

Tom and Dottie Lancaster

~ Missionaries to Our U.S. Military Worldwide ~



March 2021 Prayer Letter

Dear Friends and Ministry Partners,

Greetings to you in the precious name of Jesus. Dottie and I are reminded so often of Psalm 103:8 – “God is **merciful** and **gracious**...plenteous in **mercy**.” I love that His **mercy** is emphasized twice. We have certainly experienced God’s **grace and mercy** in the past few weeks.

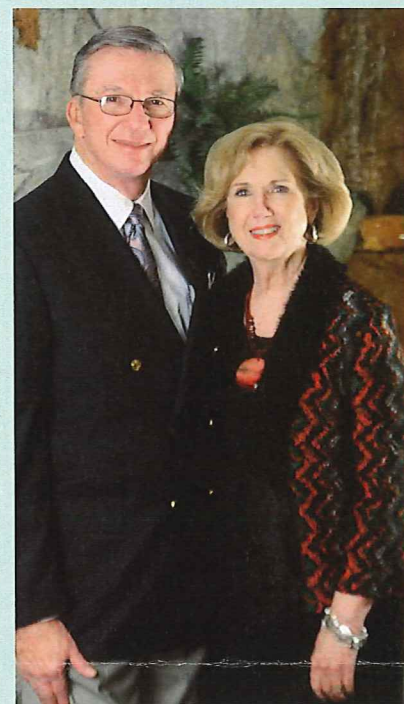
I have been constantly amazed as we travel, at the churches and pastors who are not aware of the field of military missions and have never thought of the need for military missions. Recent statistics reveal that a little under a million and a half Americans are serving in our U.S. military. They are serving in 150 different countries. In addition, 40,000 are serving in unspecified locations throughout the world. Some of these overseas assignments, such as Germany, Italy, Spain, Japan, South Korea, Great Britain, are places that families may accompany. This represents tens of thousands of Americans. These are wives, husbands, children and sometimes a dependent parent. The conclusion that we came to years ago is that it was our responsibility to try to get the gospel to these men, women and their families who are sacrificing so much for us, wherever they are serving. If possible, they need a good church, a caring pastor who preaches the gospel and a supporting church family. Their children need a Sunday School. They need to be trained to carry the gospel wherever they go, even to the battlefield. The Bible mandate is “every creature.” The churches’ responsibility in church planting is wherever there is a need and can be accomplished. That is not limited to the great cities, small towns, or rural communities of America. It is our responsibility to reach these people who have given so much for us. This is my and Dottie’s hearts! For over 35 years that has been our mission, and pastoring and serving these military families has been our joy. We have a special burden now for raising the awareness of churches and pastors for the need of military missions and trying to recruit men and women who will give their lives for this great task. We thank you for your faithful love and support over the years and ask that you would continue to pray with us about this need.

The rescued military work in Baumholder, Germany, is going very well. They have called a good veteran missionary/pastor. I talked to the new missionary, Brother Joe Passaro, last week and he is very excited about all that God is doing there. Thank you for your prayers and please continue to pray that this church will reach its full potential. An urgent need is a missionary on the ground in Daegu, South Korea. Please pray for this great need.

This has been a year of great challenges all over the world. We are so thankful for our military missionaries, as well as our supporting churches, that have faced all the issues pertaining to COVID-19 and have stuck with it. Dottie and I have had to face these same issues – meetings cancelled, travel restrictions, rescheduling, etc. And then on the 24th of January while beginning a mission’s conference in Nashville, Tennessee, it became apparent that I was having some stroke like symptoms – weakness in my left arm and leg, slightly slurred speech. The pastor arranged to have me driven back to Chattanooga where I immediately went to the ER and the doctors confirmed that it was indeed a mild stroke. I spent three days in the hospital and was released and instructed to stay close to home for several weeks for healing. I have been improving day by day and have very little residual effects of the stroke now. God has indeed been **gracious** and **merciful** to us. We cannot thank Him enough for His great **mercy**. It could have been so much worse. I am looking forward to getting back to my normal schedule in a couple of weeks. If Dottie and I can be a help in anyway, mission’s conference, mission’s Sunday, reporting, etc., it would be an honor.

Your servants for Christ,

Tom and Dottie Lancaster



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Serving as the BIMI European
Coordinator for Military Missions

P.O. Box 28167

Chattanooga, TN 37424

tomdottiel@yahoo.com

706-581-4273

lancasterstothemilitary.blogspot.com

BIMI

P.O. Box 9

Harrison, TN 37341

Lancaster Account # 1331



Sending Church: Open Bible Baptist Church, 3978 N. Oak St. Valdosta, GA 3160
Sent Through: Baptist International Missions (BIMI), P.O. Box 9, Harrison, TN 37341