

**THIRTY THIRD NATIONAL CONVENTION  
OF  
THE AMERICAN LEGION  
Miami, Florida  
October 15, 16, 17, 18, 1951**

**Resolution No. 45: Church Attendance and Observance of “Go-To-Church” Sunday**

**Origin: Montana**

**Submitted By: Convention Committee on Internal Affairs  
(Consolidate with Resolution Nos. 313 (VA) and 361 (FL))**

WHEREAS, The members of The American Legion are pledged to serve both “For God” and “For Country,” and our services to our country can be best rendered under the guidance of Almighty God; and

WHEREAS, Real peace is that which comes from God and is lodged in the individual heart; and

WHEREAS, The continuous threat of communism to freedom-loving countries throughout the world includes threats both to freedom of worship and to religion, and there is a vital need for increased emphasis on religion together with daily public prayers for a just, lasting and honorable peace; and

WHEREAS, Each Legionnaire should be urged to regularly attend the services of the church of his choice, and to take the responsibility of having adequate religious education for his children, and thereby render the highest type of service to his God, to his children, to himself and to his country; and

WHEREAS, Four chaplains - Catholic, Jewish and Protestant—on February 3, 1943, gave their lifejackets to four enlisted men, and then, while the torpedoed troop transport “U.S.S. Dorchester” was sinking in the icy waters of the Atlantic Ocean, they with locked arms, each uttering his own prayer, together went to their watery graves, and to their God; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED, By The American Legion in National Convention assembled in Miami, Florida, October 15, 16, 17, 18, 1951, That all members of The American Legion dedicate and rededicate themselves toward the development of these religious and moral ideals as an integral part of all American Legion programs and assemblies; and, be it further**

**RESOLVED, That all members of The American Legion affirm and reaffirm their faith and belief in the worship of God, and take the responsibility of encouraging their families, and their neighbors, to attend regularly the church of their choice and participate in religious services; and, be it finally**

**RESOLVED, That either the Sunday preceding or following the date of February 3, in recognition of the historic, tragic, and inspiring event occurring on that date in 1943, be observed each year throughout our nation and in all freedom-loving countries as “Go-to-Church” Sunday, in worship and prayer for everlasting peace.**