

## A PLEA for PRAYER – October 3, 2009 - No. 81

**We would appreciate updates on the location of our military because of continued unit movements.**

Note: This list and plea will be updated and expanded as God gives information and grace. While this prayer plea is posted on the Internet, every effort is made to keep information appropriately private and with minimum information on mission, units and location. All requests, news and update information should be sent to the editor at: Coie.1@opc.org

*Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends (John 15:13). Let us come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need (Hebrews 4:16). And the work of righteousness shall be peace; and the effect of righteousness quietness and assurance for ever (Isaiah 32:17).*

The request continues. Please pray for our OPC men and women, sons and daughters who are in harm's way, about to be in harm's way, and who support those in harm's way. *The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much (James 5:16b). Pray without ceasing (I Thessalonians 5:17).*

*Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee. **So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me.** (Hebrews 13:5-6)*

**Prayer focus: On the Point (part 2)** – In August, we were reminded that those who serve from the covenant community have the promise that “Our Covenant God will *never leave them nor forsake them*. Following the so of verse 6, there are two further implications gained by godly contentment. First that God is our helper. Our human frailties often leave us helpless, but God comes to our aid and is our helper to overcome our limitations. No where is that more evident than in combat with a deadly enemy. Furthermore *the Lord* not only is our *helper*, but because he is our *helper* we may stand even before the face of death and declare that we *will not fear what man shall do unto us*. What an awesome declaration! It is God's help that can bring strength to our hearts and souls and that takes away all fear of man and what he can do to us. Who is man to stand against us as we rest in the fear of the Lord of the whole universe *who none can stay his hand or say unto him what doest though?* Pray that our warriors rest alone in the help of our great sovereign God!

Continue to pray that we will recognize the true nature of the enemy. Be not weary in hoping, praying and waiting to see the salvation of our great God whose new mercies come every morning! Pray that the Gospel may continue to have free course. Pray that the culture of death will be defeated and that our nation will stand united and will endure in the defense of freedom. Please continue to pray for the spouses, children, parents and siblings of our warriors. Pray for the families of the fallen, pray for the wounded and the one recently captured that they may all endure and come to rest and trust in Christ.

May we be “**animated to pray by the certain hope of obtaining our requests.**” *Calvin*

We have lives precious to us in harm's way: Aaron, Andrew (two), Brett, **Britt**, Chris, Doug, Douglas, Dustin, Harry, John (three), Kyle, Matt, Michael, Nicolas, Noah, Rachel, Rueben, Scott, Stephen (two) and Chaplains Kyle Brown, Cornelius Johnson, **Richard Rojas** and Doug Withington. Praise God that Gareth has returned safely. New deployments shown in **bold**.

- [7/09] CAPT Bryan J. Weaver, CHC, USN was awarded the prestigious Legion of Merit for his care of the Marines at Camp Lejeune over the last several years including several deployments culminating with his service as II Marine Expeditionary Force Chaplain. Congratulations Chaplain Weaver for a job well done in the service of the King!
- [8/16/09] - From his mom - a note requesting we add LCpl Matthew F. USMC who is deployed to a foreign base for 2 years. Pray for fellowship opportunities for Matt.
- 09/04 – From Pastor Doug - One more report from our congregation: LT John A. USN has just been selected for promotion to LCDR. We praise God for His grace to His people so that whatever they do, they do their work heartily, as for the Lord, rather than for men. Redeemer OPC..., praises God, as we know that the rest of the OPC will, that Gareth H. returned safely from Afghanistan in late August. His reunion with his wife and son, and his church family, has been joyful. We also want to report that Britt Y. B. deployed in late August to [the Mideast], after a training period in Mississippi. Britt has been trained as a cavalry scout; his duty puts him in harm's way regularly. [We have since received word that Britt is now a PFC.]
- 09/12/09 – From RE and retired Command Master Chief Roy P. - Please add our grandson, 2ndLt Luke W. P., USMC, presently training in California, to Please Pray for Those Who Serve and Their Families Prayer List. After his training is completed and he is reassigned, I will update your Prayer List. Both Patty and I extend our sincere thanks and appreciation to you Bob for your continuing ministry with this most important part of service to our Country and to our military members and their families.
- From GySgt Dustin O. - I'm not sure if Maj. Scott has already written; but in the event he hasn't, I would like to send a request for prayers of praise. Yesterday (090907), our Lord blessed some of his humble servants on Camp [deployed location], with the visit and fellowship of Chaplain Withington. I was able to enjoy a lunch with a couple Chaplains and him; and followed up later that day, with a fine dinner that included Majors Scott and Tom. The meal was standard, but the fellowship was excellent. We finished our time with pictures and departed grateful for these blessings from our LORD. [Over the last several years, our small contingent of warriors has in God's good providence had similar notes of praise for God's provision of fellowship in Christ on the battle front. Praise Him from whom from all blessings flow!]
- 09/14 From Chaplain Jon Gibbs in response to a note of congratulations on his being selected for promotion to Colonel - Thanks so much. God is indeed good. Just as an update to the prayer calendar and news, I'm no longer at the Chief's Office. I'm in Korea now for a one year unaccompanied tour with the 2nd Infantry Division as the Division Chaplain. Thanks for your prayers and kind thoughts. Blessings to all! [Double congratulations Jon!]
- Finally, please continue to pray for a couple of our Marines and soldiers probably engaged in current offensives in one of our theaters of operation that God would keep and preserve them!

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### **Chaplains' Reports:**

With all of our military might, the greatest weapon we have in the long war against Islamic Terrorists is the Sword of the Spirit utilized in the proclamation of the Gospel and empowered by the sovereign Lord of evangelism. The church wields this weapon best when the expectant prayers of His people accompany it. Pray the Lord of the harvest for the success of the Gospel and for more laborers for the harvest, specifically for more chaplains. Plead for a corps of

reformed chaplains sufficient to fill every available opening and sufficient to minister to all of our own deployed warriors. Great petitions to Him bring!

**CH (COL) Chet Lanious, USA, Fort Bragg, NC (Presbytery of the Central US)** This quarter I will teach, attend meetings and produce products to further establish the Center for World Religions. Also, I will begin to think about transitions as I will retire in this fiscal year. The future is in God's hands and we will look toward His plan for the next phase of our life. **PRAYER REQUEST:** Please join Elizabeth and me in praying about His will for our retirement.  
**E-Mail:** [chester.lanious@us.army.mil](mailto:chester.lanious@us.army.mil)

**CH (CPT) Kyle Brown, USA, HHD, 180th TC BN, Fort Hood, TX (Presbytery of Ohio)** Greetings from Kuwait! I want to praise God for the smooth transition to Camp Arifjan; it has been relatively painless. The Soldiers have done an amazing job of taking up the mission right where it is and continuing to improve. I am preaching on a regular basis and having a tremendous opportunity to get out to the Soldier's work place, to which they are responding well. My family is proving to be the true bedrock of my ministry, as Laurel and the kids are doing very well. As a family we are beginning to learn new lessons from the promise of Scripture that "in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us." **PRAYER REQUEST:** Please continue to pray for Laurel and the kids, that they would take every thought captive in Christ; that God would give me even more opportunities to speak of the saving grace of Christ; that God would protect my Soldiers and their families.  
**E-Mail:** [kyle.brown14@us.army.mil](mailto:kyle.brown14@us.army.mil)

**Ch Capt Richard Rojas, USAF, Dover AFB, Dover AFB, DE (Presbytery of New York and New England)** I'm headed to Kabul, Afghanistan for six months where I will serve as NATO ISAF/J1 Chaplain (one deep). **PRAYER REQUEST:** Please pray for a good relationship with the command, help for our men's & ladies' studies; and for Deb and the home-schooling of Elly, Rich Jr, Kirsten, & Trinity in my absence.  
**E-Mail:** [richard.rojas2@dover.af.mil](mailto:richard.rojas2@dover.af.mil)

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Pray that President Barack H. Obama, will guide us as a nation in righteousness that is according to God's Word, and that he will *be just, ruling in the fear of God* (II Sam 23:3b). Pray for those who lead our warriors, from those in the cabinet to the NCO in the field, particularly for all those who name the Name of Christ.

**Pray for those who serve us, that their courage, strength and wisdom will not waver or fail, that their actions will be swift, victorious and bold as a lion (Proverbs 28:1), that God will grant them safety and bring them home to their families. Pray for their wives and families, that as they are without their loved ones, they may endure and support them. Pray that we will minister to the families in the stead of those who serve. Pray for their testimony to the lost. Please pray both publicly and privately.**

Pray that our **chaplains will be bold** in the ministry of the Word – that precious Word that not only tells how we can have life eternal, but also instructs how we are to live! Pray for all our members who serve, that the light of the gospel will burn brightly in their lives.

In His hands,

Robert M. Coie, for the OPC Committee on Chaplains and Military Personnel