

Dear Praying Friends and Family:

February 15, 2024

In our last letter, we informed you of our meetings last October regarding reestablishing our ministry within the Northwestern Joint Regional Correctional Facility (NWJRCF) on Joint Base Lewis-McChord (JBLM). I apologize for the delay in getting an update to you, but we are busier than ever and back in the facility reaching incarcerated military members for Christ! We are still praising the Lord for answered prayer!

Thank you for your faithful prayers and support as we navigated ministry uncertainty during the past few years. A few months after the onset of COVID, the US Army demolished the 1950's era NWJRCF which brought our sixteen-year ministry there to an end. We sold our home, moved into a fifth wheel trailer, and travelled on furlough during demolition and reconstruction of the new facility. While some military ministry continued, we prayed for the day we could resume work at JBLM. We returned to western Washington in early 2022, eagerly anticipating the start of ministry within the new prison. Due to government and construction delays, the facility did not officially open until December 2022. The first prisoners were received just over a year ago in January 2023. While Christine and I had completed weeks of necessary training, we had little facility access. We basically served as a consultant, advisor, and resource to the military chaplain as he worked to establish ministry within the new facility. Due to several other factors including new command staff, facility classification, and local policies, the command staff was in no hurry to authorize "civilian volunteer work." In June of last year, a new lieutenant colonel assumed command. The military chaplain approached the new commander regarding his need for assistance. That, in turn, resulted in the meetings we shared in our last letter. After meeting with the commander and officials last October, Christine and I were finally granted the authorization needed to get back into the new facility!

Praise the Lord for reopened doors! Christine and I are now in the prison four or five days each week for chapel services, discipleship classes, counselling, with more to come. Although I still do not have the "staff" access I once had within the facility, I have few restrictions and I am able to move within the prison with no or little resistance. As in years past, the reception unit is a real "fishing hole" for souls. We have seen several saved in the past few weeks! The new prison is currently classified as "Level I" housing pre-trial prisoners and adjudged (court martialed) prisoners with less than one-year sentences. These young service members are not only dealing with the weight of sin and guilt, but each faces an unknown future. Most have lost their careers and reputations, and often spouses, children, family, friends and more. Just recently, I dealt with a young man in segregation (Special Housing Unit/SHU) who has been charged with very serious crimes. He told me, "I didn't think God would forgive me for that." It was a great blessing to share Romans 5:20 with him, "But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound:" The Lord is gracious! Please pray for these young, incarcerated military members.

Please keep our upcoming trip to Naval Consolidated Brig Miramar (San Diego) in your prayers. We will be flying there in early March for chapel services and meetings on March 3rd-4th. We would also like your prayers for our first scheduled revival in the new NWJRCF here at JBLM March 29th-April 2nd. I will also be flying to Fort Leavenworth, Kansas to preach revival services in the two military prisons there on May 3-5th. Thank you in advance for your prayers!

Please continue to pray for divine favor with military officials. It seems like the military chaplain and I face battles on every front! Christine and I are so grateful for your love, prayers, and support. It is an honor to serve the Lord with you all.

In HIS Service,

Lance W. Hohenstreet ~Your Missionary to the Military and Military Prisons~

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2 Corinthians 4:5 For we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord; and ourselves your servants for Jesus' sake.

