

# MISSIONARIES to the MILITARY

*April 2011*



Dear Friends,

***"For, lo, the winter is past,  
the rain is over and gone;  
the flowers appear on the earth;  
the time of the singing of birds is come."  
Song of Solomon 2:11-12***

*I* has been a joy for us to have our morning coffee as we look out our window at the birds and squirrels as they scamper, busily building nests and eating. We are greatly enjoying our first spring living in the country, affectionally referred to by our family as "The Farm."

*Ministry...* Several things have changed in our ministry since the beginning of 2011. The Center attendance has been up and down, due to several factors. One major factor is the lack of interest and dedication in the lives of the young Airmen we are meeting. Those who are sincere Christians find themselves a church home and get busy; however, those who are sincere and dedicated are rare jewels in today's Air Force. The world and materialism seem to have their inter-

ests and devotion. The Center is still available for activities, and we continue to tell those we meet about what we offer.

*A* nother factor that prevents faithful attendance is the work demands of today's Air



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Force. Many of these men and women work very long hours all week and on weekends; therefore, their social life is limited by their demanding schedules. When they are off duty, being young and energetic, they seek recreation places or catch up on their sleeping. So, it seems that our days of using the Center to prepare home cooked meals, providing a home environment, and playing board games have been replaced by fast food, other interests, and life in the fast lane.

*Yes,* their heart needs are the same, and their spiritual needs must be met, but the challenge we face daily is: **how can we more effectively reach today's men and women of the Air Force?**

I continue to be actively seeking ways to reach Airmen where they are-on base. The Lord has opened a door for me to do volunteer work in a new facility on base called the Solid Rock Cafe (SRC). It offers video games, 5 TV's, 5 computer stations, wireless internet, and a huge theater room. The SRC is open every night and is very popular among young Airmen new to the base, as well as to those who are only here for a few weeks in training. I am presently at the SRC on Tuesday and Friday nights to open the facility

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and be responsible for the operation. Through this avenue, I'm constantly seeking to befriend Airmen with the goal to be a witness of Jesus Christ and invite them to the Military Christian Center and church. I don't know how long this door will be open, as a full time director is expected to take charge of the facility by the end of April.

I am still involved with the Airmen's Outreach quarterly activities on base. We had an event in January and I provided desserts for the meal, with help from the ladies of our church. We haven't seen much fruit in the way of attendance at the Center, but the involvement has helped in other ways. I have developed a presence among the leadership of the base. This involvement has helped me to get my base pass renewed each of the past 4 years with the latest renewal last month. My pass is now approved until March 2012. This is a great blessing.

*Personal . . .* Linda had cataracts removed from both eyes over the past few months. The surgeries went very well and she is now enjoying clear vision again. Both of us had several tests in different areas of concern, but these tests all came back OK. I guess the miles are catching up with us. Our sugar, cholesterol, and blood pressure all require us to be on medication, and so far they are kept 'somewhat' under control.

We enjoy our grand-girls, EMILY and SAVANNAH, visiting often with us and showing them around The Farm. We don't speak often of our grand-boys, ASHTON and WES, but they too are a blessing to us. I keep up with Wes on Facebook, and Ashton calls often to chat and keep us informed on his blessings. We also had a recent visit by our son, JON and wife JOANNIE, which was a treat for us. Linda's mom remains with us and her health is good for an 86 year old. We only had to take her to the doctor one time last year, and that visit was routine, and mainly to get her flu shot. My dad is in good health at 94 and still drives himself around, but probably shouldn't.

### *Prayer and Praises:*

- On Tuesday and Friday nights, pray for me at the Solid Rock Cafe.
- Our son-in-law, *Brian*, starts 6 weeks of training on April 11 at Maxwell AFB, in Alabama.
- Its GREAT to have *Matthew* home from Afghanistan after deploying for 8 months.
- We had a young married couple visit from Maranatha Baptist Bible College seeking the Lord's will for their future ministry, but they think the Lord is directing them in another direction.
- We continue to pray for "*younger legs*" to come alongside us in the ministry here.
- Our health and energy level to meet the demands of the necessary work and ministry.
- *Chuck and Janis*, both recently saved, to grow and be faithful to the Lord. I met Chuck at the SRC. Janis is an Air Force spouse.

*Thank you* so much for praying for us and our ministry to the Military. Your faithfulness is a great blessing to us. Some of you write, some call, and some send emails, but we know that MANY of you pray, and MANY of you give, which allows us to serve as YOUR missionaries.

**Please note OUR HOME address, phone number and email on other side.  
It is a blessing to get news from those who pray for us.**

  
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