



# AMEN NEWS

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**American Military Evangelizing Nations**

Fall 2022

## GRATITUDE

The end of year holiday season of Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's is truly an opportunity to reflect and show gratitude. Throughout the year it is all too easy to get lost in the details of living. The demands and challenges of life can sometimes be overwhelming and it is easy to lose sight of experiences, events and people who make life meaningful to us. Add to this the influence of both mass and social media with their ever-present criticisms and predictions of gloom. It is no wonder that the stresses of life can cloud our view of the good and positive in our lives. Yet, healthy, well-adjusted people find ways to sustain a spirit of gratitude, to keep the positive alive, and to be filled with hearts of thanksgiving. God's Word instructs, "*Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks*

*in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."* 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

The efforts of the AMEN Military Ministry have given me cause for gratitude. First, AMEN was the means for my personal spiritual journey starting as a junior Airman to know Jesus Christ and to receive eternal life through the Gospel. Forty years later I was privileged to become the director of this ministry with its sole focus on ministering to the military community. My own journey in the Air Force helped me to see the need for the Lord's church to have a mission emphasis which can speak to the of

experience of military life and its impact on the souls those called to serve in uniform. AMEN is joined by others who have a heart for serving our warfighters and their families. It is encouraging to see how God is using Military Outreach, Military Outreach and Encouragement, and God's Word for Warriors to address issues often neglected by the local church. The work of these organizations reminds our Servicemen and women they have not been forgotten in their far-flung assignments to maintain peace in the world.

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Another gratifying aspect of AMEN is the pool of talent which has made this ministry possible. Christian brothers and sisters representing all Service Branches and from all ranks and interested civilians have partnered over the years to ensure those from the

Church of Christ have opportunity to worship the Lord as Scripture instructs. From these dedicated servants the Gospel has been preached, faith ignited and discipleship sustained sometimes under the harshest of conditions. Whether it be from the deck of ship in the Med, on patrol on the Korean DMZ, in the rice paddies of Vietnam or on a Forward Operating Base in Afghanistan faithful servants of Christ have upheld the Word of God.

Finally, I am grateful for the potential which lies ahead in bringing glory to God by serving the military community. There is a keen sense of

satisfaction in ministering to our military brethren and our Veterans. How gratifying it is to help a new recruit find a place to worship to sustain her through Basic Training; or helping a member find worship and fellowship in a remote, deployed location. I have used networks of people to help a Navy chaplain locate a suicidal sailor avoiding a tragic outcome. The 10-week course on Faith and Transition using the *God's Word for Warriors* curriculum has proven to be a powerful tool allowing military members and Vets to share their faith journey in an accepting environment. The Spirit of Christ is moving in this ministry and with faith in Jesus our Savior more and more lives will be touched by the Gospel.

## RESOURCES

Best Practice **-Fort Sill OK**, the Northwest Church of Christ has a prayer ministry for new recruits in Basic Training. Each week during on-post worship prayer request cards are available which are collected and given to church members to pray and respond with encouraging note. Following Sunday cards are returned to recruit. These new soldiers have praised this ministry of encouragement during the stress of training.

Military members and veterans will greatly benefit from Small Group Ministries that are sensitive to and address the experiences of warfighters regarding overseas deployments, combat trauma, maintain family relationships in high stress environment, and maintaining godliness as a warrior. God's Word for Warriors is offering two important courses for churches to care for their military families. One course is the **Intersection of Military and Civilian Culture** designed to give insights into the lifestyle and worldview of military life. Another course is the Leadership Development for the **Faith and Transition Course**. The program will teach a member of your church how to lead a 10-week training helping military members navigate transition from deployments back to home life. Email them at [contactus@godswordforwarriors.com](mailto:contactus@godswordforwarriors.com)

### UPCOMING EVENTS

07 Sept – "Faith and Transition" Course from *God' Word for Warriors* via Zoom On-line

### NEW KEY MEN & WOMEN

The heart of AMEN are the Key Men/Women who provide the Locator Service benefitting numerous military Christians. Many rely on this network of saints to find opportunities for worship, fellowship and learning. Welcome to our newest Key Men

Russell Dykman

Camp LeJeune NC

There is a great need for Key Men & Women for:

Fairchild AFB WA

McConnell AFB KS

Williams AFB AZ

Dyess AFB TX

Fort Polk LA

Whiteman AFB MO

Eielson AFB AK

All U.S. Naval vessels

Recruit Training Command, Naval Station Great Lakes IL

Need information on contacts for deployed location in Poland, Romania, Baltic States, and other overseas locations.

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