, deep sadness or terror. For Jesus' sake, our prayers are received and embraced by a loving God who listens.

So, the prayer section for this WARNO newsletter includes both Luther's Morning and Evening prayers. If you want to look further, you

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RESOURCES

LCMS Ministry to the Armed Forces

lcms.org/ministry-to-the-armed-forces

Military Chaplaincy (LCMS):

The link below provides an excellent introductory view of the exciting life and opportunities of the military chaplaincy.

- If Not Us, Then Who?: vimeo.com/208556248

Operation Barnabas logo wear by Lands' End

Clothing and other items with the Operation Barnabas logo can be purchased from Lands' End:

business.landsend.com/store/lcms-maf-ob

The National Association of Veteran-Serving Organizations (NAVSO)

NAVSO is a nonprofit organization exclusively focused on transforming the veteran services marketplace (public & private) to improve the lives of veterans and military families: navso.org

VA Medical Foster Home Program for Veterans

The VA now supports over 1,000 veterans in 700 foster homes in 42 states. This resource provides certified care for veterans needing supervision 24 hours a day, 7 days a week: blogs.va.gov/VAntage/69916/veterans-gain-freedom-fuller-lives-under-foster-home-program/

"Veteran-Friendly Community" program

The VA is seeking to enhance services to veterans through their "Veteran-Friendly Community" program. Please see this link for more information: va.gov/ve/engagement/index.asp

Also available is the Veteran Community Partnerships Toolkit. This resource aids in the development of community partnerships with the VA.

Veteran Help

If you are a veteran or you know a veteran who may be in crisis, free confidential support is available 24/7. Call the Veterans Crisis Line at 800-273-8255 and press 1, send a text message to 838255 or chat online: veteranscrisisline.net/get-help/chat

National Chaplain Center

patientcare.va.gov/chaplain/index.asp

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs va.gov

National Guard Office of the Chaplain

nationalguard.mil/Leadership/Joint-Staff/Special-Staff/Chaplain/

National Military Family Association militaryfamily.org

U.S. Air Force Chaplain Corps af.mil

U.S. Army Chaplaincy army.mil/chaplaincorps/

U.S. Navy Chaplain Care

public.navy.mil/nrh/Pages/chaplain-services.aspx

Organize a donation drive for homeless veterans

Access the step-by-step guide at va.gov/HOMELESS/docs/FaithBasedDonationDrive-508.pdf.



Photo: Rev. Dr. Gary L. Danielsen

OUTREACH OPPORTUNITY FOR OB CONGREGATIONS

ACTIVE DUTY AND RESERVE CHAPLAINS AND FAMILIES
East Coast Chaplains' Professional Development
Seminar, May 2019, NAS, Jacksonville, Fla.

"Adopt-a-Chap" is an opportunity for congregations to directly connect with or "adopt" our Synod's Armed Forces chaplains, active and reserve. It is a program that links congregations with chaplains to promote mutual support and growth. It is a means through which we learn and support each other in military ministry. After a congregation is "matched" with a chaplain by the LCMS Ministry to the Armed Forces (MAF) staff, the congregation and chaplain establish a relationship through regular communication with one another. Congregations will regularly keep the chaplain and his family in prayer and learn about his specialized ministry in the military context. Since

he is effectively bringing the Gospel to young adult "millennials," the congregation might also benefit from the wisdom of his experience. The process begins by a congregation contacting the MAF office (314-996-1337; Alicia.Hinton@lcms.org) and indicating a desire to "adopt-a-chap." One member of the staff will select/match a chaplain with the congregation, providing contact information. There may be many other opportunities to support and learn from each other in creative ways. No financial commitment or aid is needed or expected. This is the Church working together, encouraging and supporting one another in mission to our men and women in our nation's Armed Forces.

PRAYER *(continued from p. 2)*

can find both in Luther's Small Catechism and Lutheran Service Book. I ask when you pray either prayer, that you do so slowly and deliberately. Both are wonderful gifts to the life of God's people.

MORNING PRAYER:

"I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen."



Photo: Navy

EVENING PRAYER:

"I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen."

OPERATION BARNABAS

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Your generous gift to partner with Operation Barnabas makes a tremendous difference and helps to care for our nation's military members, families and veterans. Click here to give.

GIVE NOW

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mailchi.mp/lcms/resources.

SHARE YOUR STORIES

We want to hear from you! If you've got ideas for future issues, comments, feedback on articles you've read in *Warning Order* or news from your part of the world, please let us know. Write to alicia.hinton@lcms.org with your stories, and be sure to include your name, city and state.

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Ministry to the Armed Forces

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OB SPECIAL OPS: NEWS FROM THE FIELD

This section highlights recent Operation Barnabas activities across the U.S. We hope these examples will be replicated in other congregations and chapters, that these activities might serve as a catalyst for other means of sharing God's mercy to military-connected people in our communities. Please share your activities, including pictures, so that others might gain from your experience.

CATALINA LUTHERAN CHURCH, TUCSON, ARIZ.

Catalina Lutheran Church in Tucson, Ariz., donated 632 pairs of new socks for veterans throughout the Tucson area.



IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH, ALEXANDRIA, VA.



In recognition of Armed Forces Sunday, members of the military were invited to wear their dress uniforms to the Divine Service. Immanuel is uniquely situated and impacted by the service of many military members who are part of this congregation. They thank all brothers and sisters in Christ who serve in our nation's military and remember them in their prayers, along with everyone whose work places them in harm and danger for the safety of others.

HEROES
FALLEN



Please pray for those who mourn the death of the fallen hero to the left who gave his all for our nation.

ARMY STAFF SGT. CHRISTOPHER PANTOS



55, of Richmond, Va., died April 26, 2021, at Ali Al Salem Air Base, Kuwait, as the result of a non-combat-related incident. Pantos was a heavy wheeled vehicle operator assigned to the 55th Sustainment Brigade at Fort Belvoir, Va. The incident is under investigation.