



# AMEN NEWS

Volume 20, Issue 1

**American Military Evangelizing Nations**

Winter 2022

## MINISTERING IN NEED

Jesus said that the greatest commandments are to love the Lord God with all your heart, soul, strength and mind and to love your neighbor as yourself, Luke 10:27,28; Matt 22:37-39. The next question was “who is my neighbor?” which is an appropriate question to ask about military ministry. Why do we need a specific ministry to Servicemen and women? Aren't our usual worship assemblies, Bible classes, etc. sufficient enough for their spiritual growth? It's often thought if military members just attend faithfully, they will get what they need. But this view can be quite deceiving when it comes to bringing the grace of God to the Serviceman or woman. Most congregations are not aware of the emotional burdens military members and veterans carry into civilian life.

One of the most significant realities of military members is moral injury and its twin spiritual injury. The Armed Forces are the only occupation which trains in the use of massive violence to achieve its goals. As one fighter pilot said, “our job is to break things and kill people.” Moral injury is defined as an act of transgression which shatters moral and ethical expectations grounded in religious beliefs or culturally based rules of fairness. Spiritual injury goes further when combat events assault one's belief of and relationship with God. Too often these wounds go unnoticed by civilians often because the warfighter buries his or her struggles deeply within their souls. The anguish of

their souls comes out in unhealthy ways through alcohol or drug abuse, domestic violence, depression, the inability to keep a job or form relationships, and suicide.

The church is a community healed by the grace of Jesus Christ and no doubt congregations would like to better serve our military brethren. The AMEN Military Ministry has joined with the God's Word for Warriors (GFWW) organization to help congregations become healing communities for

our warfighters and their families. Here is how your church can reach your military members and veterans. First, offer the GFWW course on *The Intersection of Military and Civilian Culture* which explores military life including what the Bible says about military service; spiritual

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and moral injury; impacts on the military family; the experience of war; challenges facing military members or veterans; women in the military; how to engage veterans; assisting those coming home from deployments. Invite an AMEN or GFWW facilitator to come to your church to present the dynamics of military ministry. Create a small group for Servicemembers and/or veterans to share their stories and discuss their common experiences. The course on *Faith and Transition* from GFWW can facilitate a small group in your church. Provide a marriage enrichment workshop from AMEN to address the unique needs of military families. Offer sermons and classes on topics like God's justice and

conflict; forgiveness and healing from trauma; how to deal with feelings of anger or guilt. To successfully minister to your military and veteran members churches should be willing to understand their world, listen to their experiences, and enter

into their journey to experiencing the grace of God. That is the AMEN mission to *Build the Love of God in the heart of the Warrior!*

## AMEN TEAM NEWS

As our nation recovers from the COVID 19 pandemic Church of Christ worship services are returning to many of the Basic Training bases. The **Lackland Terrace Church** in San Antonio, TX has resumed worship on **Lackland AFB**. The **Marine Corps Recruit Depot** in **San Diego** is holding worship services again led by Canyon View Church of Christ.

## UKRAINIAN RELIEF

We pray for an end to the war in Ukraine and give thanks to those helping to relieve the suffering. Here are resources taking donations:

### Sunset International Bible Institute

Rob Hindman coordinates SIBI's Ukraine distribution efforts. Rob and his family were missionaries in Kharkiv before the first invasion in 2014. Rob communicates between churches, contacts in Ukraine, and contacts in Eastern Europe providing for refugees. Contact him at [rob@robhindman.com](mailto:rob@robhindman.com) or 775-223-0223.

### Molly Dawidow – Sopot Poland

The Church of Christ in Sopot, Poland provides lodging, food, and medical care to refugees partnering with Brandon and Katie Price of the Texas Global Relief Fund at SIBI. Missionaries to Ukraine they coordinate arrivals of refugees to Poland. Send online contributions to College church of Christ 712 E. Race St, Searcy AR 72143 at <http://collegechurchofchrist.org>. Go to "online giving" tab and when prompted to designate the giving intent, select "2371-UKRAINE REFUGEES-DAWIDOW" and NOT Molly Dawidow.

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

8-10 June: Chaplains Endorser Conference  
David Lipscomb University TN

19-23 Nov: Euro-American Family Retreat  
Rothenburg od Tauber Germany

## NEW KEY MEN & WOMEN

The heart of AMEN are the Key Men/Women who provide the Locator Service benefitting numerous military Christians. Many rely on this network of saints to find opportunities for worship, fellowship and learning. Welcome to our newest Key Men

Arthur Aguilar Goodfellow AFB TX

James Anania Keesler AFB MS

Ralph Walker MacDill AFB FL

Rodrigue Aleandre NAVSTA/USCG Key West FL

Jim Kerr Robins AFB GA

Dave Jarratt Fort Hood TX

There is a great need for Key Men & Women for:

Fairchild AFB WA

McConnell AFB KS

Williams AFB AZ

Dyess AFB TX

Fort Polk LA

Whiteman AFB MO

Eielson AFB AK

All U.S. Naval vessels

Recruit Training Command, Naval Station Great Lakes IL