

Richter, Thomas J.

Friedensville Pastor Becomes Navy Chaplain

DEC 13 1943

Having successfully passed his final examinations in Philadelphia Saturday, the Rev. Thomas J. Richter, pastor of the Friedensville Jerusalem Lutheran charge, will leave Wednesday for Virginia to begin training for duty as a chaplain in the U. S. Navy. He has been granted a commission as a lieutenant junior grade.

Lieut. Richter announced his resignation and preached his farewell sermon in the Jerusalem Church



LT. THOMAS J. RICHTER

Sunday morning. In recognition of the esteem in which he is held in the parish he has served for the past twenty months, he was presented with a cash gift and purse by the members of the two congregations. He assumed the pastorate following his ordination in St. John's Church, Allentown, in March, 1942.

The young clergyman will enter William and Mary College at Williamsburg, Va., to begin two months of intensive training, the last two weeks of which will be actual experience in the field. One of the first to become a Navy chaplain from this area, he will be eligible to serve among the Coast Guard, Seabees, Marines and Navy men ashore or afloat.

Son of Mrs. James Rabenold, of 152 South Fifth Street, Allentown, Lieutenant Richter was graduated from Allentown High School with the class of 1932 and from Muhlenberg College with the class of 1938. In 1941 he was graduated from the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Mount Airy. He was elected to the nearby parish March 15, 1942.

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