

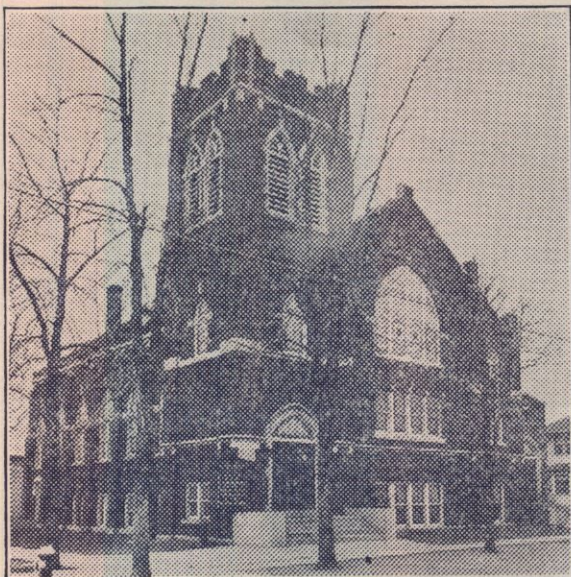
6-1944

Trinity Flash Newsletter, June 1944

Genevieve Mouw

Follow this and additional works at: <https://nwcommons.nwciowa.edu/mouwtrinityflash>

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Ralph Mouw Collection at NWCommons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Trinity Flash Newsletters by an authorized administrator of NWCommons. For more information, please contact ggrond@nwciowa.edu.



Trinity Flash

June 1944

A Servicemen's News Sheet

Sponsored By

The Trinity C. E. Society

Editorial

By our Pastor, Rev. R. J. Ongna

This special cover sheet is donated by one of the members of Trinity Church. We are grateful to him for this concrete evidence of interest in this effort.

While you Servicemen are far away from home we are constantly mindful of you in our prayers. We are earnestly trying to carry on the program of the Church in an acceptable manner. Although we miss your presence and fellowship in the work, we hope this News Sheet may be another means of carrying on our fellowship together even though we are separated by many miles.

The Church is a fortress of spiritual strength in the community. The Gospel message of Salvation is fervently proclaimed. Loved ones gather for worship in the House of Prayer. Here they band together for spiritual work. Talents given by God are dedicated to His service and used in various ways. In full dependence on the Holy Spirit we carry on the work, believing that the Church Christ builds on the foundation truth that He is the Son of God will withstand all the assaults of evil because He promised that "the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." Hence, in the midst of world conflict we go forward preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ, believing that it is still "the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth."

As a Church we want you to know that we are standing behind you, backing you up in prayer and supplication to Almighty God, trusting Him who promised "My grace is sufficient for thee." II Cor. 12:9.

June '44

NEWS ABOUT SERVICEMEN

Pfc. Harvey De Kock has been promoted to the rank of Corporal. Congratulations! Harvey had the pleasure of meeting Lt. William Vlieger of Maurice who is also stationed at Boca Raton Field in Florida.

Sgt. & Mrs. Dale Kraai and Cpl. & Mrs. Harvey De Kock recently spent some time in fellowship together in Florida.

Congratulations to Cpl. Albert Heemstra for having been promoted to his present rank. Cpl. Heemstra has been made Co. clerk of the 269th Replacement Co. Sometime ago while out in the jungle he and his buddies amused themselves by swinging from tree to tree on the thick vines --(just to get the feeling Tarzan had???)

The latest word from Ensign Lloyd Van Peurseem stated he was on the Pacific and had come through the Hawaiian Islands.

Pvt. Gerard Mulder is ferrying boats in Harbor Boats, San Francisco, California.

George Tolman F 1/c is on sea duty as an electrician on the Pacific. According to latest reports, he has not yet been in actual combat.

Lt. Ralph Mouw has been doing quite a bit of traveling through England. He writes that the scenery there is beautiful and that the people are to be admired for their cheerfulness after having undergone so many hardships. It is not yet known as to whether or not Lt. Mouw has taken part in the Invasion.

On June 10th the Mulder family received a telegram stating that their son, S/Sgt. James W. Mulder has been missing in action since May 28th. Just the day previous a letter from S/Sgt. Mulder stated that he had been on eleven missions over Europe. He is a tail gunner in a Flying Fortress and has been awarded the "Air Medal". We are awaiting further word and meanwhile remain in fervent prayer.

T/5 Robert Vis who has returned from Italy has been home on a furlough and is now stationed in Clinton, Iowa. He has seen rough and rugged service in the Italian campaign and considers it a miracle that he is alive.

Sgt. Robert Malisch has been transferred from a hospital in East to the Percy Jones hospital in Battle Creek, Michigan. He is still confined to bed and will get his artificial leg in about five weeks. He is feeling fine although having lost much weight.

Pvt. Raymond Wierda has finished his basic training.

Cpl. Philip Mouw is taking pre-flight training.

S 2/c Alfred Aalberts is studying radar in San Diego, Calif.

S 2/c Merlyn Kraai is stationed in Farragut, Idaho and is taking an eight weeks course in Hospital Work.

Russel Kraai expects to be inducted into the army next week.

S 2/c Frank Heemstra stationed at Fishers Island(USNTS) Harbor Defense is attending Sonars School.

"Morale Builders"

(Condensed from an article by Donald H. Hardcastle)

One year of service in the United States Army has convinced me that the Christian soldier is the real morale builder in his outfit. No man has more to give to his comrade than the Christian and the help he renders is real and tangible.

A Christian faces the future with confidence in God. A true follower of the master is unselfish. The Christian is a friendly fellow who by his good cheer and sense of humor radiates a spirit of comradeship and unity that is noticeable by officers and enlisted men alike:

One of my buddies was in an Army camp far away from home with no Christian men in his outfit. He did not sit and bemoan his fate but he let his light shine and began to work and pray for others. Soon he had several men interested in reading good literature and studying the Bible with him. The Major realized the great contribution the boy was making to the morale of his soldiers, highly commended him for his fine spirit.

It is really a splendid idea--this giving a helping hand to others. True Christians are indeed the best morale builders in the Army or on the home front.

June '44

Pfc. Roy Lubbers is on a ship leaving the Fiji Islands with his destination unknown.

S/Sgt. Willard Lubbers in the Aleutians is enduring the harsh winds. It is reported that on these islands the tents have been replaced by huts staked down on the rocks.

Sgt. Mike Westra is in the supply depot in Palermo, Sicily.

CHURCH NEWS

D-Day Union Prayer Services in Orange City:

The day that the world has long awaited arrived without fanfare or show. Instead this day was observed with solemnity and Prayer. The First Reformed Church and the First Christian Reformed Church were both filled to capacity for these Union Prayer Services. One speaker said, "Never has an army gone forth backed by so much prayer". We realize that it is not enough to spend one day in thought and prayer for our gallant men. We need to heed the Scriptural exhortation which says, "Pray without ceasing".

On June third, Mariann Kraai and Robert Utech (U.S. Army), were married at Manitow Springs, Colorado. Congratulations! Robert goes to Surgical Tech. School in Fitzsimons General Hospital, Denver, Colorado.

Trinity observed Children's Day on Sunday, June 11 by a special sermon and with the children of the Primary Dept. of the S.S. furnishing the special music.

Larry Ray, son of Lt. and Mrs. Lester Foreman, received the sacrament of Baptism while visiting here with his parents. The Foremans are now stationed at Selman Field, Monroe, Louisiana.

Beverly Jane Aalberts, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Gerrit Aalberts was baptized by her uncle, Rev. Gradus Aalberts, a twin brother of the father.

Our Pastor and wife presented their son, Philip Reuben in Holy Baptism on June the fourth. Philip is the first baby born in Trinity parsonage. The whole congregation welcomes him.

On Junly 15th Trinity Church will be 25 years old. Trinity was organized on July 15, 1919. We are deeply grateful to God for these 25 years of Divine blessing. The Church building was erected in the midst of high prices. For years there was a struggle to get rid of the debt. The final debt drive was undertaken this past winter and we are happy to report that now the complete debt is wiped out. The Consistory is planning for a humble but grateful celebration of this and the 25th anniversary of Trinity.

Are you Servicemen getting "The Church Herald" regularly? We hope you are getting our Church paper weekly. We know that some of our Servicemen are getting theirs regularly but we are wondering whether that is the case for all. We realize that it is a tremendous task for the publishers to keep up with the thousands of changing addresses with their own staffs undermanned. If you are not receiving it please drop a card to Rev. Ongna immediately so that proper arrangements may be made.

A Poem

(Contributed by a Serviceman's Wife)

Found on the body of an American Soldier Killed
in action near a shell hole in Italy.

Lord God I have never spoken to you
But now I want to say-how do you do
You see God they told me you didn't exist
And like a fool I believed all this;
Last night from a shell hole I saw your sky,
I figured right then they had told me a lie,
Had I took time to see the things you made,
I'd have known they weren't calling a spade a spade,
I wonder God if you would shake my hand,
Sometimes I feel that you will understand,
Funny I had to come to this hellish place,
Before I had time to see your wonderful face,
Well I guess there is not much more to be said,
But I'm sure glad God, that I met you today;
I guess the zero hour will soon be here,
But I am not afraid since you are near,
The signal, well God I will have to go,
I like you a lot, I want you to know,
Looks now this will be a horrible fight,
Who knows I may come to your house tonight
Though I wasn't friendly to you before,
I wonder God if you will wait at your door,
Look now, I'm crying, me shedding tears;
I wish I had known you these many years,
Well, I have to go now, God, Goodby,
It's strange, since I met you I am not afraid to die.