

Community of Christ

Association for Ministry to Military Personnel



The Peacekeepers

Newsletter

May/June 2016

Association Official Business

by Tim "K9" Kunzweiler, President Emeritus

Where are you? Community of Christ Association for Ministry to Military Personnel — Peacekeepers: Where are you in the effort to provide ministry to those of Community of Christ serving on active duty in the military?

Team, I ask these things because we have a set of BYLAWS which (though needing update) we try to meet the *intent and spirit* of. Since we didn't have the necessary quorum, the Association did not execute the expected business meeting during the 2016 World Conference. The five members who did show enjoyed the meal and fellowship, and we engaged in some needed discussions on the future of this organization. Being able to implement our future appears to be in need of your additional support.

Where we are: As of this Conference, my term as President has expired and so has Jennifer Redfern's, as Secretary. I note the BYLAWS ARTICLE VIII allows us to delay our business meeting: "*Except as otherwise provided by law or these Bylaws, at all meetings of the officers three (3) of the officers shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business and at all meetings of the membership of the association twenty-four (24) members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. **Less than a quorum may adjourn a meeting successively until a quorum is present, and no notice of adjournment shall be requested.***" However, we must have an election for those two open positions NOW. Without objection, I'm willing to (temporarily) still "act as" President in accordance with the BYLAWS ARTICLE IX "C. *Term - Officers shall serve for a period of four (4) years **or until their successors are elected**, with the exception of the first terms of the vice president and treasurer elected at the membership meeting at which these*

bylaws are enacted, which shall be two (2) year terms." The 2 year factor is an outdated clause.

In this unusual situation, and noting the advance of technologies since the Association was formed, I call for an election of officers using a combination of e-mail and paper ballot. It will be my intent to complete the election effort by 30 Sep 2016. I foresee two potential outcomes: One or more members will step forward to be nominated for the offices of President and Secretary. Jennifer has already expressed willingness to continue as Secretary. However, due to Pastoring commitments, I've had to indicate I cannot continue as an officer. If we have at least one more member step up, as nominee for President, the election will be valid. Step one: Submit your name in nomination for either of the open positions. Do so not later than 30 August 2016. You may e-mail me your information at cofchristpeacekeepers.president@earthlink.net or phone 937-291-1327. Alternatively, if we do not get at least one person offering to be nominated as President by 30 August I'll be forced to declare the election attempt invalid and will recommend the Association be considered "out of order." In consultation with the other Officers, I'll then recommend that the Association be dissolved and that our assets be turned over to Community of Christ. I doubt any of us want to see our military members without support so, if we can have a valid election, I'll give it—and the continuance of the Association—my full support as a member. Do members of Community of Christ, serving on active duty, in the military of any nation, deserve to have ministry no matter where they may be? Stepping up is now up to you.

In Christ – Victory!

May God bless all Peacekeepers.

Tim "K9" Kunzweiler, President Emeritus



NOTES

from Curt Heaviland

At the time this is being written, we here in Independence, Missouri are getting a taste of Oregon weather. It started raining this morning and, while not heavy, has continued without pause into the afternoon. I would gladly share this with the folks in Canada who are having the forest fires. In any event, it is a great day in Independence.



It won't be many days until we have an influx of Saints from all over the world (though, by the time this reaches you, Conference will have ended and a new church year will have started). This gives us a chance to ask some questions from you in the field. I know that there are questions I would ask of you if we were to meet face to face. Such things as: Have you been promoted recently? Are you able to attend church on a regular basis? Where are you stationed? If you are married, is your wife with you? How are conditions on the base? What would you like to see in the newsletter? Could you take time to write an article for us? Can you tell us about an experience you have had while in the military?

(P.S.: Mary Yocum would be happy to help put the words into a story format. You tell us what happened and we'll edit to fit).

I would like to be able to tell you of some interesting things that I have experienced. Unfortunately a person of my age finds that most days are the same with very little difference in them. After my wife died in 2008 it was a while before the world began to take on another meaning for me. I was fortunate; after spinning my wheels a lot, I met a young lady of eighty and we formed a good relationship and have been going together ever since. We are of different faiths but find we have many things in common.

I have slowed down a great deal in the past few years and find that the Lord has seen fit to keep me busy and out of trouble. This article is not full of news but I have come to the conclusion that I want to share some of my life with you, just as though you were sitting next to me here in Independence. My closing thoughts are the hope that the Lord will take care of each one of you and give you safety

and companionship. Until we meet again in person, or by mail, I want each one of you to have good and productive days.

God Bless,

Curt

TIM'S SERVICE

by Tim "K9" Kunzweiler, President Emeritus

Billie. Actually, I'm not sure of the spelling but the name (however spelled) belonged to a "her." I spotted her car, pulled off to the side of the highway exit ramp I always take to head home. The hood was up. It'd been a long day already. I'd worked the normal job at the base and then spent a couple hours trimming bushes at church. I was dirty, hungry, and tired. Still, out of habit (and concern) I looked to see if anyone was in the car as I rolled past. I saw a head and, since it was getting dark, figured I'd better stop to offer support in any way I could.

I backed my truck down the exit ramp to just in front of hers and got out to introduce myself. I was probably a sight, but at least had my "God Loves You" ball cap on. Billie had been on the phone and let me know her car had overheated – even though she'd only driven from a couple exits back. Her boyfriend had been coming to assist but (doesn't it often go this way?) drove her mother's car and that had died too – further down the highway!

It was clear the car had let loose radiator fluid – though I couldn't spot from where. I offered to go get some more, just to see if she could drive the vehicle to a better spot than where it was. Luckily, there were stores nearby that do carry auto supplies. Within a few minutes I was back with a gallon of pre-mixed radiator fluid and two additional gallons of water. We filled the (now cool enough) radiator and I observed the signs of an active leak below the car



Billie tried to start the engine but all it would do was crank. Maybe she'd blown something more than just a hole in the engine cooling system...

She was content to lock up the car and accept a ride to the location where her boyfriend was now stranded. We shared the type small-talk you might expect on that bit of a chance journey. I found out she had only 5 months to go to finish nursing school – and



that she'd been hoping the car would last that long. She found out that I worked on the base and am pastoring the local congregation. She indicated that she tried to attend church but also that "life has been very busy recently." I simply said that I understood. She also shared that she had been praying since the car had quit. Here I was Lord. You sent me.

We spotted her boyfriend as we headed south and, after using the next exit to accomplish a "180," were soon pulling up behind him. He'd gotten the other vehicle running and had a friend with a truck standing by. With that knowledge I felt OK to take my leave.

Billie had wanted to pay me for the supplies I'd picked up. I knew the money might be better spent on her own repairs though. In passing, she mentioned how she'd try to pay it forward. You know ... I think she will.

In Christ – Victory!

May God bless all Peacekeepers.

Tim "K9" Kunzweiler, President Emeritus.

Ordinary Miracles, by David Brock, Presiding Evangelist

Let the church be admonished that the times are portentous and demand faithful adherence to the faith and work of the church, that people may be blessed by and find peace in those religiously social reforms and relationships which have been divinely imposed as a great task of achievement.

—*Doctrine and Covenants 137: 6a, adapted*

We have sharing time during welcome and announcements each Sunday at my home congregation. In the moment for communicating good news, our responses are often meager at best! There is mostly an awkward silence. We hope somebody will just say something! The pastor usually moves on quickly after one of us comments about the win of our sports team or the sward received by our brother at work. It's a little newsy ... but not all that good.

Like the others, I find myself scrambling hurriedly through my week of memories to find something to say publicly that qualifies as worthy of the title "Good News." We stumble from that moment to prayer concerns, a time usually filled

with remembered needs of others. No awkward silences there!

I'm grateful that we're a caring congregation and that our prayer lists fill with names of loved ones in need. But, what can we do to fill our good news time to overflowing on a Sunday morning? What can I do to find and share the good news in my own life?

A close friend reminded me today that one of our favorite inspirational writers, Ronald Rolheiser, says we have lost the awe and reverence in daily living that can lead to an awareness of the Divine Presence in and through all creation. "The God of ordinary life will be found in the ordinary." (The Shattered Lantern, p. 184). Rolheiser discounts extraordinary religious experiences like miracles, healings, and visions as the most important ways to revive a sense of the Holy in our lives. He stresses again and again the need of living contemplatively, daily.

If we can pay more attention to our ordinary life, we can invite our members and friends to live more attentively and contemplatively. That awkward moment on a Sunday morning might turn into a high point of our week. Together we will reveal the miracles pulsing from the ordinary moments of our lives.

KID'S STUFF

by Mary Yocum

We just got back from a vacation in Florida – we went to Disney World, Universal Studios and the beach. Ian says he wants no more roller coasters. He doesn't like the up and down or the bumps. But he did like burying Mommy in the sand.



He likes to talk to their dog, Kylee – he tells her sit, lie down and so forth. The other day Beth noticed that Kylee was spinning in circles and biting her tail. Beth called her and discovered what the problem was – she had a Band-Aid on her backside. Kylee took another loop or two through the living room and then gave Beth a bunch of kisses. "Oh thank you!"

While we were gone Don started looking at some of the pictures he took. He showed them to

Ian and Dominic. Eventually he came to a picture of himself without his glasses. As he had with the other pictures, he asked Ian who that was. “That’s a monster,” Ian replied.

The minute we got back Ian rushed into his room, got his toy Dirt Devil vacuum and started sweeping the living room. When he was all done he said, “That’s better, I can play now.”

Ian started pushing on his Mom’s tummy – over and over again. He said, “I make mommy’s tummy go in.” I guess he had noticed that she put on a few pounds. As a child the doctors kept suggesting we put her on growth hormones, she was so short and skinny. Now that she’s in her mid thirties she’s trying to take some weight off. I understand 100%.

We took all three of them out to eat for lunch today. Ian knew exactly where he wanted to go. “Want green hulk castle – eat spicy chips.” To translate – one of the casinos has a copper roof, which of course turns green. Anything green belongs to the Green Hulk – thus green hulk castle. They used to make barbeque potato chips. He didn’t complain when they didn’t have them, I guess he’s starting to accept that the menu changes from time to time.

Beth was talking on the phone one day and Ian wanted her undivided attention – so he told her to put the phone down. Beth explained that she couldn’t because she was talking to her boss. Ian said, “Put your boss down.” He doesn’t like it when his favorite people have to work.

I found this little poem that Beth wrote February 26, 2008. As I recall she was talking to Dominic who would have been three then.

If my eyes were a Camera

If my eyes were a camera
Oh the things I would do
I’d take so many pictures
All pictures of you.

Quote Corner

- ❖ No person was ever honored for what he received. Honor has been the reward for what he gave. —Calvin Coolidge
- ❖ We cannot be at peace with others until we are at peace with ourselves. —Unknown
- ❖ There is never a day so dark, but God can make it bright; And to the soul that trusts God, there soon come songs in the night. —Unknown
- ❖ For the next 12 hours I will be exposed to the day’s demands. It is now that I must make a choice. Because of Calvary I’m free to choose. And so I choose. I choose love ... No occasion justifies hatred; no injustice warrants bitterness, I choose love. Today I will love God and what God loves. —Max Lucado
in *When God Whispers Your Name*

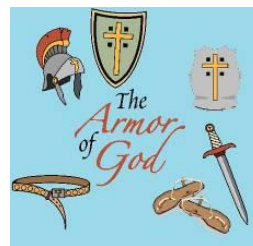
Recognizing Steve McCrosson's Years of Service

by Tim “K9” Kunzweiler, President Emeritus

In conjunction with the 2016 World Conference Peacekeepers was pleased to present Steve McCrosson a gift, based on Ephesians 6:10-18 (The Whole Armor of God). We



wanted to show our appreciation to Steve for his many years of service to the Association, and as Chaplain’s Endorser and Coordinator of Military



Ministry at Community of Christ Headquarters. Steve is now retired from his headquarters position but was seen serving World Conference needs on a daily basis! That’s service before self!

More Conference Photos



Peacekeeper meal attendees (L to R): Mim Cory, Tim Kunzweiler, Russ Godfrey, Jennifer Redfern, & Kathy Godfrey



Peacekeeper information table in the tent on the World Plaza at 2016 World Conference

Calling for your updates and stories: Peacekeepers needs you to keep us updated with your newsletter delivery information and we highly desire information appropriate for the newsletter (stories, testimonies, updates to share with other members).

Available in an E-mail and a “snail mail” edition. Active-duty military members who join the association can receive either edition for free. Non-active-duty “sustaining” members receive either edition with a paid Association membership; those dues are **\$10.00/yr. due in April (multi-year discounts available)**. Archive newsletters are also available on our Web site: <http://www.cofchristpeacekeepers.org/>

Officers:

President Emeritus: Tim “K9” Kunzweiler, Major, USAF (Ret) cofchristpeacekeepers.president@earthlink.net
Vice President: Curt Heaviland, Lt Colonel, U.S. Army (Ret) curtis_heaviland@yahoo.com
Secretary: Jennifer Redfern, CWO5, U.S. Army (Ret) redfernj@comcast.net
Treasurer: Russell Godfrey, E-4, U.S. Navy (Vet) russkathygodfrey@yahoo.com

Newsletter Support: Mary Yocum mary50fine@comcast.net

Community of Christ David Anderson danderson@cofchrist.org

**Chaplain Endorser
and Coordinator for
Military Ministry:**