TERNATIONAL REPRESENTATIVE OF MILITARY M MINISTERING TO OUR MILITARY PERSONNEL & THEIR FAMILIES

Winter 2024

Dear Prayer Partner:

Today (as I write this correspondence) is January 31st, a day I will never forget. The year was 1968 at Bien Hoa, Vietnam. We had been hearing rumblings all day on the 30th of a possible heavy enemy attack as the Chinese Lunar New Year drew nigh. However, one is always prone to hearing rumors in a war zone. At 1800 hours (6 PM) our base went on Red Alert status as a large enemy presence had been spotted in the jungles near the base. It was a carefully coordinated and almost simultaneous attacks on at least 120 towns, cities and military bases across the country of South Vietnam by the Viet Cong and North Vietnamese Army. These enemy soldiers had infiltrated the country through the Hoa Chi Minh Trail, a passage from North Vietnam through Laos and Cambodia into the south. It was a terrible two and a half month campaign, which resulted in some 13, 000 American and South Vietnamese troop casualties. Altogether 58,220 Americans died in the Vietnam War fighting for our country, but God, in His mercy, brought me back home. On that first night of the Offensive as we were being hit hard by enemy fire, I promised God that if He would spare my life and bring me home that I would serve Him all the days of my life. Well, He did and I did! I gave my life to Him and now for 55 years I have been preaching His Word. That date was both a horrible and a wonderful day for me because, as a result of it, I found my direction for life.

Through the years our military ministry has resulted in making some lifelong friends. It is such a joy to my heart to see those in a previous ministry go on in their service for God. We led many to Christ in Germany who also gave their lives wholly to Christ and are now serving Him in their respective ministries. This past week Joyce and I were in Clinton, Maryland, and had a wonderful reunion with George and Ann Kerwood. They were involved in a church I organized years ago in Newport News, Virginia, area and I was privileged to be their pastor at Hahn, Germany. Brother George is now retired from the Air Force, and he and Ann are Deaf leaders in their church, serving faithfully and doing a great job. It thrills my heart to see folks just keeping on for JESUS after more than 30 years!

On January 12th I tested positive for the Covid virus. It pretty much zapped me and put me out of commission for about a week. Although I am still feeling the effects of it, I only had to cancel one weekend of meetings. Joyce has had a bad sinus infection but not Covid. Thank God! Please pray for us both regarding our health matters, especially during these winter weeks.

Next week I will be preaching my 23rd missions conference in a row at our home church, Linwood Baptist, LaFayette, Georgia. Please pray that the people can stay well and be able to attend faithfully. Also, pray that God will touch hearts about Faith Promise giving. Our little church supports 45 missionaries in different parts of the world.

We ask you, as we do in many of our letters, to pray for more laborers in Military Missions. Please pray especially for the Maranatha Baptist Church in Okinawa, Japan. God has greatly used this church for over 55 years to minister to many military personnel and their families stationed on this island. Literally thousands have been saved and several hundred have been called into the ministry through the work of this church. Maranatha needs a seasoned man to pastor it so please join us in prayer on this behalf.

We want to express our sincere appreciation for your faithful prayers and financial support of our ministry. We are fully aware of the fact that we could not continue without your partnership with us. We will be able to adequately thank you in Eternity but until then please accept our simple "thank you." We love you and remain...

> In Christ's Service, If & Joyce alverson

Jeff & Joyce Alverson

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