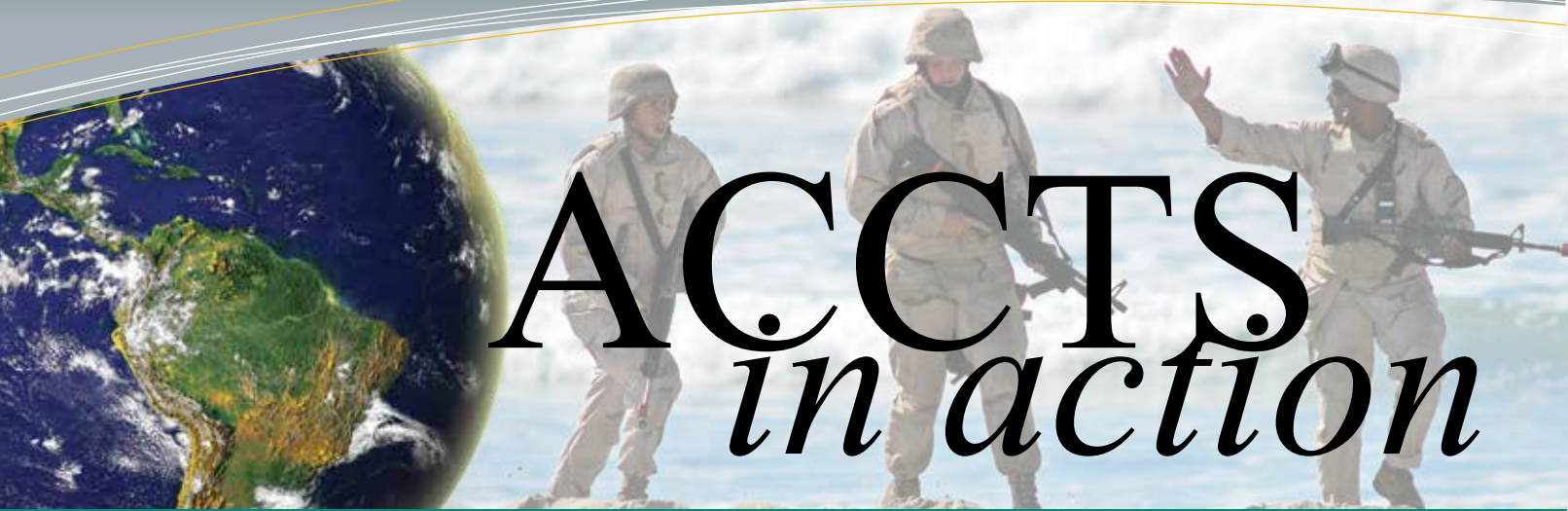


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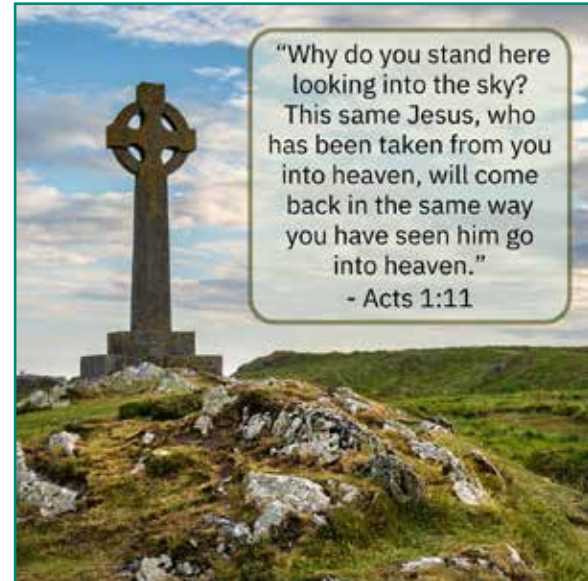


OUR MISSION: To assist in the development of Christian leaders in the armed forces of the world and in the establishment and growth of military Christian fellowships.

Dear Coworkers in Christ,

I confess I have always had a bit of a chuckle each time I read through the opening scene of the book of Acts. The disciples are standing around, gazing up at the heavens, savoring their last moments with Jesus, when suddenly two angels appear and say: “Stop standing around, looking up! He’s coming back” (Acts 1:10-11, paraphrased). The unstated but nevertheless clear inference is – “Now get to work!”

One really can’t blame the disciples too much. Having experienced the sadness of the cross and the joy of the resurrection first-hand, I think they were stunned that the Master had again departed so abruptly, apparently leaving them feeling orphaned. This was indeed a “Wow, now what do we do?” moment. I also wonder if they weren’t a bit overwhelmed by the implications of Jesus’ final words still powerfully resounding down into the very core of their hearts and souls: “But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth” Acts 1:8 (ESV).



Jesus was a Master at many things and casting vision was certainly one of them. This incredible verse, as grand in its simplicity as it is majestic in its scope, surely must rank among the most compelling vision statements of all time. **Far from realized, Jesus’ call to be His witnesses remains just as vibrantly central to our calling as Christ’s disciples today as the day it was birthed just outside of Jerusalem over 2,000 years ago. And that is exactly what we at ACCTS are all about: being Christ’s witnesses...among the uniformed services...to the ends of the earth! Just as Christ sent us to do, we at ACCTS remain engaged in the work of writing the 29th chapter of Acts. Read on for more about how we strive to achieve this.**

By Faith,

Terry Wichert
Captain, USN (Ret)
Executive Director

A Beacon of Christian Unity in Europe

The military Christian fellowship (MCF) of the Czech Republic hosted an important event that was a profound experience for MCF leaders from across the continent. The European Military Christian Meeting (EMCM) was a beacon of faith, unity, and purpose that led the way for a spiritually significant gathering.

Sixteen nations were represented, each of whom brought their unique ministry experiences to the table. They reported their challenges and opportunities, and many discussions focused on how to more effectively serve and encourage each other throughout the year. Several MCFs sent their next generation of leaders to help them in their spiritual growth and ministries. Additionally, Vasily and Valya Khimich and Sergiy Lysenko from war-torn Ukraine were able to attend, and some discussions focused on preparing MCFs to continue functioning during times of war or turbulence. Several ACCTS staff members participated as well, including Executive Director Terry Wichert.

We're grateful for our donors who enabled ACCTS to extend financial assistance to those in need, ensuring that no barrier stood in the way of their attendance. Through staff member Bernhard Kaltenbach, ACCTS also provided significant planning and organizational help. Please pray for European MCF leaders as their MCFs bring Christ's transformation to military personnel throughout the continent.



Survey Shows MCF Impact Worldwide

This spring ACCTS, in partnership with the Association of Military Christian Fellowships, conducted a survey of military Christian fellowships (MCFs) that assessed MCF strengths and weaknesses, their impact on their nation's uniformed services, and their ministry needs. Their responses showed that God is working profoundly through these MCFs worldwide! Below are some of the survey's findings:

- 25% of MCFs reported meeting weekly, with 19% meeting monthly and others more or less frequently
- 39% of MCFs said they are growing, 39% said their membership/participation levels are holding steady, and 5% said their MCFs are shrinking
- 39% expressed that their greatest need is for prayer, along with funding, encouragement, discipleship or evangelism training, and Bibles
- Requests for help covered a broad range of needs, with prayer most common, and materials on discipleship and evangelism close behind

Comments from the MCF survey responses include:

- We are known as the Prayer Warrior Group that maintains morale.
- [Because of our MCF,] Christian soldiers are no longer disdained by their comrades-in-arms.
- Our greatest needs are more active members and open doors to work with cadets.
- Through regular gatherings, prayer sessions, and religious studies, members have found a deeper connection to their faith, resulting in strengthened personal convictions, moral resilience, and a sense of purpose.
- We are shrinking due to primarily overall spiritual dryness in the community contributing to lack of interest spiritual activities, and the impact of our dominantly Muslim culture.
- Our MCF helps couples who are struggling, provides programs on trauma healing, and on reconciling the Christian faith with the military profession.



Join our Weekly Prayer List!

Are you willing to pray for weekly military ministry prayer needs? If so, please sign up for our Monday morning ministry prayer updates! Message our office at accts@accts.org to sign up.

Upcoming Ministry Activities

- 8 June: MCF of Japan meeting via Zoom. Staff involved: R. Ryles (speaker)
- June 27-July 10: Interaction-IRMH, Colorado. Staff involved: Haien, Wicherts, Jacksons, MacLeans, Hammerud
- 6-10 June: Mongolian MCF Leaders' Mission Trip Throughout Nation (ACCTS co-sponsored)
- 9-12 June: Welcome Home Initiative retreat. Staff involved: N. Dawes
- 15 June: VP South Asia Meeting via Zoom. Staff involved: R. Ryles
- 26 June: Training the Trainer Ethics Collaborative Discussion. Staff involved: D. Mills
- 6 July: VP East & Central Asia Meeting via Zoom. Staff involved: R. Ryles

*A higher standard.
A higher purpose.*



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