



Newsletter  
from the  
**Navatos**  
Your Church Planters to the US Military

July – August 2026

Dear Pastor and Praying Friends

*1 Corinthians 3:6 I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase.*

Only by the grace of God, Ed and Elvie are celebrating 25 years of missionary service to the U.S. Military through Baptist International Missions, Inc. (BIMI), which approved us as missionaries in July 2001. The Lord first led us to become members of Maranatha Baptist Church in Okinawa in 1999. In 2002, Pastor Steve Nutt ordained Ed into the Gospel ministry. From 2005 to 2008, Ed served as the Soul-Winning and Visitation Director and as assistant pastor under Pastor Nutt.

In 2008, the Lord called Ed to pastor Sasebo Baptist Church (formerly Lighthouse Baptist Church), where he served until 2011. During that time, church finances doubled, and the number of missionaries supported nearly doubled.

From May 2011 to September 2017, Ed pastored Yokosuka Baptist Church. During his ministry there, the number of missionaries supported doubled, and church finances nearly doubled as well.

The Lord then called him to serve as senior pastor of Maranatha Baptist Church from August 2017 to October 2022. During those years, several men surrendered to preach. Ed had the privilege of ordaining Brother Jeremiah Roper into the Gospel ministry. Brother Roper now pastors Calvary Baptist Church in Italy. Ed also ordained Brother Fred Rojas into the Gospel ministry, who now serves as pastor of Sasebo Baptist Church.

In January 2024, Ed and Elvie planted the fundamental and independent Freedom Baptist Church near Naval Air Facility Atsugi and Camp Zama. We thank God that Freedom Baptist Church is now self-supporting and is also able to support several missionaries.

Sasebo Baptist Church, Yokosuka Baptist Church, Maranatha Baptist Church, and Freedom Baptist Church have all seen numerous professions of faith and baptisms, and continue faithfully serving the Lord today.

Please pray for the Navatos' visa renewal as their current visa expires in July 2027, for their health, and for Freedom Baptist Church. Their desire is to continue reaching our U.S. forces and local communities with the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. Thank you very much for your faithful prayers and support. God bless you dear folks!

Your church planting missionaries to the U.S. Military in Japan,

*Ed & Elvie Navato*

Brother Ed and Elvie Navato

Scan to donate via PayPal



**Our first Deputation Prayer Card 2002-2005**



**Sasebo Baptist Church 2008-2011**



**Yokosuka Baptist Church 2011-2017**



**Maranatha Baptist Church 2017-2022**



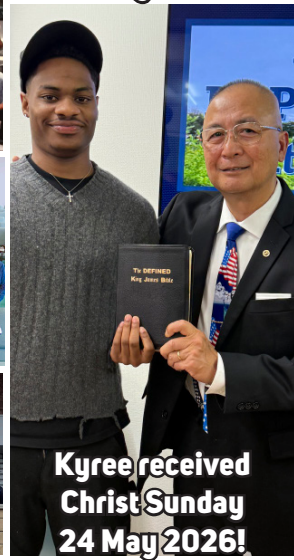
**Freedom Baptist Church Oct. 2024 - present**



**1st Anniv. 1st Missions Conference 15 Oct. 2025**



**Mother's Sunday 10 May 2026**



And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also. II Timothy 2:2

