

4th Quarter 2006

"ALL ONE IN CHRIST JESUS"

AMCF Newsletter

ASSOCIATION OF MILITARY CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIPS • PO Box 27030 • DENVER, COLORADO

• All one in Christ Jesus • Todos uno en Cristo Jesus • Vce vy--odno vo Khriste Iicyce • Alle eins in Jesus Christus • Te gjithë nje ne Jezu Krishtin • Tous en Christ Jesus •

DISCOURAGED? CHRIST IS YOUR ANSWER!



"Why does God permit His own people to be discouraged? When blessings are absent from us, we are more diligent in seeking after God. It is human nature to come to God only after trying to find fulfillment in other things first. When a man sees the emptiness of those things, then he says, 'Oh, how fulfilling is God in Christ.' This being human nature, and God loving His children, He permits discouragement so that we will, in the end, find the true encouragement: God Alone." – paraphrased from A Lifting up of the Downcast, sermons preached by William Bridge in 1648.

"The 'peace of God, which transcends all understanding' promised in the New Testament is a peace in the midst of warfare, a calmness in the midst of fear; a confidence in the midst of doubt. Living as resident aliens in a strange land, citizens of a secret kingdom, what other kind of peace should we expect?" – Philip Yancey, Reaching for the Invisible God

"Spiritual dryness, if that is [God's] will at the moment, is as much to be loved and obeyed as spiritual fervor ... It takes repeated aridity ... to bring home to us that our own so precious feelings contribute nothing to our salvation; that, in fact, they generally stand in the way of our perfection. Spiritual dryness can finally lead us, after much pouting, actually to give thanks that it is not because we see God that we have joy. It is because he sees us." Gale D. Webbe, The Night and Nothing

Photos courtesy of U.S. DOD



'Fighting the Good Fight' for Military

Cambodian English class

ANGOLA

In August members of Angola's MCF were given permission to visit an army brigade. They praise God that one of the MCF members was able to give his testimony and over 60 soldiers gave their lives to the Lord. Bernie and Sara Sparrow, an American military couple who have lived in Africa for several years and who have been deeply involved in the Angolan MCF's ministry, return to the U.S. in December but plan to return for mission trips when possible. Pray that the Angolan MCF leadership will continue to grow strong and be used by God within their nation's armed forces.

CAMBODIA

In July military Christians in Cambodia shared Christ with their fellow officers and soldiers through Bible studies, English lessons, and computer training. Additionally, a team of doctors, nurses, and assistants provided medical assistance to the military families, even performing some surgical procedures. Evening activities, which were optional for the Cambodian soldiers, included worship, testimonies, and Bible studies emphasizing Jesus' mission of salvation. Over 50 adult Bible study participants indicated their desire to continue studying the Scriptures, and many children who attended the children's Bible lessons made decisions for Christ. Please pray for wisdom as the Cambodian Christians follow up with participants from this event.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Hurricane Ernesto's downpour couldn't dampen the enthusiasm of military Christians in Dominican Republic as they gathered for fellowship and encouragement in August. About 125 members, representing all branches of the military and the police, participated. The Dominican Republic doesn't currently have evangelical chaplains, but the MCF has many members who volunteer as unofficial chaplains. Because of that, the MCF will be holding a two-week chaplaincy training course for their members in the future. Please pray for all of the MCF's ministries, including their volunteer chaplains' work.

COSTA RICA

Approximately 27 men and women in Costa Rica are meeting monthly to encourage each other in their ministries as unofficial evangelical chaplains. Please pray for these volunteer chaplains, and pray with MCF members as they hope to distribute 1,000 New Testaments during the remainder of 2006.

JAPAN

Military Christians in the "Land of Morning Calm" hosted an Interaction program which taught leadership principles to military Christians from China, India, Japan, Korea, Mon-



OCF's Camp Caleb

ary Ministry...Around the Globe

golia, Malaysia, Philippines, Taiwan, Thailand, and the USA. In addition to leadership sessions, participants attended a chapel service at the Korean Army Sixth Corp headquarters and learned about Vision 2020, a military evangelistic outreach within Korea. They also developed personal relationships and fellowship with each other, which is an integral component of Interaction programs.

MOLDOVA

Eduard Rosca, president of the MCF of Moldova ("Cornelius") has been tasked (as the only military member of a 12-person commission) by the Moldovan minister of defense to develop a multi-confessional chaplaincy project. Eduard visited the U.S. in September to learn about the U.S. chaplaincy program and meet with the chief chaplains of the army, air force, and navy. Additionally, he met with parachurch leaders (Campus Crusade Military Ministry, Olive Branch International, and ACCTS) to gain a greater appreciation of how chaplains, churches, and para-church organizations work together in military ministry. The best three chaplaincy plans which are developed by the commission will be used for a one-year trial period, and the most effective plan will, at the end of the trial period, serve as the model for the entire Moldovan chaplaincy.



Ukrainian teen camp participants

SOUTHERN AFRICA

"I wish to share with you the good news of the birth of the Military Christian Fellowships of Mauritius and Swaziland in the South Africa region, the 104th and 105th MCFs to be born in the world," writes AMCF President General Lee, Pil Sup. "Please pray for the newborn MCFs that they may become mature and effective, and also continue to pray at noontime for the birth of MCFs in the remaining 91 countries. I would like to express my deepest respect and congratulations to Brothers Krishna and Vijay who have started the MCF of Mauritius, and Sgt Maj Joyce D., the Swaziland MCF chairman."



ACCTS' medical clinic in China

SRI LANKA

In October Sri Lankan military Christians will host the AMCF South Asia Regional Conference, followed by a "mini" Interaction to nurture regional MCF leaders and, in countries without an MCF, provide military Christians with tools to help establish fellowships.

UKRAINE

The MCF of Ukraine held two English camp sessions during the summer which provided spiritual nourishment for all who attended. Campers included military officers, their wives, and their teenage children. About 35 campers made a decision to accept Christ. MCF of Ukraine members ask for prayers that campers who accepted Christ will grow in their faith, and that the Holy Spirit would work in the hearts of the other campers, leading to their accepting Christ into their lives.

USA

Officers' Christian Fellowship members are praising God for the Holy Spirit's work during their summer '06 Camp Caleb programs. Camp Caleb is a summer youth camp for military dependent children in grades three through eight. The camp provides military kids with a foundation of learning about Christ. It also includes horseback riding, archery, swimming, and canoeing. Camp Caleb has ten sessions each summer, with a total of over 200 camper participants.

AMCF Ministry Partners:

ACCTS in China

During the summer Cal and Linda Dunlap traveled to Japan and China with two U.S. Military Academy cadets as part of ACCTS' Academy Exploration Asia program. In China they renewed friendships that had been formed on earlier trips, and provided books and computers for a village school library. Additionally, a U.S. doctor who is associated with ACCTS held a clinic in the village to give medical check-ups as needed. Pray that ACCTS' ongoing ministry of friendship in China will share Christ's love in this powerful nation.

Accts MMI in Africa

In July Simon Farmer and Homfray Vines of Accts MMI completed a mission trip through Uganda, Rwanda, Kenya. The trip consisted of hours of ministry and meetings with military Christians and others. In Rwanda, the MCF has survived but has struggled since 1998. The Accts MMI team was able to meet with and give encouragement to a few MCF members and a pastor of a military church.

Promoted to Heaven

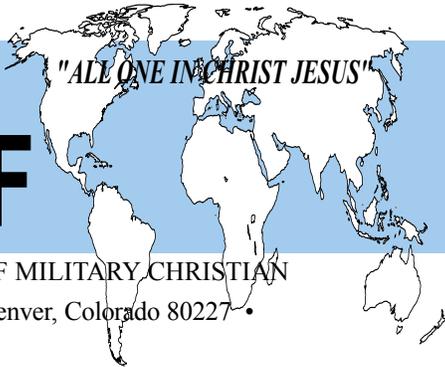
Heaven is "where the unveiled glories of the Deity shall beat full upon us, and we forever sun ourselves in the smiles of God."

- Ezekiel Hopkins

A leader in the Military Christian Fellowship of Ukraine, Alexandr "Sasha" Kozeev, was killed in July by a drunk driver. Sasha, age 38, was a gifted musician who shared Christ weekly with soldiers in barracks and in a prison. Please uphold Sasha's widow, Inna, and their children: Vadim, 15, and Kristina, 8.



Miss Ardiana Kalemi, secretary for the Albanian MCF, went to be with the Lord in June. Ardiana, age 37, will be remembered for her unconditional love and commitment to her family and God, her beautiful paintings, her generous heart, and gentle personality. Please uphold her parents, Spiro and Donika, and her sisters in your prayers.



AMCF

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This newsletter printed for AMCF by ACCTS, Denver, CO, USA.