

MILITARY MINISTRY

BAPTIST INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS, INC.

August 2019

Dear Friends and Supporting Pastors,

Would you please take a few minutes to read this special letter? This concerns a military church outside the base at Baumholder, Germany. This is an **URGENT NEED!** Grace Baptist Church has had a wonderful outreach and influence in the Baumholder military community for over 35 years. It has been a soul-winning ministry. Men and women have been sent out to serve the Lord in full time ministry from this church. Soldiers have been trained to serve in churches at new duty stations where they have been sent. The church has not had a fulltime missionary pastor for about two years. The church was scheduled to close its doors and cease to exist as a church on July 31, 2019. We found out about this and in April Brother Tom Lancaster, BIMI European Coordinator for Military Missions, met with the few people of the church and learned that by the last of September all the few families left would be gone, except one civilian family. This one civilian family is a family that moved to the area to specifically help keep the doors open. The man made this statement, "My wife and I did not come here to close a church, but to help build a church."

The church has had a great history and it has a great opportunity. There are now approximately 15,000 troops on the base, plus their families, and another 15,000 scheduled to come within the next 12 months. There are buildings going up all over the base. It was our consensus that something must be done to rescue this military ministry. If this church should be left to close there would be no Baptist church to minister to our military people. This base is a high deployment combat base. It has a history of high combat casualties, including KIAs.

With these facts in mind we contacted the owner of the building, and after discussion with her, prayer and consultation, we went by faith into a rental agreement for the building for approximately \$1250 a month. We will assume responsibility on August 1, 2019. We have a military missionary on deputation who will present himself to be voted on as missionary pastor as soon as his support is raised. Until then several men of God from both Germany and America have offered their help.

Our pressing need is much prayer and financial support to keep the church open. **We are praying for 30 churches to make a commitment of \$100 a month for 12 months.** This will give us enough money to pay the rent, utilities and take care of other essentials at the church until it becomes self-supporting. This monthly support, or one-time gift, can be sent to P.O. Box 9, Harrison, TN 37341, account # 642. Please indicate that your support is for Baumholder, Germany.

This military community needs this church and we believe that with good Bible preaching and soul-winning God will be glorified and the church will grow and continue to be a lighthouse in this military community. Thank you ahead of time for your prayers and consideration of financial support in this great need.

Bro. Bryan Baggett, BIMI Military Director
Bro. Jeff Alverson, International Military Ministry Representative
Bro. Tom Lancaster, European Military Ministry Coordinator