

Dear Harlan Christian Church,

It's time for a summer update letter to our regular prayer and financial partners. And that includes you. **Thank you so much for helping to anchor our team in prayer and sacrificial giving. You are making a difference for Christ in caring for Navigator Staff and in the military!** This fall we will be completing our thirteenth year in full-time ministry, and we continue to feel God's hand on our lives. He is faithful! And we couldn't do it without you!

So what has happened the last 12 months or so—both personally and in ministry?



- **Home Front:** Christie and I continue to enjoy marriage and ministry together! Our children, Jacob, Anna, Jenna, and Linnea are doing well and growing in the Lord. Jacob and Rachel are stationed at Nellis AFB, NV, with Jake serving in intelligence and Rachel in speech therapy, expecting their first child in September and also foster parents of a beautiful baby girl. Anna and Ben are now stationed at Dyess AFB in Abilene, TX, where Ben is also an intel officer, Anna is a part-time piano teacher, and full-time Mom for Isaiah. Jenna and Payton are enroute to Laughlin AFB, TX (Del Rio) for Payton to begin pilot training and Jenna to be an elementary music teacher. Linnea is serving the Lord as an intern at Woodmen Valley Chapel (our church home) this summer and plans to transfer to UNWSP, a Christian university, in Saint Paul this fall. We continue to be thankful that our children love the Lord and are walking with and serving Him.
- **Serving as Director of Care Initiatives at Navigators Headquarters in Train – Develop – Care Department:** Our transition to TDC at Navigators Headquarters continues to be a blessing. Our team is doing our best, in the Lord's strength, to care for Navigator staff across the U.S. and the world with Shepherds Network, sabbatical support, marriage ministry, and soul care. Some highlights this year were pivoting to a hybrid format for our bi-annual Shepherds Network, equipping nearly 100 staff care shepherds, and for our bi-annual Sabbatical Orientation Workshop, and our team taking two marriage retreats to staff in the field (VA and FL). In our lifetime calling, Jim and Christie also serve on the Navigators Military Mission West Division leadership team as shepherds helping care for military staff and their families from Colorado to Hawaii and Alaska. In the last two months, we had the blessing of facilitating separate well-received Zoom sessions, for all West Division regions, on sustainability and healthy rhythms of life and ministry for these dear staff in the field at many military bases.

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- **Serving with the Navigators Ministry at the AF Academy:** The Lord has blessed and used us for His glory and purposes as we continue to serve as part of the local Navigators ministry team at the AF Academy. Some highlights for us were: coaching cadets in leading Bible studies during the pandemic, sharing at a few virtual Bible devotional gatherings, helping prepare one young USAFA cadet couple for Christ-centered marriage and officiate their wedding after graduation, and leading our Firstie Focus group in preparing soon-to-be 2Lt's for graduation and transition to their first base / school assignments to serve God and country well. To God be the glory!
- **Life-to-Life Mentoring and Discipleship:** This continues to be such a key part of our ministry as Navigators. The Lord gave both Christie and I meaningful discipleship relationships with cadets whose hearts the Lord has touched. Christie also enjoys connecting with and ministering to USAFA grad ladies via Zoom every month or so on Sunday afternoons and was able to visit one of the grads in person at her base and one who came by to visit in Colorado. Jim has also been blessed to stay connected with USAFA grad men where they are stationed, including a young Captain stationed in Korea, as well as a young, enlisted SF member, he had invested in at USAFA, who is now in Belgium. It is good to hear about how these people are growing in the Lord and reaching out and investing their lives in others to advance the Gospel and help make disciples of Jesus.

Coming Up: We are excited and continue to grow in love for and trust in our faithful Triune God. Please pray for our family, life balance/rhythms, continued good health, and spiritual protection as we continue to serve the Lord in Staff Care at Navigators Headquarters, in the Navigators Military West Division, with USAFA Navigators, and beyond. Please pray for wisdom for our upcoming Sabbatical Orientation Workshop (July 21-23), Becoming One Marriage Retreat (August 6 - 8), and Shepherds Network Gathering (September 29th – October 1st). Please also especially pray for wisdom for the Lord's USAFA Nava team to reach out to and minister effectively to cadets, this summer and as the fall semester launches for God's glory and purposes.

Summary: We thank the Lord for the privilege and responsibility of playing a key part in helping care for Navigator staff across the country and world and helping make disciples of Jesus among future leaders of our Nation at the Air Force Academy. God is working for His glory and purposes, and the Gospel continues to advance. **But we can't do it without partnering friends like you who give regularly as the Lord leads and provides. We thank you so much for your continued financial partnership with us.**

By His grace and for His glory,

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