



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

July 2018

Dear Pastor:

Praise the Lord we had no troubles leaving the west coast. We landed at Andrews AFB just in time to see our President's Marine 1 Helicopter land and transfer its occupants onto a jet and take off. We had the wonderful privilege of being in Graceway Baptist at the midweek service and update the Well's family and their wonderful congregation on our current mission. We spent a few days with our great friend – Nancy Springer (Colonel/USMC/Retired) in DC, and then a few days with lifelong friends: Mark (MSgt/USAF/Retired) and Debbie Murray in Charlottesville, VA before the first space available flight came up at Norfolk. We made the journey, just to return to the Murray's with no seats available. We spent two weeks at five air bases trying to catch a flight, but again there were no seats available (too many active duty traveling to Europe this time of year), so we decided to purchase tickets (\$2500.00) and flew out of Dulles International and landed in Naples on Monday, July 16th. We were welcomed aboard by several members of Bible Baptist, who blessed us with happy faces, eager chatter and a warm meal.

What a joy to be back at Bible Baptist and see a vibrant, growing church and also to see many of the faithful who have been there for years. After Sunday school, and the AM service, we broke for a delicious meal and then reconvened for the afternoon service. We had 46 or 47 folks present for the services and we shared a great spirit as we worshipped together. Thank the Lord for this great shining light in the Naples area.

In the little over a week since arriving we have tried to be in as many conspicuous places that the American military and their families may be. We have been on base several times visiting the Navy Exchange and the food court looking for opportunities to invite folks to church or even to share the Gospel. It is a challenge to find these opportunities as we are not totally free on base to proselytize. We



have noticed a large billboard just outside the navy base with the church information that has been hit by a car and knocked over and will require replacing. One of the church members is working to get it replaced, but the cost is prohibitive. If anyone is interested in being a blessing to Bible Baptist, this would be a worthy cause to contribute to.

Please pray for the Olsen family as they travel through the next month across the east coast reporting to churches and seeking to build their support. Please pray for us as we minister here at Bible Baptist that we would be a blessing to the church and to the Olsens. Our prayer is for protection and that when the Olsens return we will have been good stewards of their ministry and of their property.

Your faithful servants, Semper Fidelis;
John and Debbie Martin

“The Lord God, merciful and gracious ... and abundant in goodness” Ex 34:6.

martinstomilitary@summervillebaptistchurch.com • (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