

MARTIN SCHARLEMANN

Dedicated in Service

BORN: **DECEMBER 28, 1910** *Nashville, Illinois*

DIED: **AUGUST 23, 1982** *Saint Louis, Missouri*

MARTIN SCHARLEMANN GREW UP IN A HOME DEDICATED TO SERVICE. From his father, a pastor, he learned about the importance of preaching and teaching God’s Word. As he grew older, Scharlemann, a bright and gifted young man, would be called to serve in unique ways.

After attending Concordia College, Fort Wayne, Ind., and St. Paul, Minn., Scharlemann graduated from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis (CSL), in 1934. His first call was as pastor at St. John Lutheran Church in Kendallville, Ind. He later served congregations in St. Louis; Osseo, Minn. and Athens, Wis. While a parish pastor, Scharlemann earned his Master of Arts and Doctor of Philosophy degrees in 1936 and 1938, respectively, from Washington University, St. Louis.

In 1941, Scharlemann joined the U.S. military as a chaplain. Assigned to the U.S. Army Air Corps, he attended the chaplain school of the U.S. Army and Air Force in 1947. Furthering his military education, he graduated from the Department of Defense Public Information School in 1951. Scharlemann served 14 years on active duty as an Air Force chaplain. He continued in the Air Force Reserve, serving as assistant to the Air Force Chief of Chaplains until his retirement from the Reserve in 1971 with the rank of Brigadier General.

In 1952, Scharlemann was called to teach at CSL, where he would be professor of exegetical theology for 30 years. Along the way, Scharlemann earned his Doctor of Theology degree from Union Theological Seminary in New York in 1964. He served in various roles at CSL, including Director of Graduate Studies from 1954 to 1960 and acting president

in 1974. Scharlemann remained a faithful faculty member during the turmoil at CSL in the early 1970s.

Scharlemann served on several boards, committees and commissions in the Synod, including the Commission on Theology and Church Relations. Yet he remained a compelling scholar and educator, teaching doctoral-level theology classes, presenting conference papers and publishing a dozen books and nearly two hundred journal articles, ranging from Air Force chaplaincy manuals to careful examinations of New Testament texts.

Scharlemann served the global Church in distinctive ways. During World War II, he learned Italian to preach to and teach Protestants there. During his time at the seminary, he was a guest professor in Rome, Kenya, Australia, New Guinea and India. Dedicated in his service to the Church, Scharlemann found his greatest commission in teaching and preaching the saving message of God’s Word to the world.

Called by his Lord to glory in 1982, Scharlemann was buried with military honors at Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery, St. Louis.

For more information about the 175th anniversary of the LCMS, visit lcms.org/175.

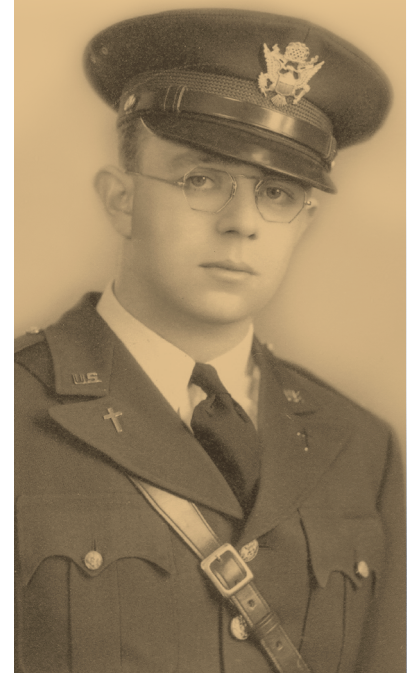


DISCOVER MORE

Richard Klann, “*Martin H. Scharlemann, 1910–1982: An Appreciation*,” *Concordia Journal* 8, no. 6 (November 1982): 202–204.

William C. Weinrich, “*Martin H. Scharlemann*,” *Concordia Theological Quarterly* 47, no. 1 (January 1983): 31–32.

Quentin F. Wesselschmidt, “*A Biography of Martin H. Scharlemann*,” *Concordia Journal* 8, no. 6 (November 1982): 201–202.



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