



# 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

April 2018

Dear Pastor:

HOME!!! We arrived home on April 7<sup>th</sup> at 6 P.M. What a blessing to sleep in our own beds. We left Okinawa via space available on March 31<sup>st</sup> on the first flight we tried for. That flight was bound for McCord AFB right where we wanted to go, however, there was only space available as far as Yakota AFB just south of Tokyo. We got off there and spent a week waiting (patiently of course) for the next flight with space available to parts east of there. It wasn't a wasted week though, as we visited Yakota Baptist Church with Pastor Danny McKittrick on Easter Sunday and Wednesday. What a blessing to be there on the Lord's Resurrection Day and worship with their fellowship. We have been in this church several times, twice while Pastor Steve Nutt was there and in 2015 with Brother McKittrick. I was able to share our ministry and the work now going on at North Shore Baptist. The Bluethmann family was a wonderful blessing to us throughout the week, meeting us for meals and taking us to a Japanese baseball game – thank you to this wonderful family.



North Shore Baptist Church in Okinawa is doing wonderful, and even without our 4 they reached 20 in their Resurrection Day service on 1 March. Brother Jellison is such a wonderful blessing and friend to our family and we thank the Lord for the opportunity to serve under his leadership during our 2-½ months on deck. In my mind there is no better place for a church and no greater opportunity to interact with military men and women than at Camp Hansen, Okinawa. We met all our goals for ministry and left there filled with the joy of the Lord. Those goals include: be a help and encouragement to the Jellison family, be a witness for Christ, get the Gospel out and see souls saved, and help with any construction projects in the church facility.

We arrived home on Saturday, attended our home church services Sunday, and then Monday morning Debbie headed for Moscow, Idaho, where our son and his wife live. Brian was off to Boise area for his National Guard training, while Selina was home expecting the birth of our first grandchild on Thursday via C-Section. Debbie was able to be a comfort and cheer to her and a help with those last minute details. Brandon was born at noon on Thursday, in good health and strong lungs. We are tremendously blessed to see this little life and precious gift from the Lord in the hands of our son and daughter in law.



We are planning to depart here last week of June as we head for Naples, Italy. Pastor Matt Olsen and his wife at Bible Baptist Church, Naples will be traveling to the states for a short furlough through the summer and have asked us to fill their pulpit during their absence. We will be staying in their home, so our financial needs will be 50% less than what we needed in Okinawa. The church is a culturally mixed congregation, with approximately half the church being African refugees living in the Naples area. It makes a unique ministry experience and a sweet fellowship. We are looking forward to this ministry opportunity and praying for the Lord's help as we travel and minister there.

"The Lord God, merciful and gracious ... and abundant in goodness" Ex 34:6.  
Semper Fidelis, John and Debbie Martin

**[martinstomilitary@summervillebaptistchurch.org](mailto:martinstomilitary@summervillebaptistchurch.org) • (541) 805-8681**

Sending Church: Summerville Baptist Church • PO Box 164 • Summerville, OR 97876 • (541) 534-9155  
Baptist International Missions, Inc. • PO Box 9 • Harrison, TN 37341 • (423) 344-5050