

8-1945

## Trinity Flash Newsletter, August 1945

Genevieve Mouw

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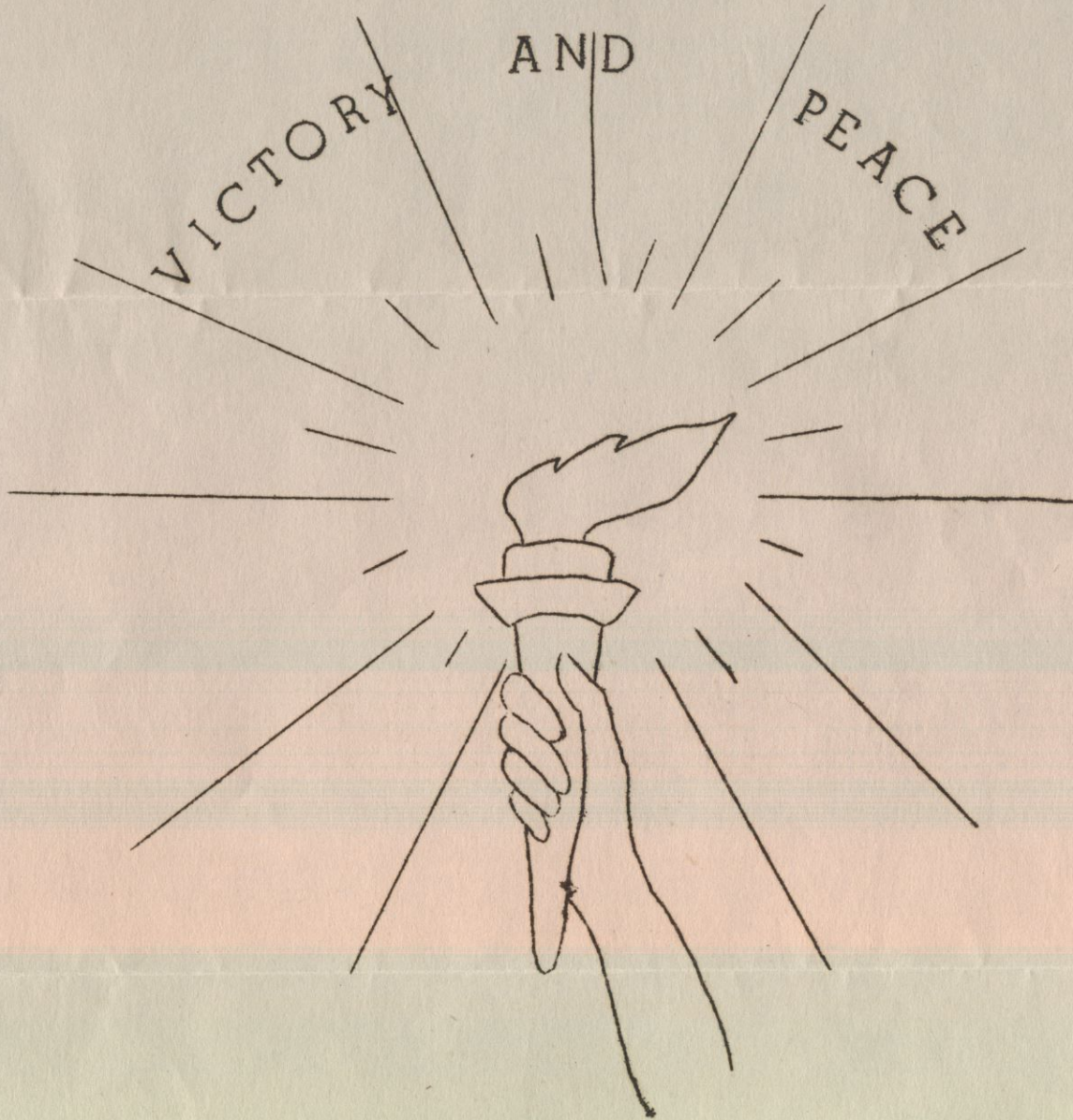
# TRINITY FLASH for

AUGUST

AND

VICTORY

PEACE



TO YOU FROM FAILING HANDS  
WE THROW THE TORCH -  
BE YOURS TO HOLD IT HIGH;  
IF YE BREAK FAITH  
WITH US WHO DIE,  
WE SHALL NOT SLEEP.

Aug. 45

SERVICEMEN'S NEWS

Pvt. Paul E. Muyskens, 37775098  
 Co. A 108th Inf. APO 40  
 % Postmaster  
 San Francisco, California

Paul landed on Leyte several weeks ago staying there only a short time. He has now left there for another Island in the Phillipines, which is called Panay Island.

Cpl. Harvey De Kock  
 604th Bomb Squadron  
 601st Bomb Group  
 Sioux Falls, S.D.

Harvey returned to the good old U.S.A. some time in July. After spending a 30 day furlough in Orange City, he reported to Camp Grant, Illinois. From there he was transferred to the Sioux Falls air base, where he is now awaiting redeployment.

Calvin Groen S 1/c (A.O.M.)  
 Box 9, F.I.S., USNAS  
 Jacksonville, Florida

Cal is working on another type of plane, called a "Hell Diver". He finds the work very interesting, but the heat is a very uninteresting subject.

Lt. J.L. Foreman, 0803176  
 T - 3 - C, Gowen Field,  
 Boise, Idaho

Les is now stationed at Gowen Field, training in B-24s with his crew. A few weeks ago Grandma Foreman took their little son Larry over to Boise to live with his parents.

PFC. Gerard Mulder  
 1574 Engr. Hvy. Shop Co.  
 APO 350 % Postmaster  
 New York, New York

Gerard arrived in Europe shortly before V-E day. While there he saw parts of Holland, France, and Germany. Then he was taken to Marseilles, France from where he was sent directly to the Pacific. He is still on the way and has not been heard from for several weeks.

Capt. Ralph J. Mouw, 01171294  
 Hq. 283 F.A. Bn.  
 APO 772 % Postmaster, New York, N.Y.

Ralph is at present working in Marsaille. Although he is to receive a discharge through the point system he does not expect to be home for a few months.

Cpl. Ivan Muilenburg, 37478605  
549th AAA (Truck Co.) Hq. Btry.  
APO 228 % Postmaster  
New York, N. Y.

Ivan is in Sieleska, Holland driving a truck with supplies from the warehouse to the dock.

S/Sgt. W. Dale Kraai, 37427965  
1108th AAF Base Unit O.R.B.D. A.T.C.  
APO 857 % Postmaster  
Miami, Florida

Dale is in South America. He is in the Supply and Service Department. But as to the type of work he is doing; it is still a military secret.

Merlyn W. Kraai, Ph. M. 3/c  
U.S.S. Rockwell APO 230  
% Fleet Post Office  
San Francisco, California

Mert arrived in the states about two weeks ago, the fact being that his ship needed repairs. Being unable to get a leave, his wife left to be with him for the short time he would be there. A few weeks ago Mert and Gerald Kraai met somewhere in the Pacific and had a chance to visit for two hours.

Sgt. Mike Westra, 37126099  
184 Q.M.D. Co. APO 758  
% Postmaster  
New York, New York

Mike is in Mennheim, Germany. He really hasn't much to do, the biggest job is the waiting for when he will come home. He hopes to be back in the states before the first of the year. Then his next hopes are to come back to civilian life.

S/Sgt. Willard Lubbers, 37078505  
Co. A 813th Eng. Avn. Btn.  
APO 901 % Postmaster  
San Francisco, California

Willard has moved again recently and his location is still unknown. He writes that it is hot there and he is kept very busy. The boys on the island think a great deal of their chaplain and it is through him that they get any news from the outside world.

John A. Oldenkamp, G.M. 3/c  
Adv. Gun School Class 14-46  
U. S. Naval Repair Base  
San Diego, 36, California.

John repairs and inspects all sizes of Guns and Pistols up to 16th, also Rockets and Raydar control and Electric Hydralic Brakes.

Aug '45

730 - 90 37 Frank W. Heemstra SOM 3/c  
Draft No. 11359 from Shoemaker  
% Fleet Post Office  
San Francisco, California

Frank has not been heard from, since he left the U.S.A. His destination was not known but he was being sent out as a replacement operator and maintenance man for some equipment known as the "Sangamo Attack Teacher."

Raymond J. Heemstra S 1/c  
Bks D. Lower East Class 9 B  
N. T. Sch. Dearborn, Michigan

Raymond expects to complete his course in primary radio, the last of this month (August), after which he will be assigned to some other station. Except for the fact that he had the "Mumps" he has had an exceptionally pleasant place at Dearborn, since he could spend nearly every week end at the home of his Uncle in Detroit, attending the Nardin Park Ref. church each Sunday. Also, Aunt Margaret laundered his "whites" each week. You know what that means to a sailor.

Ens. Lloyd M. Van Peurse  
U.S.S. L.S.T. #213  
% Fleet Post Office  
San Francisco, California

Lloyd has been Supply Officer the past year but, as they started out (after his furlough) he became Ship's Navigator and C.I.C. Officer, and will no longer do supply work.

To him, it seems that he has the most interesting job on the ship. While there is a lot to learn on the new job, he likes it very much.

When not taking sun and star sights, he has been studying up on the new equipment and teaching the men how to use it.

Pvt. John R. Broolsma, 37787383  
Co. B. 1st Bn., 144 Inf. Regt.  
I. A. R. T. C.  
Camp Rucker, Alabama

Jack finished his basic training at Camp Hood, Texas. On the 30th of July he had to report at Camp Rucker where he is taking jungle training.

Pfc. John G. Heemstra, 37772552  
8th Med. Treat. Co., Convalescent Hosp.  
Camp Pickett, Va.

John is in the Orthopedic Section of the Convalescent Hospital, and is still reconditioning overseas men.

Aug 45

Pfc. Roy Lubbers, 17042968  
Horn Island, Installation C.W.S.  
Pascagoula, Mississippi

Roy had a week end pass recently which he spent at Pensacola, Florida.

Alfred Aalberts, Rdm. 3/c  
Cecil A.P.A. 96 Div. C. I. C.  
% Fleet Post Office  
San Francisco, California

Alfred Aalberts has been moving about near the Philippine Islands for the past month or more as preparations were made for the Invasion of China or Japan. He said that he was beginning to feel as well acquainted in the waters there as he was with the streets and alleys in Orange City when delivering groceries for Mr. Giesen. He has had opportunity to sing in a Quartette at the Chapel Services almost every Sunday. They have an excellent chaplain on his ship.

Lt. Lawrence Van Wyk, 02006226  
Co. B 232nd Inf.  
APO 411 % Postmaster  
New York, N.Y.

Lawrence writes from Salsburg, Austria that he has been transferred to a service co. and is on the Regimental staff and is now pushing correspondence courses and picking out worthy G.I.'s to go to Civilian Universities and Army study centers. He has sent several to different countries, of which some went to England, a few more to the University at Florence, Italy. Then too he is on a board to pick men to take up the study of theology and also is Regimental Staff mess officer, handles PX rations and runs library, and supervises the orientation program.

Merril S. Noordhoff has been at home from the Great Lakes enjoying a furlough after ten weeks of boot training. He says time never went so fast as it did there and had a nice company to work with and also a very nice commanding officer. Their company won honors for being the best drilled company and also earned honors in athletics and cleanliness and the St. Louis Post Dispatch came over to take pictures of their company.

William H. Oldenkamp, A.M. 3/c  
A & R Bldg. 676 Dept. 1109S  
Navy Air Station, Pensicola, Florida

William is an Aviation Metal Smith and repairs planes for Navy students.

(As you have noticed all our servicemens news is not here, but upon contacting the various parents we have been told that their work has remained practically the same as last months.)

Aug. '45

## THE PASTOR'S REPORT ON V-J SERVICES

On the evening of August 14th crowds of thankful people came to the Churches in Orange City for a Victory Prayer Meeting. Realizing that no one building would be large enough to accommodate the crowd the Churches agreed not to have this as a union service but each Church to have a service at 8 o'clock. A wonderful crowd of thankful and prayerful people gathered in Trinity Church that night to express thanksgiving to God for the Victory.

The service included hymns, Bible readings, special music, a season of prayer, an offering for the Emergency Fund, a message by the Pastor, brief talks by members of the congregation and visiting friends. Servicemen and ex-servicemen who were home at the time were asked to stand at attention during the singing of the National Anthem. They were there to represent the many Trinity servicemen who could not be there. The prayerful meeting closed with the singing of the last stanza of "America".

The message for the evening was based on Psalm 46. (We suggest you read this Psalm before going any further.) We emphasized the following thoughts.

All during the War a host of Christian Servicemen and a multitude of loved ones back home have leaned upon the promises of God for comfort. Many of us have found the first two verses of Psalm 46 a great help in this time of stress.

But on the evening of Victory we turn especially to the ninth and tenth verses of that same Psalm. In those two verses we recognize four truths worthy of our meditation.

First, God makes war to cease. This is God's universe. He made it and he exercises moral authority over it. When the nations of the world follow their own evil devices and degenerate into selfish aggression and brutality then He employs other nations to take up the sword and exercise moral authority. This is the plain conception of God's use of the sword as indicated in the thirteenth chapter of Romans. When sufficient punishment has been given and the justice of God is satisfied He calls a halt to the world struggle. Therefore, at the close of this struggle we pause to give God thanks that He has caused war to cease.

The second thought that appears in the ninth verse is that God makes an end to the weapons of aggression. In the creation of this universe God has set the bounds of the continents and the seas. This is beautifully stated in Job 38:11 "Hitherto shalt thou come, but no further; and here shall thy proud waves be stayed". Thus also with the weapons of aggression. He could allow the aggressor nations to go only so far but no further. Their day of purposeful destruction for selfish ends had come to an end. From that day forward these weapons became subject to certain doom. But, we believe likewise His wise authority ruled over the weapons of judgment of the allied nations. He gave wisdom to make great weapons of judgment. We must take time to

thank God that He in His wisdom and mercy has ordered that the atomic bomb should be discovered and brought to effective completion by the United States. We shudder to think of what it might have meant if our enemies had produced this weapon and used it in their ruthless aggression. We give hearty and humble thanks that God has allowed us to produce this instrument. How plain it is that God maketh an end to the use of this weapon too. We had just begun to use it, hoping it would help largely to hasten the end of the war and then the call for surrender came. We were thus allowed to use it just so far and no further. As we read the ninth verse again we remember God's mercy.

In the tenth verse we are called to meditation and prayer. We already have gratefully acknowledged that God is ruler over all. We are ready to sit in perfect silence as we meditate on the cost of this war. Figures stagger our imagination. Just yesterday these figures appeared in print, that it cost us over three hundred billion dollars; that there were over one million casualties; that over two hundred and fifty thousand were killed; that nearly seven thousand of these came from Iowa. We are so mindful of the thought that according to government notices one of Trinity also gave his life. He was the first to leave for the service and on this night as we gather to give thanks for Victory we also pray for sustaining comfort for that family in anxiety and grief. One thought gives us great courage as we read, "Be still and know that I am God". God is still on the throne. Since He is God we know that right will always come out on top. Temporarily it may seem that injustice is running rampant but time always reveals that "The mills of God grind slowly, but they grind exceedingly fine."

The last thought expressed in the tenth verse of this Psalm is that God would be recognized and honored in this world. This calls us to high endeavor. If God is to be exalted among the heathen it is up to Christians to tell them about the Gospel. If our world is ever to be free it must rest upon the spiritual foundations of true freedom. In America we need to strengthen those spiritual foundations and make our Nation truly worthy to be the leader of the nations of the world. Then we need to extend those ideals to the world by giving the world the Gospel of Christ. Victory calls us to the task of proclaiming the only Gospel of Salvation.

Thus we meditated on the evening of Victory. During the season for remarks by the audience several expressed very fitting thoughts for the evening. Men and women led us in prayer as we gave thanks to God and paid tribute to those who sacrificed so much for so many.

On Wednesday evening we had a Community V-J Service in the Town Hall. The Band played, the ministers were there for the Invocation and prayer, the American Legion presented the colors with the Servicemen and Ex-Servicemen who could be there. Several numbers of special music were rendered. Popular war songs were featured. The speaker for the occasion was our own representative, Congressman Charles Hoeven.



At the call of our President Harry Truman we celebrated Sunday as a National Day of Prayer. Rev. Spencer De Jong Preached in the morning service and Rev. Ongna in the evening. Rev. Charles Wissink led in prayer in the evening service.

Thus endeth the story of the home front services celebrating the day of Victory. Now we await the moment when the Japanese will sign on the dotted line and the formal arrangements of peace will be going forward.

No amount of words can make up for the losses that have been sustained by many. Nor can words ever describe the relief and joy visible on the faces of loved ones at home who are faced with the long awaited realization that the war has ceased.

We now await your arrival home in due season and hope that we will have the opportunity to work together in Trinity Church in a world that shall be at peace.

\* \* \* \* \*

In most of our church papers we have told you something of the boys, who have left us to fight and work for Uncle Sam. We know they are doing marvelous work, because they've proved it to us, by bringing peace on earth. Something which all of us have prayed for so earnestly. Working along with our boys are the women who form the nurses Corps. Trinity has two Cadet Nurses from her church, namely, Audrey Van Roekel who is studying at the University of Iowa at Iowa City, and Alene Mulder studying at Denver General Hospital at Denver, Colorado.

The young people of Trinity had a good time Tuesday evening in the form of a C.E. social. The entertainment for the evening was supposed to be a hay ride, but because of rain the hay ride was postponed to a later date. Instead the local skating rink was rented. After a grand time skating, plus working up an appetite, a lunch was served in the church basement.

Thus far we have five discharged men in our church. No doubt by the end of this year we'll have many more. Our five world war II veterans are--Bob Malisch, Ray Wierda, Ed De Haas, Bob Vis and Ken Beyer. Up to this time some are already engaged in various work, but we will withhold the details until our next issue, when we hope to be able to have more added to our list.

\* \* \* \* \*

LET'S LAFF

The officer of the day stopped a mess orderly as he was carrying a soup kettle out of the kitchen.  
"Here, you," he snapped, "give me a taste of that!"  
Obediently he was handed a ladle, and he taste it.  
"Great scott! do you call that stuff soup?" he roared.  
"No, sir," responded the orderly meekly. "That's dish water".

At the call of our President Harry Truman we celebrated Sunday as a National Day of Prayer. Rev. Eugene De Jong presided in the morning services and Rev. Onga in the evening.

On the evening of August 3, Trinity congregation and friends were invited to a reception given by Mr. & Mrs. Hubert Muilenburg honoring their son and his bride, Captain and Mrs. Elwin Muilenburg. The church parlors were beautifully decorated with flowers and candles. While Harriet Muyskens played a few selections of nuptial music, Elky and Rose received the congratulations and best wishes of many friends. Rev. Hubert Muilenburg opened the short program with scripture and prayer. "Bless This House" was beautifully sung by Everlye. Rev. Onga gave a short talk in which he proffered the newly weds some friendly counsel. The humorous note of the program was a musical reading given by Lois Muyskens entitled "Foolish Questions". Nolan Dick (Bub) thrilled his audience with two piano solos--"Moonlight Sonata" by Beethoven and "Minuet" by Paderewski. The program was concluded with Wilma Joan Van Wyk and Helen Beyer singing two duets--"Somewhere a Voice Is Calling" and "Luxembourg Gardens." The remainder of the evening was spent socially. Elky and Rose received many lovely gifts. All of Trinity wishes them happiness and God's blessing in the life they will spend together.

The young people of Trinity had a good time Tuesday evening in the form of a D.R. social. The entertainment for the evening was supposed to be a hay ride, but because of rain the hay ride was postponed to a later date. Instead the local skating rink was rented. After a grand time skating, pizza was served and a picnic was served in the church basement.

Then for we have five distinguished men in our church. Doubt by the end of this year we'll have many more. Our five world war II veterans are--Bob Latham, Ray Woods, Ed De Hart, Bob and Van Belfry. In the past some are already deceased. Various names, but we will include the details until you have time. We will be glad to have more added to our list.

LET'S LAFF

The officer of the day, scored a great victory as he was carrying a soup kettle out of the kitchen. "Here, you," he snapped, "give me a taste of that!" "Obviously he was handed a taste of that," he laughed. "Great Scott! do you call that stuff soup?" he asked. "No, in," responded the orderly meekly. "That's what water."