

# MILITARY MINISTRY

## BAPTIST INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS, INC.

Fall 2018

Dear Prayer Partner:

Well, fall has arrived and none too soon for me. Anybody who knows me knows that I do not fare well in hot weather, so I welcome the coming of the fall season.

This has, indeed, been a busy fall for Joyce and me. We are presently in Pacolet, South Carolina, this week preaching the ninth missions conference in the past nine weeks. We have had some wonderful meetings, seen many thousands of dollars raised for missions, and met some great missionaries on deputation and on furlough.

Since our last correspondence, we have been in Japan for our biennial Military Missions field conference held in Okinawa. It was a blessing to have 100% of our Pacific missionaries in attendance with the exception of one missionary wife who was in the states on a personal matter. The missionaries were encouraged, rejuvenated and a blessing one to another.

We were also privileged to attend the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Maranatha Baptist Church in Okinawa. What a blessed joy to be part of the celebration for 50 years of ministry to the United States military on the island! From the church's beginning, they have not changed any doctrines or standards and have faithfully stood for the things of God these 50 years. Through this ministry, literally thousands have come to Christ. They announced at the meeting that over 500 preachers have come out of this church in these 50 years of ministry. Pastor Ed Navato, the church, and Pacific Coordinator, Sammy Popwell, did a great job in both preparation and procedure to make it a great success. Dr. Don Sisk, from Baptist International Missions, Inc., did a wonderful job as the speaker for the events. He preached the organizational service there 50 years before. Please pray for the continued ministry of this great church.

Many of you have been praying that the Lord of the harvest would send us some new and younger missionaries. In December at the semi-annual board meeting, four new missionary candidates will meet the board to be approved for military ministry service. In June at the annual board meeting, six more are scheduled to join the team. Thank you for your faithful prayers in this matter.

We are also rejoicing that Don and Patsy Drake have received paperwork from the Spanish government and should have their visas any day to move to Spain and begin the new work in Moron, which will be the first English-speaking military work in the area near the military installation. Please pray for them as they have shipped their container and plan to make the move the first of December.

Joyce and I hope you are blessed more than ever during this Thanksgiving season. Hopefully, we will have the children and grandchildren home for these special days.

Once again, we thank you for your faithful prayers and support of this ministry to our United States service personnel and their families. If we can ever be of help to you, please let us know. Please pray that the Lord will keep us well and healthy so we can continue to serve Him until He takes us Home. We love you all and remain....

In Christ's Service,



Jeff & Joyce Alverson