

# MILITARY EVANGELISM



# THE MILITARY FELLOWSHIP CENTER

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## **July 2024**

### **CHAPEL**

In July I got to preach every other week at the Camp Johnson Chapel. The attendees are almost all new to the Chapel ministry, as most of those coming in the spring graduated and moved on to permanent duty stations in June. It's always a special time at the Chapel. Patty and I are making new connections and look forward to how the Lord will let us lead these new young Marines to follow Christ closer.

### **GUEST PREACHERS**

Our son Luke preached at our Friday night service the night before our road trip. As always, the troops responded to him enthusiastically. During the Q&A afterwards, Luke commented how when we moved to Jacksonville 8 years ago, he was the same age as the average Marine. Now he is almost 30. Taking a page from his father, he admonished the Marines to "listen to this old man!" A couple weeks later one of our Marines who was called to the Ministry while he was with us, Mason Montoya, travelled down to us from Wake Forest and preached the Tuesday night Bible Study. This was the third time we had Mason back to the Center to lead the Bible Study, and again he brought a wonderful message. I am a proud physical papa to one and spiritual papa to both of these "preacher boys."

#### **ROAD TRIP**

In the middle of the month we had an impromptu road trip that turned out to be an incredible blessing. My mother was having surgery to have her gall blader removed and I wanted to head up to Maryland to be there. At the same time we learned of a need to help a member at our sending church, New Life Baptist, to move her home. We traveled up early Saturday morning, helped with the move and then headed over to Dover, DE where I preached the morning service at Southside Baptist with my good friend Pastor Chris Kondracki the next morning. Monday morning was Mom's surgery, and everything went well and praise God she recovered quickly. Heading home Tuesday morning, we arrived just in time to cook and teach at the Center.

## **NEW VISITORS**

Many of our Marines are away on training missions across the country, and others are on deployment or permanently moving on to Japan, California and even Florida. Our attendance at the Center though has remained steady, as those who are in town have been really busy bringing their friends in their units out to Bible Study. We have had new Marines in almost every service this month! Many are returning and becoming regulars at the Center.

#### **COPIER**

This month our copier at the Center (that we produce these prayer letters on, plus a lot of paperwork and outreach material) suffered a major malfunction in the Automatic Document feeder. Our Copier repairman came out and had to bypass the ADF to get the machine to work again. It is 15 years old and parts for it are scarce. Though we can make copies without the ADF, his suggestion is that we look to replace it as parts will be totally unavailable in the future. We can obtain a 3- to 4-year-old refurbished professional office copier that has even more features than our current one, like folding and stapling booklets and communicating with our computers, for about \$5,000. A newer copier should give us another 10 years of service before it too is out of date. If you can help us offset this cost we would be very grateful. With the ability to send documents directly from our computers, and to be able to do booklet printing in-house, I could put together gospel booklets and teaching materials to hand out to our Marines and Sailors. Please pray with us that God provides.

Thank you for your faithful support. Without you we could not reach these Marines and Sailors for Christ.