

DIRECTOR OF MILITARY MINISTRIES
THE **ALVERSONS**
MINISTERING TO OUR MILITARY PERSONNEL
AND THEIR FAMILIES



Winter 2017

Dear Prayer Partner:

I am writing this correspondence from Mehlingen, Germany, where we will begin a missions conference tomorrow with Pastor Roy Smith and the Heritage Baptist Church, a ministry to the US military stationed in the Kaiserslautern area (Ramstein AB [Air Force], Volgeweh [Army], and others).

Today is January 31, a *red-letter day* for me that I will always remember. On this date in 1968 the Tet Offensive began in Viet Nam. We were hit with 300 rounds of Russian built 126 mm rockets and 150 rounds of mortar fire. Then the small arms fire started and we knew the enemy was attempting to overrun the base. Thinking I was going to die that night and not being right with God, I got on my knees in the corner of a sandbag bunker and asked God not to let me die in Viet Nam. I promised Him that night that if He would take me back home that I would serve Him. He did and I did! Shortly afterwards I gave my whole life to Him and surrendered to preach in February 1969. That was 48 years ago, and I have been preaching the glorious Gospel of our Blessed God since.

2016 was a year with many challenges as we had to cancel most of our meetings until June as the result of the eye stroke in November 2015. God showed Himself gracious as He always does and met our needs, both medically and financially. Many of you prayed much for us and some sent special offerings that we are surely grateful and very appreciative. We were able to fulfill our fall schedule (having to drive with one eye covered), which was very busy, but God mightily blessed our efforts. Then in November my ophthalmologist prescribed some special prism glasses that has allowed me to see with single vision again and has made a tremendous difference in our daily routine. Praise the Lord!

Joyce and I are looking forward to the new year of serving our Lord. There are new *opportunities* afforded to us this year which, of course, bring new *challenges*. We sure covet your prayers as we seek to be faithful in our Lord's service. Other prayer requests would include a pastor for the Maranatha Baptist Church in Okinawa, Japan. Their pastor left in September of last year and Brother Sammy Popwell, our Pacific Coordinator, has been serving as Interim Pastor and has done a magnificent job.

Also, join us in prayer regarding our European field conference scheduled for October in Salzburg, Austria. This is always a wonderful time of *refreshment* and *revitalization* for our missionaries and is very important for their continued *encouragement*. One area some could help would be to help our missionaries bear the expense for this meeting. Presently, it will cost right at \$1,000 per family for this meeting. If you could help with a love offering for them and if God would speak to your heart to do so, please send it to BIMI, account #642, our military account, and earmark it "*European field conference*." We will divide what comes in equally among them. Or if you want to just support a family, it would be great, too.

Thank you for your faithful support and prayers. We fully understand without our partners we could not continue in this wonderful work of Military Missions. God bless you for standing with us. We love you, pray for you and remain...

In Christ's Service,

Jeff & Joyce Alverson

