



MARK SMAN



Mission Statement:

Celebrating God's love and forgiveness, we serve others.

Core Values:

Prayer, Accessibility, Service, Communication, Education, Worship, Youth, Healthy Relationships

Our Vision:

Following Jesus' example "we feed the hungry, clothe the naked, welcome the stranger, nurse the sick, and visit the imprisoned as we see Jesus in the faces of those we serve."

JUNE 2010

St. Mark's Lutheran Church 580 Hilltop Drive Chula Vista CA 91910 (619) 427-5515 Pastor Ron Hovick

Denise Jones' nephew--Kyle Johnson-- has been assigned to a very small remote Army base outside of Kandahar, Afghanistan. He will be there for the next 6 months. The base has less than 50 people, all Special Ops troops.

Denise is "adopting" this base for the duration of her nephew's deployment.. and is asking for donated items from church members, or other interested people, for care packages to be sent every other week.

The mailing dates are:

May 4, May 18, June 1, June 15, June 29, July 13, July 27, August 10, August 24....

According to Kyle-- the soldiers have specifically asked for :

Sunblock -spray-on preferred, but anything OK. (summer is coming, it is already hot, and will reach 130 by August).

Chapstick with sunblock

men's cotton socks- all sizes (the short kind, ankle socks/runner's socks)

Men's cotton T-shirts- all sizes. Color OK, pockets greatly appreciated!!

Foot powder

magazines: 4WD, motorcycle, men's health, outdoor, car and driver, etc.

candy: NON MELTING. it will take 2 weeks or more to ship, and summer is coming.

snacks: goldfish crackers, wheat thins, beef jerky, protein bars/cliff bars. etc.

DOG TREATS! the base has 4 resident dogs that alert them to approaching enemy.

The guys all asked for homemade cookies... and this is both sad and hard. IF you can find a recipe that will hold up to high heat and weeks of travel, it will definitely be appreciated! Pack it well.

CARDS FROM CHILDREN will be greatly appreciated too, as well as cards/notes from anyone. Any reminders of home, or anything to boost spirits is great.

The army does NOT supply any personal use items, such as the chapstick or sunblock, and there is NO store to go to, as you can imagine. They get whatever is shipped to them, even if they have to purchase it themselves. The socks and t-shirts are especially needed.

Call Denise if you can help, or if you have questions. 619-656-7752, 619-495-8392 (cell), denisejonz@hotmail.com, or talk to her at church!

HEART-FELT THANKS for any contributions of any kind!



Hello Aunt Denise,

Thank you so much!! We have a room where I will put the boxes and the people here will appreciate it all. You can send whatever, but mostly munchies and snacks because there is only a small Danish shop here that doesn't sell anything worth buying except frozen slushies. When the boxes get here I will let you know. The mail comes to a different base and when the guys convoy up there they pick up all the mail so it may take a little longer then two weeks but either way it will make it here.

Things have been good here, no rocket attacks or Taliban trying to over run the base. The other day a team member came to our shop and asked us if he could use our little bobcat bucket loader. He said they needed to bury a body. Apparently some Arab shot a rocket-propelled grenade at an afghan national army vehicle just off base. The guy missed so while he was reloading it the army guys killed him. Since we are teaching them it became our problem to dispose of the body.

Other firebases aren't so lucky when it comes to being shot at. The Special Forces team goes outside the wire often and could use the prayers so I will thank you for them.

The last time something happened was about 6 months ago when an IED (improvised explosive device) or roadside bomb blew up an up-armored humvee. Luckily no one died just badly hurt.

There may be an opportunity for me to go along with the team and get to experience what Special Forces in the U.S. Army actually do so I am excited about that.

We all appreciate any and everything that you will do for us. Hope you have a good day and I will talk to you soon.

Love,
Kyle



Boxes for Kyle's Unit Update:
 Mailing Dates: (May 4, May 18), June 1, June 15, June 29,
 July 13, July 27, August 10, August 24....

I SET OUT 3 JAM-PACKED BOXES May 4th. !!! The stuff you contributed was totally AMAZING! Pocket t-shirts, socks, chap sticks, suntan spray, foot powder, beef jerky, gum, candy, dried fruit, jalapeno pretzels, smokehouse almonds tons of crackers/cookies/nuts, and 4 magazines.

It is amazing how much you can stuff into one of those boxes.. As long as they are not "too" distorted, as the nice lady at the P.O. who helped me fill out all the paperwork said.

A HUGE thanks to all who contributed!

Denise Jones

PASTOR SEIBER (619) 575-7212

If you or someone you know has a need and would like a visit from Pastor John, please call the church office at **619) 427-5515**.

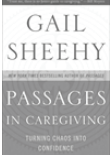
Please keep these people in your prayers. Remembering that most of them might appreciate visits from you

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|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Hilda Aubol | Hilda Aubol | Hilda Aubol |
| Rocky Beebe | Rocky Beebe | Rocky Beebe |
| Betty Burgess | Betty Burgess | Betty Burgess |
| Kaho Chester | Kaho Chester | Kaho Chester |
| Helen Dearmin | Helen Dearmin | Helen Dearmin |

I pledge allegiance to my Flag,
 and to the Republic for which it stands:
 one Nation indivisible,
 With Liberty and Justice for all.
 October 11, 1892

I pledge allegiance to my the
 Flag of the United States,
 and to the Republic for which it stands:
 one Nation indivisible,
 With Liberty and Justice for all.
 June 14, 1923

I pledge allegiance to the Flag
 of the United States of America,
 and to the Republic for which it stands:
 one Nation indivisible,
 With Liberty and Justice for all.
 June 14, 1924



In last month's Marksman I listed some books about death and dying issues that I am willing to share with you. To them I now add an excellent resource for caregivers, Gail Sheehy, "Passages in Caregiving".

Also those of us at the Fellowship Club in May were introduced to an excellent and free resource for dealing with Social Security, Medicare, legal assistance for Caregivers, and many elder care issues. It is a state funded program called HI-CAP. They provide counseling services locally to seniors.

Call 1-800-434-0222 or 1-858-565-8766 for an appointment.
 Pastor John



We are updating our bulletin board recognizing the active duty, reserve personnel and retired military family and friends of St. Marks's who serve our country.

If you or a loved one or friend is not listed on our board in the Lower Level, please call Alma, in the office at 427-5515 on Mondays or Wednesdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

June 14, 1954



PRAYER QUILTING CORNER

We are blessed to be a blessing -
 Through Our Hands, Our Hearts, Our Prayers

We, the prayer quilters and the Pray-ers (the congregation) at St. Mark's have blessed so many lives this past month. We've wrapped 57 people in our prayers in the last 5 weeks, and have given more than 1,800 quilts in the past 6 years. We truly do bless the lives of others with this outpouring of God's love and comfort in their time of need.

Our two day prayer quilting was a great success with many quilts being made, put together, and ties being placed. Thank you to our many quilters!

Please join us for a prayer quilting Saturday.
 No experience necessary. Date and time:
 SATURDAY, JUNE 12th 10:00 a.m to 2:00 p.m.
 In Jacobson Hall

Five families to pray for June 2010

- Kathy Howard
- Travis & Pamela Hudson
- Ruby Hulthenius
- Robert Jackson
- Michael, Michelle, and Sydney Janzen

Church Attendance
 4/10 4/09

Week 1...	383	311
Week 2...	234	413
Week 3...	228	278
Week 4...	232	271
Week 5...	n/a	n/a
Total....	1077	1273

Great Warriors of the Bible

Look for them here: <http://www.bible-topten.com/warriors.htm> - - - if that fails, you can always check the Bible.

SAUL

Saul was handsome, tall and commanding - a charismatic leader. But from the start, he faced a formidable enemy, the Philistines, who occupied all the fertile land in the central hill country of Judah.

When Saul's son Jonathan killed the Philistine governor at Geba, it was on for young and old. The Philistines took up a position opposite Gibeah in the gorge of Michmash and Johathan, without telling his father, scaled the cliff and killed twenty men in the Philistine outpost. In the ensuing fighting, Philistine control of the mountain area was broken.

Saul's reign (and the reign of any tribal leader of the period) was a lifelong struggle against the enemy. At the approach of his last battle, he was filled with a deep foreboding, and went to En Dor to consult a witch about the outcome of the battle - soldiers have always been superstitious. The witch confirmed what he knew already: that the Israelite army had no chariots and could not withstand the assault of the well-armed Philistines. In the ensuing battle Saul's three sons were killed, and he himself was seriously wounded. He asked his amour-bearer to 'thrust me through', and when the young man would not do this, Saul fell on his own sword and died. The Philistines found him and hung his decapitated body on the walls of their city Beth Shan, but some loyal followers removed the body and gave it an honorable burial.

<http://www.bible-topten.com/warriors.htm>

GIDEON

Gideon developed the strategy of guerilla warfare for the Israelites, and it was to be their chosen method of fighting for many centuries. He was Israel's fourth judge in the time between the death of Joshua and the beginning of the monarchy (a judge was not a legal official, but someone who was filled with the spirit of God and led military campaigns to defeat Israel's enemies.

Gideon had a number of wives, and is said to have had seventy sons, one of whom was Abimelech, by a concubine in Shechem. He was also known as Jurubaal, 'let Baal contend', a name given to him because he demolished an altar to Baal which the Israelites had built.

Gideon became a judge after he was called by an angel. At first he was doubtful that it was God who was commissioning him, but once convinced he threw himself into the task of fighting the Midianites and the Amalekites, enemies of the Israelite tribes. With an army of 300 men, chosen from a much larger group by a series of tests, Gideon attacked the Midianite camp and night, panicked and then routed them. The Midianite leaders were captured and beheaded.

After that Gideon returned to Succoth and tortured the elders of the city, because they had refused to give him and his men the provisions they needed.

The men of Israel asked Gideon to become their king, but he refused because, as he said, Israel should have only one king, God. He then returned to his home and lived to an old age. (Judges 6-8)

DAVID

Everyone is familiar with the story of David and Goliath - the boy warrior who defeats an enemy much more ferocious than himself. This of course was a mirror of the situation that daily faced the Israelites - they were militarily and technologically inferior to their enemy the Philistines, and at first only guile and the tactics of guerilla warfare got them through.

When David became king, things changed. He faced the Philistines in two decisive battles, at Baal Perazim and Rephaim near Jerusalem, defeating them and pushing them back onto the coastal plain, where they were far less of a threat to him and his people.

He did not rely, as his predecessors had done, on the tribal militia, but used mercenary troops as well - the Cherethites and Pelethites, who were to be the decisive factor when his son Solomon wrested the throne from his older brother Adonijah.

David set out to create an empire. In the first phase of his plan, the country saw intense military activity. He then attacked the last strongholds of the native Cananite population in the north, and added Megiddo, Beth Shean and Taanach to his territory.

One significant result of this was that he at last broke the Philistine monopoly on metal manufacture - this meant that he was able to put far better weapons into the hands of his soldiers.

David then undertook successful campaigns against the Moabites, Edom and then the Ammonites - this last giving him an outlet on the Red Sea. Lastly, he defeated the Arameans and annexed Aram-Zobah and Damascus, so that the borders of his kingdom reached as far as the Euphrates River. Not bad for a boy who started life as a shepherd.

St. Mark's Lutheran Church Treasurer's Report

For the 4 months ending April 30, 2010, expenses have exceeded income by \$22,425 as compared to \$7,010 for the same period a year ago. It is typical for the Income Statement to be negative at this point in the year as the annual insurance premiums of over \$13,000 are paid in April. However, Envelope contributions are significantly below this period a year ago. As of April 30, 2010 we have received \$137,030 in contributions; a year ago the number was \$147,803.

Expenses are closely managed. The largest expense, Staff Salaries, is almost \$9,000 below budget for the period.

Please remember that Loan Repayment contributions are now included in the Envelope budget. The Revitalization loan balance is \$611,071 as of April 30th.

Your response has always been very positive when budget income has not been met in the past. We are very blessed to have a congregation that supports St. Mark's through their donations of time and money. Thank you.

Diane Flint Wages