



# John & Debbie Martin

## MISIONARIES TO THE US MILITARY

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

December 2019

It is mid December and we are preparing for Christmas. The church is decorated and now the kids are focused on getting the house decorated. I love this time of year as it brings back wonderful child hood memories, as well as, ponderings on the reason we celebrate – the Babe in the Manger! Faith Baptist Iwakuni is a wonderful place to worship the Lord, serve the Lord and celebrate the Lord. We have been so blessed to part of this work; if any of you feel the Lord is leading you into a life with the Marines, ask for duty at Iwakuni!!

Last week I went on board base and to receive permission to sing What an opportunity – we will be Wednesday evening in lieu of our are excited to take part in this. As far had permission to do this on base. Debbie is hosting a ladies fellowship on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of December, making cards and cookies for the security personnel on board base. They will be delivered on Christmas Eve. We also have the children singing Christmas songs for us on Sunday the 22<sup>nd</sup>.



met with the base chaplain. I was excited Christmas Carols in public areas on base. singing carols in the food court on normal mid-week service. Several families as I know it is the first time this church has

We have had visitors almost every week we have been here. Our high attendance was a couple weeks ago with 52 in the morning service. Today we had two visitors come at the invitation of one of our church members, and they both told me they wanted to get involved with this church. What a tremendous encouragement, and I will be following up.



We just returned from a trip to South Korea to have our passports stamped. We only have 90 days in country and must leave Japan for a minimum of 24 hours. We chose Korea because it's a cheap flight and only 1-1/2 hours away. I contacted a missionary in Seoul and asked for his suggestion on a hotel – he invited us to stay in his home with him. We did – and they were a tremendous blessing to us and such an awesome family to get to know. They have been in Korea for 15 years, they have 5 children aged 16 to 5. Daniel and Lydia Elliott picked us up from the airport, fed us several times, took us sight-seeing, made us part of their family and delivered us back to the airport. We even had the opportunity to meet with another missionary and help unload a 20 ft shipping container filled with bibles and literature bound for North Korea (approx 40 tons of material). That was hard and rewarding work, but a privilege to help prepare material headed for the most persecuted Christians in the world.



Merry Christmas to all, thank you for your loving and generous support of this work. It is an honor to be here and being about our Heavenly Father's business.

Semper Fidelis, John and Debbie Martin

*"The Lord God, merciful and gracious ... and abundant in goodness" Exodus 34:6*

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