



# Onward!

November 2018



## The newsletter of the Association of Military Christian Fellowships

### Finland: Celebrating 60 Years of Ministry



We praise God for the 60th anniversary of military ministry in Finland through their military Christian fellowship, Päälystön Hengellinen Säätiö (Officers Spiritual Foundation).

The MCF publishes spiritual literature and organizes spiritual and recreational events for soldiers who desire to carry the message of the gospel to their coworkers.

[Finland's MCF website: http://www.phs-mcf.fi/](http://www.phs-mcf.fi/)

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Asociace křesťanů v armádě za přispění  
Duchovní služby AČR  
tě zve na každoroční víkendové setkání

www.aka-acr.cz

za aktivní účasti věřících vojáků Ozbrojených sil Slovenské republiky

## 20. setkání Asociace křesťanů v armádě

12. - 14. října 2018  
Kláster Želiv

### Program konference:

- setkání s vojenskými kaplany
- přednášky
- modlitba
- prohlídka kláštera a pivovaru
- setkání se zahraničními hosty

### Ceny:

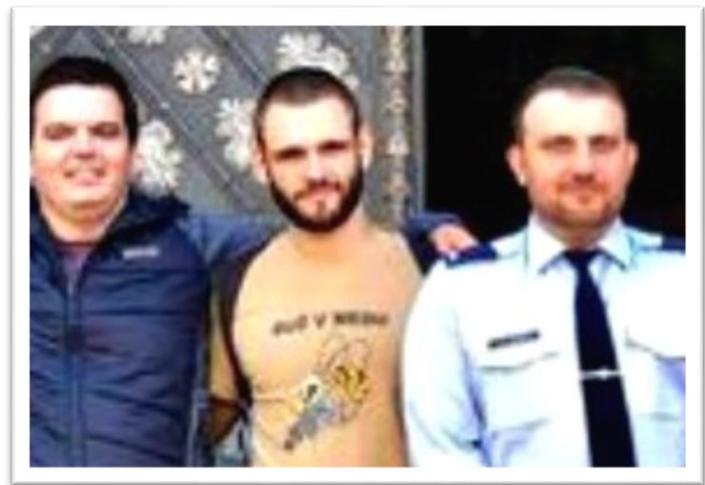
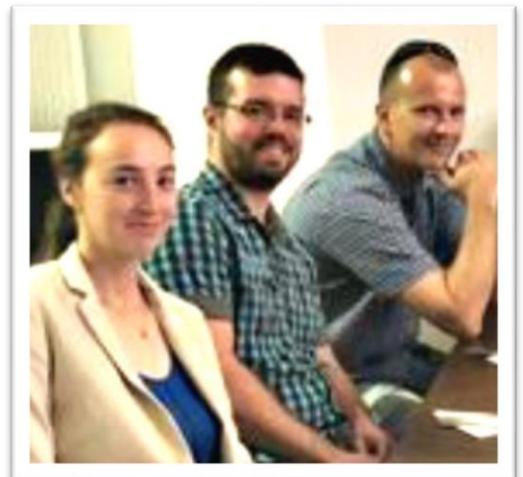
- děti:  
0 - 3 let: bez lůžka zdarma  
3 - 12 let: 1 200 Kč (46€)
- dospělí dle vybavení pokoje:  
1 400 / 1 800 Kč (55 / 70€)

### Přihlášky a informace:

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## Sharing the Much-Needed Good News in Czech Republic

Military believers in Czech Republic celebrated the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of their MCF with approximately 60 attendees from their nation, Slovakia, the UK, and US. The meeting was uplifting and informative, reminding people to become involved with agencies and organizations like the MCF which come alongside churches to more fully share the much-needed good news of Christ.



## Strengthened in Christ at the South American Regional Conference

“I have been to many conferences, but at this conference I was impressed with the freedom in the moments of praise and the spontaneity in showing friendship,” remarked a participant after attending the October AMCF South American Regional Conference in Argentina.



Military and civilian Christians from seven South American nations attended this regional conference, with a number of delegates staying to attend the Interaction leadership training program which followed.



Participants noted that God’s presence was strongly felt, and they were inspired to see the shared ministries among regional military Christian fellowships.

**“Each time I attend an MCF conference, I leave strengthened,”** one attendee stated, sharing a sentiment with others who were inspired by this conference.

*For more information about the military Christian fellowship – the Confraternidad Cristiana Evangélica de Miembros de las Fuerzas Armadas y de Seguridad de Argentina (CCEMFASA) – which hosted this conference, visit their website at <http://ccemfasa.org.ar/>.*

# Island Nations Gather at South Pacific Regional Conference



The Australian military Christian fellowship hosted AMCF's South Pacific Regional Conference in October, which was preceded by an Interaction leadership training program. Attendees enjoyed fellowship in Christ while discussing how the region's MCFs can work together for Christ's kingdom.

## **Pacific Nation Prayer Requests:**

Fiji: Pray for the re-establishment of a healthy, mature MCF.

Kiribati: Pray for the formation of a military Christian fellowship.

Australia: Pray for the faith-based network of Christian groups.

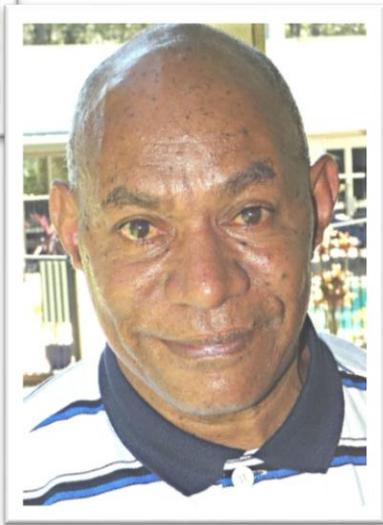
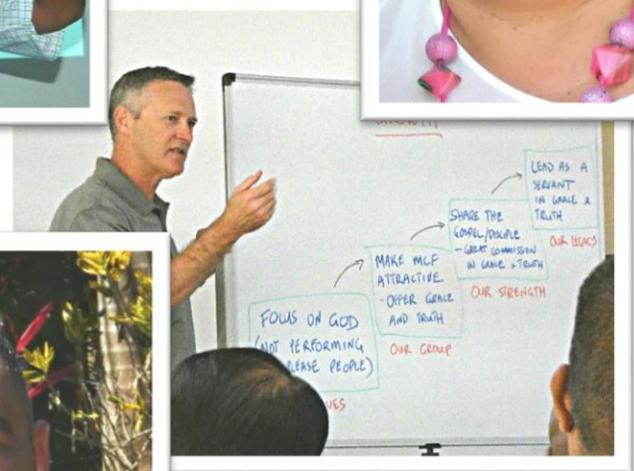
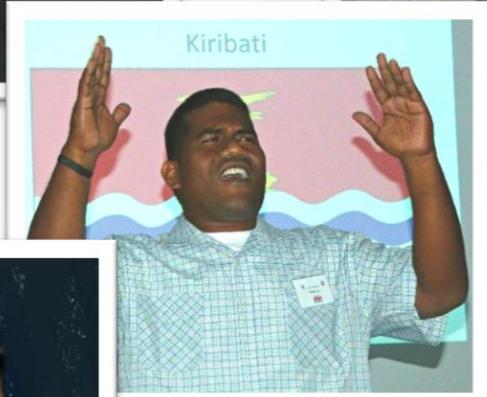
New Zealand: Pray for improved outreach to younger military personnel.

Papua New Guinea: Pray for the MCF's newly-appointed leaders.

Tonga: Pray for deepened spiritual knowledge for Bible study attendees.

Vanuatu: Pray as the MCF starts a "Prayer War Room".

# South Pacific Photo Album





## Pursuing the Mind of Christ in Romania

Military Christians from Romania and other nations gathered in October for their annual conference to encourage each other and learn more about “The Mind of Christ” – the conference theme, based on based on 1 Corinthians 2:16.

Many stories about God’s faithfulness were shared, burdens were prayed for, and MCF President Mihai Bruma closed the conference by giving glory to God for all He has done in the nation’s armed forces.



## Canada: Approaching God in Prayer



The Canadian MCF held its third annual prayer retreat from 9-11 November at the National House of Prayer in Ottawa. In attendance were serving military members, retirees, local church leaders, and members of prayer teams. Other guests who joined in prayer for Canadian forces included the AMCF

North American vice president, Nestor Ogilvie; the president of the MCF of Barbados, Wilbert Kirton; and ACCTS' Phil and Sue Exner.

The focus of the retreat was intercessory prayer for the military forces of Canada and their families. Gerry Potter, Canada MCF president, greeted the group, and Jazmine Lawrence, the retreat director, led the group in prayerfully studying different aspects of intercessory prayer – what it is, its object and purpose, key elements in effective intercession, and how the group should prepare to approach God during the weekend. This was followed by personal time for each participant to prepare themselves by examining their conscience, confessing sin, forgiving past offenses, and focused listening. Finally, the single greatest block of time was devoted to intercession for four groups of people related to the military ministry: chaplains, supporting churches, military believers and current MCF members, and other Canadian armed forces members and their families.

On Sunday, the participants walked to the National War Memorial in the center of the capital where there was a ceremony of remembrance marking the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of World War 1, once naively called “the war to end all wars”. Thousands of veterans from World War 2 and more recent conflicts crowded the square across from Canada’s parliament, along with their families and government and military leaders.



After returning, the MCF group wrapped up the retreat by drawing out themes and ministry principles that emerged from our time of prayer and accompanying discussions, as well from the speeches and prayer at the remembrance ceremony.

## Canadian MCF Prayer Retreat (continued)



Gerry Potter, the MCF president, was encouraged by the retreat. “The outcome I wanted very much to see was the genesis of a network of prayer across Canada for the military community, because I don’t think that there’s been enough prayer...This has been a theme on my heart for years.” He called prayer the “first line of operation” in the spiritual warfare they face and would like to see the model of prayer-focused discipling fellowships applied in all of the local fellowships across Canada.

The weekend was a time of rich fellowship, intense prayer, and encouraging networking with church members and other ministry representatives. Please continue to uphold the Canadian MCF as they wrestle with many of the same challenges facing U.S. military Christians today.



# Have Faith!



“Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.” – Hebrews 11:1

“Faith is not believing in my own unshakable belief. Faith is believing an unshakable God when everything in me trembles and quakes.” — Beth Moore

“[To have faith in Christ] means, of course, trying to do all that He says. There would be no sense in saying you trusted a person if you would not take his advice. Thus, if you have really handed yourself over to Him, it must follow that you are trying to obey Him. But trying in a new way, a less worried way. Not doing these things in order to be saved, but because He has begun to save you already. Not hoping to get to heaven as a reward for your actions, but inevitably wanting to act in a certain way because a first faint gleam of heaven is already inside you.” — C.S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity*





## Introducing Two New AMCF Vice Presidents



AMCF welcomes two new vice presidents – Central American Vice President **Colonel Jose Rodriguez** of El Salvador and AMCF Pacific Region Vice

President **LTCOL Jamie Van Heel** of Australia.

Please pray as they begin their leadership responsibilities and give thanks with us for the outgoing vice presidents – Colonel Joaquin Maldonado and Chaplain Eric Burton -- who served so faithfully. AMCF vice presidents all serve as volunteers, without pay, and we are grateful for their work for Christ.

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### Resources for Military Christians:

An updated version of the AMCF Reference Handbook is now online at <http://amcf-int.org/resources/rh/English/ReferenceHandbook-English.pdf>.

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If you want news or prayer items from your military Christian fellowship included in upcoming AMCF newsletters, please send that information to [amcf@accts.org](mailto:amcf@accts.org).

Please also visit our website at [www.amcf-int.org](http://www.amcf-int.org). This newsletter is produced by AMCF's ministry partner, ACCTS ([www.accts.org](http://www.accts.org)).

