

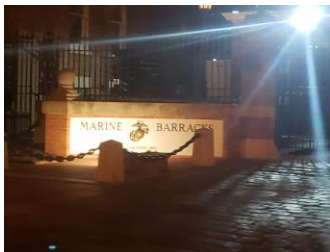


John & Debbie Martin

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

February 2019



Target Acquired!! This is Marine Barracks, Headquarters Marine Corps, Washington, DC (known by Marines as 8th & I – which is the intersection where it is located). Graceway Baptist church is located at 9th and Pennsylvania, literally two blocks away. We arrived Monday, February 4th and connected with Pastor Brad Wells. He and his family fed us and then he took us to his “war room” where we began discussions for our plan of attack.

Our trip across country was uneventful, but full of blessings. Our biggest concern was the potential for bad weather and slick roads. With the polar vortex looming across the Mid-West and Eastern seaboard, we prayed as we pushed on. Sunday, January 27th, was at Faith Baptist in Layton, Utah. We were tremendously blessed, needs were supplied and they sped us on our way with joy and prayers. On Tuesday we hit the lowest temperatures of our trip in St Louis at -7. It was so cold though there was no moisture, not even frost on the windshield, so the extreme cold was a blessing in that we had dry roads the entire trip. Wednesday evening was at Ripley Tabernacle Baptist, Ripley, West Virginia. Again we were blessed and left Thursday morning full. We arrived in Bensalem, Pennsylvania at our daughters on Thursday, 31 January. Bensalem Baptist was – again – a blessing to us through our stay. We worshipped together on Sunday and made the last leg of our journey to Washington DC on Monday, February 4th.

Thursday afternoon, Brother Wells and I spent some time outside the base, on what is referred to as “Barracks Row” passing out tracts and trying to connect with young Marines. We had several good conversations, and even had the opportunity to share the Gospel with one young serviceman, US Air Force, who just happened to be in the area. After several minutes of visiting, he said this: “I was raised LDS and have been struggling with their beliefs”, he was even carrying a book refuting Mormonism. I believe it was no accident we met. He was struggling with who Jesus was, so messengers were sent to answer that question. It was a very encouraging visit and I believe we will see him in our services here sometime.



We are praying for many more visits just like that one as we work to be a blessing to Brother Wells and Graceway Baptist, and fulfill the mission for which we were sent. Please pray for these things.

Semper Fidelis, John and Debbie Martin

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

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