



John & Debbie Martin

MISIONARIES TO THE US MILITARY

But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.
Romans 5:8

September 2017

Fellow Warriors for Christ:

What a summer, and oh how it went by. Not only weather-wise, but also being busy on deputation and serving in ministry, it seemed the summer was just getting warmed up when fall was upon us. But the Lord has blessed us tremendously during these months. We have been in several churches through the summer and each stop along the way has demonstrated to us how God provides and how HIS church prevails, even in an age in America hardening its heart toward God's word.

We are in the preparation mode now for serving in Okinawa, Japan with missionary church planter Stuart Jellison and his family, who just this month arrived in country. They are planting North Shore Baptist Church in the central part of Okinawa, ministering to the Marines and their families on the bases of Camp Hanson and Camp Schwab. This is a unique opportunity for us as this will give us valuable training in the area of church planting, as well as being a help to the Jellison family. We have been praying towards this end through the summer and the Lord has wondrously opened the doors for us and put in our hearts mid-January as our departure date. "Ask and ye shall receive" the Lord says in John chapter 16, and then goes on to say "that your joy may be full", it is the Lord who has not only answered our prayers and given us the joy of this ministry, but also the Jellison family rejoices with us, as our hearts were knit through this summer as we met and prayed toward this end.

Our travel plans are to depart mid-January and return no later than mid-April. Japan is strict with their visitor's visa, which we will be traveling on, requiring us to depart no later than 90 days after arriving. There are a couple of housing options we are praying towards, but will not know until close to departure date what will be our best option. The Jellison's have been a great help in this area already, by being our eyes on the ground for us. Without knowing for certain what we may incur for rent (which could be up to \$2500.00 for a small flat), we have anticipated a cost of \$4,000.00 per month. We praise the Lord daily for bringing our support to a reachable goal, of which I believe we are well over 50 percent of that amount pledged to us, with many more churches promising to support as they are able. It would be a tremendous help to us if those of you who have promised support could give us a figure as to what we could expect, this will help us with our financial planning.

From now until our departure date, I still have openings for meetings if anyone would be interested in having us present our ministry to your churches. We are (especially our two youngest children) so excited to see this window of service for us open. Faithfully preparing: your missionaries to the military...

Semper Fidelis,
John and Debbie Martin
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