The Rest of the Story: PVT Ryan

This message was preached 28 May 2017 from the historic pulpit of the Fort Snelling Memorial Chapel as "The Rest of the Story: PVT Ryan" ... based on St. John 15:9-17. This sermon, along with over 500+ other titles, is available on DVDs.

How many of you have seen the Steven Spielberg movie, Saving Private Ryan? This Hollywood movie, unlike many other war films, struck a realist note with many war veterans. The first 30-minutes re-enact the storming of Omaha Beach during the D-Day landings. Men are disemboweled, limbs severed, and the beach washes red with such realism that war veterans disturbed by watching the film had their own hotline to call for trauma counseling. Spielberg commented, "Everything you see might be over the top in graphic honesty, but I still pull back from what I was told really happened."

The D-Day assault on the coast of Nazi-held France, called Operation Overlord, has been called "the most difficult and complicated operation ever to take place" in military history (according to Winston Churchill).

A part of the magic of the film was that Spielberg took many specific historical incidents of World War II from the books of the historian, Stephen Ambrose [especially D-Day, June 6, 1944, and Band of Brothers]. The film wove together many isolated incidents in a manner that told an engrossing story. As Captain John Miller (played by Tom Hanks) and his squad of 8-soldiers went on their mission to find Pvt. Ryan (played by Matt Damon), they demonstrated many actual events as reported in Ambrose's books. Critics have hailed the film as possibly the greatest Second World War film ever.

I would suspect many of my fellow veterans were troubled in seeing this squad put their lives at risk for the sake of finding one soldier. It would be fair to ask - Why? The answer (in part) can be traced back to the Battle of Guadalcanal in 1942. The USS Juneau was torpedoed by the Japanese. On board were five Sullivan brothers ... who had enlisted together and wanted to serve together. Tragically, they perished together. [Imagine Mrs. Sullivan receiving that notification.] Well after that loss, the War Department developed the sole survivor policy ... which brings us back to the Saving Private Ryan movie.

In real life, 'Private Ryan' was Sergeant Frederick 'Fritz' Niland, of the 101st Airborne - from Tonawanda, NY (near Niagara Falls and close to the US -Canada border). Stephen Ambrose tells the story in his book, Band of Brothers: On the same day in June 1944, Mrs. Augusta 'Gussie' Niland received three Western Union telegrams:

(1) Sergeant Edward Niland, 31, Army Air Corps radio operator and gunner, was the first to be drafted. After him, his brothers and cousin Joe enlisted. They had gone to college together in the 1930's (Canisius College) and now served together. Edward was reported missing in Japanese-occupied Burma and presumed dead.

(2) Lieutenant Preston Niland, 29, 4th Infantry Division. He had been one of the first to go ashore at 6 a.m. at Utah beach. By the next day he and his men had broken through to the top of the sea wall and had destroyed a dozen of the German machine-gun nests. They hoped the worst was over. By that night, a headcount revealed two men missing. Preston went to search for them and was killed by a shot from a German sniper.

(3) Sergeant Robert Niland, 25, 82d Airborne Division, parachuted into France as part of the D-Day landings and was pinned down

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President's Corner

I am writing this article during Holy Week. We are looking forward to Good Friday which gives mankind hope. Resurrection Sunday, Easter, is just a few days away giving us another opportunity to honor, praise and glorify the resurrected Christ.

Holy Trinity Sunday is May 27, 2018, one week after Pentecost when the Holy Spirit descended on Christ’s disciples. Trinity Sunday gives us pause to recall all that was done by our Lord to save humanity for our sins. We celebrate Holy Trinity that God consists of three distinct persons — The Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

We praise the Triune God in our service each Sunday when we sing the Gloria Patri and also on those Sundays when we repeat the statement of faith — The Apostles Creed.

Let us all look forward to Trinity Sunday with a renewed focus and a continued opportunity to honor, praise and glorify the Triune God.

Tony Stocker
Foundation President
(952) 831-6160
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New Associate — Chaplain Winn

The Board of Directors of the Fort Snelling Memorial Chapel Foundation takes great delight in announcing the call of Rev. Philip ‘Buddy’ A. Winn as our new Associate Chaplain effective April 1st 2018. Chaplain (LTC) Winn enlisted in the MN Army National Guard as a Forward Observer in 1988. He served on active duty in Korea with the 2nd Inf Div as a Driver and Forward Observer followed by an assignment in the 10th Mnt Div at Ft Drum, NY, as Fire Support Sergeant, followed by 4-years as a Readiness, Training, and Supply NCO in various MNARNG units. In 2001, he answered the call to ministry and entered seminary while continuing to serve as a traditional Guardsman. He was accessioned into the U.S. Army Chaplain Corps in Nov 2006 and was mobilized in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2007. Chaplain Winn later deployed to Kuwait in 2011-2012. In 2013, he was selected as the FT Support Chaplain for the MNARNG and currently serves as the Command Chaplain for the 34th Inf Div. Chaplain Winn earned a Bachelor of Arts from Concordia University, St Paul, MN, and Master of Arts in Theological Studies from Bethel Seminary in St Paul, MN. Buddy resides in Osseo, MN with his wife of 18-years, the former Colette Fearing. They have 3-children and 2-grandchildren.

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The Board welcomes input from members. If you have an idea or suggestion, please feel welcome to contact the appropriate Board person.

Scheduled Board Meetings in 2018:

Saturdays ... @ Foundation Office
2 June (9:00 a.m.)
8 September (9:00 a.m.)
17 November (9:00 a.m.)
Sunday ... @ the Chapel Sanctuary
16 December (1:00 p.m.)

If you would like a copy of the 2017 Annual Report, please secure one in the Fellowship Hall or call the Foundation Office at (952) 888-1525 and leave your name/mailing address that we may send you a copy of this impressive report.
with enemy fire outside the town, St. Mere Eglise. He fought until his ammunition was exhausted. He had been missing since D-Day and was presumed dead. In fact, he was killed while trying to carry a wounded soldier to safety.

'Gussie' Niland had only one son left – her youngest, 23-year old 'Fritz.' He, too, had taken part in the D-Day invasion. A commando with the 101st Airborne Division, he had parachuted deep behind enemy lines on the 6th of June. Her nephew later recalled that she prayed all night that 'Fritz' would be spared.

The Niland's were the first test of the War Department's new sole survivor policy. President Roosevelt had sworn that if any family lost more than 2-sons, their remaining boys would be taken to safety. The plan was to pluck 'Fritz' Niland from the Normandy battlefield and bring him home; and Saving Private Ryan tells the story of the rescue.

So, again, we ask why a squad was needed to find one soldier. In the film, the soldiers in the squad discuss this from time to time. Listen: The squad in the film is a creation of film maker Spielberg, representing the melting pot of US society, and giving him an opportunity to weave together many actual stories that were a part of the D-Day invasion.

The fact is: Only one person was sent on this mission – a chaplain! Chaplain (CPT) Francis Sampson – he was the Regimental Chaplain of the 501st Parachute Regiment, 101st Airborne Division. Chaplain Sampson, a Roman Catholic priest from Iowa, entered the Army to serve as a chaplain at the beginning of WW II. He said that he volunteered for an airborne assignment as a paratroop chaplain without understanding that this meant that he would have to jump from an airplane!

The 101st Airborne’s mission was to take the bridge and road at St. Come-du-Mont, near the strategic town of Carentan. For 5-days, 'Fritz' Niland and his comrades fought their way through hostile territory, inflicting heavy losses on German opposition. French Resistance fighters helped them reach Carentan. It was there that Chaplain Sampson found Sergeant Niland.

Chaplain Sampson told the youngest Niland that his brother Edward was presumed dead in Burma and that Robert had fallen on the battlefield nearby. He took him to a tent serving as a morgue to identify his brother Robert. While there, 'Fritz' also recognized the body of his brother Preston who had not yet been reported as dead.

Like the film, 'Fritz' at first refused to return to America. He said, "Tell my mother that I am staying with the only brothers I have left." However, the War Department was adamant. His cousin later recounted that 'Fritz' never got over his feelings of guilt that he had survived. He returned to become a military policeman in Tonawanda.

In March 1945 'Gussie' Niland received one more telegram – astonishingly 'Fritz' was not the only Niland brother to survive. It was discovered that the first brother, Edward, survived as a POW and he also returned home. After the war, 'Fritz' was trained as a dentist, married and raised a family. He lived until 1988.

Chaplain Sampson went on to have an illustrious career in the Army and the Chaplain Corps. Several books tell of his exploits and his excellent reputation. While his soldiers looked at Chaplain Sampson as a cool and heroic figure, he remembered that in those days of combat that began with D-Day, "no pair of knees shook more than my own, nor any heart ever beat faster in time of danger."

Sometimes it takes a squad of infantry to accomplish a mission. Other times it takes one unit ministry team – a chaplain and a chaplain assistant! [Pardon me, I couldn't resist!]

Chaplain Sampson moved around the battlefield in a captured German motorcycle that his soldiers gave him.

During the D-Day assault, Chaplain Sampson was at the regimental aid station in a farmhouse which also housed the unit's command post. When the fighting became intense, the headquarters moved away to a safer location, but the Chaplain and the medics stayed with the wounded. They were taken as POWs by the Waffen SS, threatened with being shot, interrogated, released back to the aid station, and were liberated by American troops. Chaplain Sampson was later awarded the Distinguished Service Cross, the nation's second highest American military award, for his actions during these days. He was again taken prisoner during the Battle of the Bulge in 1944, imprisoned in Stalag II A, near Berlin, and stayed in the enlisted men's prison at his own request. He and the others were liberated in April 1945 by Russian tanks after 4-months of winter imprisonment. His military career included action in Korea. He later served as the

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(Continued ... from page three)

12th Army Chief of Chaplains from 1967-71. He retired as a Major General. He died in 1996 at the age of 83. As a part of his philosophy, he said this in a speech in 1971:

"In civilian life many people misunderstand the military mission ... I have been asked how I can wear the uniform which symbolizes war and also wear the cross upon it symbolizing peace ... It is very easy for me to [say] that, by law and statute, the mission of the military of the United States is, first, to preserve peace. Second, to provide for the security of our country, its borders and internal security. And third, to implement national policy as it pertains to peace treaties with friendly nations which of themselves cannot repel the aggression of aversive neighbors. I see nothing in this mission that does not appeal to the highest ideals of any man - regardless of his religion. Indeed, it was Cardinal O'Neal, the great Churchman, who once said if he had not been a priest, he most certainly would have had to be a soldier, because they are both called to the identical things - that is - the preservation of peace, the establishment of justice when it has been lost, and the providing of security with protection for the weak and the innocent."

In WW II, from D-Day to VE Day, there were 16,112,566 U.S. service members: 291,557 died in battle, another 670,846 were wounded. The 11-white crosses outlining the parking lot will tell you the casualties for each of our nation's wars.

For this congregation in this Chapel "where the veteran is remembered," let us resolve this Memorial Day weekend to keep the memories of America's war dead alive, and the heritage of freedom that they ensured for us. And let us also resolve to do our individual and collective parts to be prepared for our own places in the long 'parade' of patriots that has gone before us!

Serving God and Country,
Rev. Dr. Kenneth L. Beale, Jr.
Senior Chaplain
(612) 747-1059
E-mail: KenBeale56A@msn.com

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**Social Media**

If you are under the weather or out of town, you can still attend worship services at this site

http://new.livestream.com/accounts/3709164. A link to this address can be found on the Chapel website www.fortsnellingmcf.org where you can download a pdf of the weekly worship bulletin and scripture insert. Just click on that link and you will be able to watch live or revisit previous services from the archive. Offerings can be achieved by clicking on the more link at the top of the page bringing you to a link Donate to Chapel Foundation.

Remember: We love to have you in-person at our services, but in the event that is not possible please join us via Livestream.

You may also 'Like' the Fort Snelling Memorial Chapel Foundation on Facebook to view news of upcoming events.

If you have an e-mail address and are not currently receiving the mid-week 'Chapel Chatter' providing you with what you need to know about the coming Sunday at the Chapel, please send an e-mail to the Chapel Foundation [info@fortsnellingmcf.org] and request to be added to this Constant Contact distro list.

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**Special Patriotic/ Veterans Events...**

Sun, 27 May 18 — **Memorial Day Remembrance** — honoring the memory of those armed forces service members who gave the ultimate sacrifice.

Sun, 1 July 18 — **Independence Day** — celebrating the 242nd birthday of our nation ... culminating in an ice cream social.

Sun, 9 Sept 18 — **9/11 Remembrance** — remembering the terrorist attack of 2001.

Sun, 16 Sept 18 — **POW/MIA Remembrance** — remembering those who are prisoners of war and those missing in action.

Sun, 11 Nov 18 — **Veterans Day Remembrance** — recognizing U.S. veterans of all branches of the armed forces.

Sun, 2 Dec 18 — **Pearl Harbor Remembrance** — recognizing survivors ... with the tolling of the ship bell for those who have passed away since last year.

Mark your calendar with these dates ... and join us at 11:00 a.m.

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— Steve Zorn
Publicity Committee Chair
Chapel Open House

Discussions regarding this year’s Memorial Day Open House are a sure sign of the arrival of spring. Monday, May 28, 2018 between the hours of 11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. the Fort Snelling Memorial Chapel Foundation will be hosting an Open House at the Chapel. This annual event has brought many first time visitors to view, tour and be inspired by this beautiful house of prayer.

The first Chaplain Frank Rideout stated: “Primarily the Chapel will be a house of worship, but it will be much more — it is a unique and distinctive Minnesota memorial, a splendid monument to the patriotism, the moral earnestness and the convictions of the people of this state. It will be a perpetual reminder of their appreciation of those who made the supreme sacrifice in all our great wars. It will provide a shrine where the friends of those who have died for America may come, as on a holy pilgrimage, and offer up their thanks to Almighty God for the precious gift of friends who have been so fondly loved, and are now lost awhile.”

That message personifies the true meaning of Memorial Day with the Fort Snelling Memorial Chapel ... a wonderful place to honor those who gave their full measure.

— Steve Zorn, Publicity Committee Chair

Note: Sunday, June 10, 2018 marks the 90th Anniversary of the Chapel's dedication in 1928.

“The Value of Time”

To realize the value of a sister or brother - ask someone who doesn't have one.

To realize the value of ten years - ask a newly divorced couple.

To realize the value of four years - ask a graduate.

To realize the value of one year - ask a student who failed a final exam.

To realize the value of nine months - ask a mother who gave birth to a stillborn baby.

To realize the value of one month - ask a mother who has given birth to a premature baby.

To realize the value of one week - ask an editor of a weekly newspaper.

To realize the value of one minute - ask a person who has missed a plane, train, or carpool.

To realize the value of one second - ask a person who has survived an accident.

Time waits for no one. Treasure every moment you have. To realize the value of a friend or family member: LOSE ONE.

REMEMBER: Hold on tight to the ones you love.
Mothers’ Day

Motherhood (a poem from 212 Victory Poems by Clifford Lewis)

“If I could write with diamond pen,
Use ink of flowing gold,
The love I have for my mother dear
Could then not half be told.

Her sympathy has been my stay,
Her love my guiding light,
Her gentle hand hath soothed my ills;
She’s ever guided right.

A precious friend has mother been,
Stood by me all the way,
No sacrifice has been too great;
Such love one can’t repay.

So wonderful has mother been,
So gentle, kind and good,
That I have learned to reverence
That sweet word, ‘Motherhood.’”

Join us Sun 13 May (11 a.m.) as we celebrate our Mothers.

— Tony Stocker,
Worship Committee Chair

Flag Day - 14 Jun

Flag Day is considered a patriotic holiday in the U.S. and is particularly celebrated by the Armed Forces and those veterans who have served abroad. Flag Day is celebrated on June 14th each year. While Flag Day is meant to commemorate the adoption of the American Flag, it isn’t actually a National Holiday. The adoption of Flag Day was undertaken by President Woodrow Wilson, in 1916; but it was not until 1949 that Congress enacted legislation supporting his decision. The holiday is celebrated around the country with parades and memorial services for those who have died in defense of the U.S. Flag. Pennsylvania is the only state in the Union to officially observe Flag Day. Much of the celebration of Flag Day in PA is centered around the former home of Betsy Ross (Philadelphia), the flag’s creator.

— Tony Stocker,
Worship Committee Chair

Father’s Day

Father’s Day actually began when a daughter of a Civil War veteran wanted to pay tribute to her father. Her father died during the birth of the family’s sixth child. Her father raised all six-children by himself. His daughter realizing, how selfless his sacrifices were to the family, asked the family minister if they could pay tribute to fathers. She suggested the date of 5 June - her father’s birthday. It was actually on 19 June that the service was held ... as there was not time to prepare for the 5th. This was in 1909.

In 1924, US President Calvin Coolidge made it a national event to “establish more intimate relations between fathers and their children and to impress upon the fathers the full measure of their obligations.”

In 1966, President Lyndon Johnson signed a presidential proclamation declaring the 3rd Sunday of June as Father’s Day.

Never underestimate your influence upon your children. Happy Father’s Day! Consider celebrating this special day of recognition with us on 17 June at 11:00 a.m. at the Chapel.

— Tony Stocker,
Worship Committee Chair

Armed Forces Day

Many Americans celebrate Armed Forces Day, annually on the third Saturday of May. It is a day to pay tribute to men and women who serve in the U.S. Armed Forces.

On Aug 31, 1949, Louis Johnson, who was the U.S. Secretary of Defense, announced the creation of an Armed Forces Day to replace separate Army, Navy, and Air Force Days. The event stemmed from the armed forces’ unification under one department – the Department of Defense.

— Tony Stocker,
Worship Committee Chair

Pentecost

Definition: Festival of the Christian Church occurring on the seventh Sunday after Easter. This Sunday celebrates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon Jesus’ disciples. (Note: “Pente” means five and “cost” means ten times. This refers to the fact that there were 40-days between Easter and the Ascension of the Lord and then 10-days between the Ascension and Pentecost, totaling 50-days.

Join us on Sun 20 May (11 am)

— Tony Stocker,
Worship Committee Chair

Memorial Day

Originally called Decoration Day, Memorial Day is a day of remembrance for those who have died in service to our country. It was first widely observed on May 31, 1868, to commemorate the sacrifices of Civil War soldiers. By the late 1800s, many more cities and communities had begun to observe Memorial Day, and after World War I, it became an occasion for honoring those who died in all America’s wars.

In 1971, Congress declared Memorial Day a national holiday to be celebrated on the last Monday of May.

Memorial Day is celebrated at Arlington National Cemetery each year with a ceremony in which a small American flag is placed on each grave. Traditionally, the President or Vice President lay a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldiers. About 3,000 people attend the ceremony annually.

Plan to attend the Foundation’s annual Memorial Day Sunday Remembrance on 27 May at 11:00 a.m.

— Tony Stocker,
Worship Committee Chair
A Word From the Classroom

"This is the day that the LORD has made; we will rejoice and be glad in it."
(Psalm 118:24)

The Children's Ministry is an exciting part of the Chapel Foundation! The kids bring so much energy to this older congregation! And the questions they ask are wonderful. For example: "Why do we make a big fuss over Easter each year?" What would YOU say to this child? Think about it and then answer this. Why is Easter important to YOU? Or Christmas? Or Sundays at the Chapel?

In May we will have two important celebrations — Mother's Day and Memorial Day! While discussing our own mothers, what they do for us and what we can do for them, we also talk about the Gold Star Mothers and pray for them. Their hurt goes on, day after day.

Occasionally we are blessed to have a Gold Star Mother in attendance with us at Chapel and the kids have the opportunity to thank her and sometimes hug her. Then, later in the month of May we celebrate Memorial Day when the island in the middle of the parking lot has hundreds of small white crosses remembering those service members from the five -state area lost to this global war on terror. The teachers walk the children through this area respectfully explaining to the kids what this is all about.

Two years ago a child said, "All these people died for ME?" The answer was, "Yes ... for each of us!" We pray for the families of these heroes and talk about the Scripture passage that says, "No greater love has any man than this, that a man would lay down his life for a friend." (John 15:13) Memorial Day is NOT about opening up the cabin, having a picnic, nor going to a parade. Ask any of the Chapel children and they will tell you ... it's about remembering our heroes! Yes, you can do these other things, but ALWAYS REMEMBER OUR HEROES!

Then, along comes summer when we have no Children's Church. The teachers take a break and often teachers and kids alike go on vacations. Also, we only have a tiny number of Chapel kids on a "good" Sunday. However, every Sunday the children receive bulletins designed just for his/her own age group and there is always a Children's Message just prior to the sermon. During the summer a great deal of planning goes on for the following school year when Children's Church resumes. This kicks off with a Fun Fest! This will be our Second Annual Fun Fest and we want to encourage you to bring kids ... the more the merrier!

More information to follow in the next issue of The Snelling Spirit!

We rejoice in the dedication of each teacher and the presence of each child. How very blessed we are!

— Leslie Henschel
Children's Ministry Coordinator
Creation Corner

"For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse."
(Romans 1:20)

Well we seem to have made it through another winter. I'm sure glad that my Creator decided to let me live in a climate where I don't have to bundle up to go outside... all year long! I really feel for the polar bear... well, let me just pause and rethink that notion... When our Creator God designs a creature, it is designed perfectly for the climate they live in, and all the genes for further adapting are all built in from the start. From what I've seen in nature, the design for each creature is spit-shined perfect the very first time it makes its appearance. Every muscle, every organ, every fingernail or claw, every eye, ear, nose, and throat — right down to the tonsils and the appendix — is perfect and "quality control-checked"... right out the chute!

Well, "Hold on, now" — that would have been the case in our originally created world, in which our Creator laid out His universe, stood back, and proclaimed it to be "very good." But as we know, our great... grandparents, Adam and Eve, were expelled from the perfect created world, and the Second Law of Thermodynamics kicked in, and our world became one marked by a steady decay rate known as "entropy" that affects everything that was created. So back to that statement I made about "quality control-checked." Even that final check is affected by entropy, so to be correct, every so often, there are mistakes in our world as it is today, and so sometimes what comes out the chute is not perfect, but marred by sin. But even in our cursed world, that ol' polar bear seems to me to be the image of "perfect." Now after completely beating around the igloo, and leading you all over the place, it is my intention to pass on to you a short article I read concerning the bear of the north, one that we would rather admire from afar: Ursus Maritimus — the Polar Bear.


1 The polar bear has amazing fur! A number of years ago, researchers needed to determine how many polar bears lived in the Arctic. Scientists flew over the region using an infrared detection system to count the number of bears. Surprisingly, none were found. How could this be? They knew polar bears were down there, but why were they not detected? Nature had "outsmarted" the scientists! Infrared detectors work by detecting heat which is radiating from the body. It was discovered that polar bears were so well insulated that they experienced almost no heat loss through their fur. Therefore they could not be detected by the infrared instruments. Each hair on the bear is hollow and filled with gas molecules. This slows the flow of heat as it escapes the bear's body. The Arctic region is bitterly cold at night so the Master Designer had to design a fur coat that would truly withstand these brutal temperatures. Polar bear fur is unlike the bear fur of any other bear. Polar bears need this special fur in order to survive. It's like polar bears are covered with an extremely efficient insulating blanket — like being wrapped in a thick layer of flexible Styrofoam™. Styrofoam is the result of brilliant research and development efforts. Did polar bear fur just happen by chance? Just as Styrofoam was designed, so was polar bear fur.

P.S. — Scientists were ultimately successful in counting the polar bears, but they had to switch to ultraviolet sensors.

"And every creature which is in heaven, and on the earth, and under the earth, and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, hearken I saying, 'Blessing, and honour, and glory, and power, be unto Him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb for ever and ever.'"
(Revelation 5:13)

— Submitted by: John Kruse

1 INSPIRED EVIDENCE:
Only One Reality
Julie Von Vett & Bruce Malone
Copyright © December 2011
www.searchforthetrihht.net
Amazing grace! How sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found;
Was blind, but now I see...

Amazing Grace is one of the most beloved and well known hymns in the English speaking world. However, the history of this song is also noteworthy in that it tells the story of the author John Newton and his remarkable conversion from slave merchant to abolitionist. But wait there is more to this story...

John Newton (1725-1807) was born in London to a Puritan mother and seafaring father. He attended an independent church in London with his mother who taught him to read Scripture and memorize the Reformed catechism. Newton’s mother died when he was 7 years old at which point his father assumed responsibility for his care and education. The sea captain brought his son on five voyages in an effort to provide a thorough education in seamanship. Between voyages, John got himself into substantial adolescent trouble while in the care of a stepmother. In each case, John would resolve to live a better life, but his resolve would wane and once again he found himself indulging in the common vices.

After many voyages and a foolhardy youth, Newton was impressed (forcibly conscripted) into the British Navy in 1744. After attempting to desert, he was dragged back to the ship where he was stripped, flogged and reduced in rank to that of a common seaman. Through happenstance, Newton was able to transfer to another ship - the Greyhound which was bound for the coast of West Africa and the slave trade. Shortly thereafter, Newton was sent to the Plantain Islands near Sierra Leone to work at a “slave-factory” under the direction of the co-owner of the ship. He spent several miserable years working essentially as an indentured servant with no hope of escape. It was at this critical time that a captain, appointed by his father, located him and returned him to the Greyhound. Despite his good fortune, Newton returned to his old patterns of debauchery and licentiousness that shocked even the seasoned veterans of the crew.

In 1748, a violent storm battered the Greyhound while en route from Brazil to Newfoundland laden with slaves. Newton awoke to discover that the ship was taking on water and that a crew-member had been swept out to sea. He pumped and bailed water all night until he was called upon to steer the ship. Throughout this time, Newton reviewed his life and history of immoral behavior; but also came to recall his mother’s teachings and, at that moment, called out to God for mercy! Indeed, this was the first prayer he had expressed since he was a youth and recalled at a later time that this prayer was “the first hour that he believed.” Despite this profession of faith, Newton continued his slave trading career until 1754 at which point he entered into the study of Christian theology with the goal of ordination into the Anglican Church. It was some years later, due to the persuasive arguments of his young protégé, William Wilberforce, and his maturing faith that Newton came to fully grasp the moral depravity and sinfulness of the slave trade.

John Newton was ordained into the Church of England in 1764 and installed as cleric of Olney, a small market town located in Southeast England. It was in this setting that he co-authored a collection of 348 hymns with British poet William Cowper entitled Olney Hymns. One such hymn - Amazing Grace - was written to illustrate a sermon given by John Newton on New Year’s Day in the year 1773. At that time, there was no specific music written to accompany the hymn though it was associated with a variety of tunes before fading into obscurity in England. However in America it was a different story.

Amazing Grace became well-known due to its use in religious revival meetings during the Second Great Awakening which took place in the early 19th century. By the twentieth century, Newton’s acclaimed words had

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(Continued ... from page nine)

become inseparable from the Scottish tune, "New Britain," which is the music used today when performing this hymn.

John Newton’s chance to fight the slave trade finally arrived in 1788, when after years of debate in Parliament, the prime minister instructed the British cabinet to investigate the slave trade. It was at this time that John Newton was called upon to share from personal experience regarding the horrors of the slave trade.

For the next twenty years,

William Wilberforce lobbied parliament to abolish the slave trade which resulted in the passage of the Slave Trade Act of 1807 - that ended the slave trade in the British Empire.

Amazing Grace brings us the message that forgiveness and redemption are possible regardless of our sinful past if we place our trust and hope in the Lord Jesus Christ. What exactly is grace? It has been defined as God’s “unmerited favor” or “undeserved kindness” extended to each of us by a loving God. But there is a cost for this grace and that cost was the life of Jesus on the cross at Calvary.

Our salvation results from this grace and is the foundation for our eternity with Christ as described in the hymn’s last verse:

When we’ve been there ten thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun,
We’ve no less days to sing God’s praise
Than when we’d first begun.

— Submitted by Eva Zorn

Book Review

The author utilizes recollections from his father and his wartime letters, combined with extensive research into the combat history of the 12th Infantry Regiment, to produce an account of the men who fought on the front and defeated the Nazi war machine. William Paul Chapman was an army officer who participated in a series of campaigns in the European theater of operations including: the landing at Utah Beach, break-out from Normandy, the Liberation of Paris and the assault on the Siegfried Line that helped turn back the Germans during the Battle of the Bulge.

Though a mechanical engineer by training, Chapman was eager to prove his caliber in combat, so volunteered for the infantry in the spring of 1943. He began his career as a second lieutenant in the mortar platoon and rose to command a rifle company as captain. His story reflects the day-to-day lives of of an infantry unit and describes in searing detail the experience of battle and the price that was paid by the common soldier in that unit. This book also highlights the tactics of combat and how those tactics evolved throughout the various campaigns to produce a superb force of fighting men. Battle Hardened is an admirable story and first-rate read for persons with an interest in military history and WWII in particular. Craig Chapman (former infantry officer with the U.S.Army/National Guard) has written a tribute that honors not only the memory and life of his father, but the many soldiers of the Greatest Generation who served with distinction and, in some cases, made the ultimate sacrifice.

— Submitted by Eva Zorn
Health & Safety

Nosocomial

Several months ago, I attended a funeral at the Fort Snelling Memorial Chapel for a friend, a Vietnam veteran, and fellow author. His cause of death was a nosocomial urinary tract infection he contracted while being hospitalized. The medical euphemism, “nosocomial,” means that it was doctors, nurses, and other staff who made the patient sick, because these caregivers hands were contaminated with germs.

The source of the contamination was the caregiver’s failure to wash their hands properly, or washing them at all. A research team installed cameras in the restrooms at Grand Central Station. Over 60% of people fail to wash their hands at all, and fewer than 10% wash their hands adequately.

80% of all infectious illnesses, from the common cold to flesh-eating bacteria and lethal viruses like Ebola, are transmitted by touch. As far as hygiene is concerned, there are microscopic germs on the hands, ready to be brought near the eyes, nose, mouth, or an open cut, scratch or sore, all primary infection sites, as people unconsciously touch their faces and bodies, greet one another with a handshake or exchange objects that are equally contaminated, like cell phones.

A lot of germs have migrated to the status of a “superbug” because of the very fact that the hospital use large amounts of antibiotics makes them growth zones for dangerous antibiotically-resistant germs. As does our over use of antibiotics in animal husbandry to promote healthier and quicker growing proteins.

There are two and half million of these nosocomial infections every year in hospitals, nursing homes, and extended care facilities. And every year they directly cause 80,000 deaths and contribute substantially to another 70,000.

With an annual cost of $4.5 billion for treatment after the infections occur, when simple hand washing could prevent the overwhelming majority of them. Nosocomial infections kill more people every year than pancreatic cancer, leukemia, multiple sclerosis, Parkinson disease and Alzheimer’s combined.

There are 100,000 germs on every square inch of your skin. How is it that we can survive at all? In a previous article I stated that two of the environmental conditions that prevent the growth of bacteria, germs or pathogens are an acidic environment and the presence of sodium. Butter stays fresh at room temperature on the counter for months because butter contains 12% salt. And that is God’s quarantine, our perspiration contains salt and our skin has a 5.5 acidic level on the Ph scale. So, as we get ready for spring and summer remember heat and high humidity create ideal conditions for germs to thrive.

— Tom Newman

A Hymn for Each Occasion

Dentist’s Hymn: “Crown Him With Many Crowns”
Contractor’s Hymn: “The Church’s One Foundation”
Baker’s Hymn: “I Need Thee Every Hour”
Weatherman’s Hymn: “There Shall Be Showers of Blessings”
Optometrist’s Hymn: “Open My Eyes That I Might See”
Tailor’s Hymn: “Holy, Holy, Holy”
Shopper’s Hymn: “In The Sweet By and By”

If you have not already secured your LIMITED EDITION 50th Anniversary Commemorative Print of the Chapel, do so without delay! For a tax-deductible donation of $100 or more to our Endowment Fund, we will ship this print suitable for your framing.

What a wonderful opportunity to display the historic Chapel in your home or office. Request your self-addressed offering envelope via e-mail at info@fostnellingmcf.org ... and it will be sent to you.

— Tim Bray, Bill Coyne, Johnnie Johnson
Endowment Trustees
This full-color newsletter is brought to you in-part by memorials received in memory of Mae Shaeffer.

Fort Snelling Memorial Chapel Foundation

This is a non-denominational Christian church founded in 1967. We invite you to join us for worship each Sunday at 11:00 a.m. at this historic Chapel.

The Fort Snelling Veterans Memorial Chapel is a unique Minnesota memorial — a splendid monument to the patriotism, the moral earnestness and the convictions of the people of this state — a shrine to commemorate those who have died for their country. Weekly Sunday worship is sponsored by the Fort Snelling Memorial Chapel Foundation and is not subsidized by the state.

For Fort Snelling Memorial Chapel Foundation information call the Foundation Office at (952) 888-1525, or write to the Fort Snelling Memorial Chapel Foundation 9031 Penn Ave S Bloomington, MN 55431

or e-mail to info@fortsnellingmcf.org
or check our web site at www.fortsnellingmcf.org

Chapel Foundation Staff:
Rev. Dr. Kenneth L. Beale, Jr., Sr. Chaplain
Rev. Philip A. Winn, Jr., Associate Chaplain
Marlys Wallman, Minister of Music
Bev Johnson, Administrative Assistant
Carol Nygaard, Accounting Specialist
Ruth Fardig, Minister of Music Emeritus

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The Snelling Spirit is a bimonthly publication of the Fort Snelling Memorial Chapel Foundation. We welcome your input, your letters and your suggestions.

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<tr>
<td><strong>Fort Snelling Memorial Chapel Foundation Staff</strong></td>
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<tr>
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# June 2018

**Fort Snelling Memorial Chapel Foundation**

Office: 9031 Penn Avenue South, Bloomington, MN 55431
Website: [www.fortsnellingmcf.org](http://www.fortsnellingmcf.org)

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| **3rd Sunday after Pentecost**
11:00 a.m. Worship Service
Sermon: "Three Big Temptations in Life"
Music: Chad Shultis, Vocalist
Barbara Rightler, Piano | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
- **2nd Sunday after Pentecost**
11:00 a.m. Worship Service
Sermon: "Three Big Temptations in Life"
Music: Chad Shultis, Vocalist
Barbara Rightler, Piano | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | Flag Day | 15 |
- **90th Ann. of Chapel Dedication**
- **3rd Sunday after Pentecost**
11:00 a.m. Worship Service
Sermon: "God Wants Us to be Generous"
Music: Singleton Street Band, Bluegrass/Gospel | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
- **Bev Johnson's B-day**
- **4th Sunday after Pentecost**
**Father's Day**
11:00 a.m. Worship Service
Sermon: "Leaving a Lasting Legacy"
Music: Scott Reeve, Piano
Mary Reeve, Flute | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
- **Bev Johnson's B-day**
- **5th Sunday after Pentecost**
11:00 a.m. Worship Service
Sermon: "Become a Person of Integrity"
Music: Chaddock Quartet, Vocal/Instrumental | 28 | 29 | 30 |

**C** / **K** — Chaplain's Personal Day