



Association of Military Christian Fellowships Newsletter

ALL ONE IN CHRIST JESUS

IN THIS ISSUE:

Brazil Conference Blessings



The Brazilian military police chaplaincy, with assistance from the military Christian fellowship of Brazil, *UMCEB*, held the first National Seminar for Religious Assistance in September.

Approximately 900 participants attended, travelling from nearly every Brazilian state's MCF chapter.

Highlights included:

- the MCF signing an official agreement with the military police chaplaincy to work together to reach Brazil's uniformed men and women with the Gospel

- a gathering in the heart of the capital city to pray for the nation and its government and military leaders

- recognition of the *group Awaken Deborah*, whose members pray for husbands, sons, and daughters in the military



- children and people over the age of 70 holding up the Brazilian flag to show the need to pass on their Christian heritage

Brazil Blessings.....Page 1
Poland MCF Anniversary.....Page 2
Interaction Croatia.....Page 3
Czech Republic MCF.....Page 3
Military TemptationsPage 4
Day of Prayer: Oct 28.....Pages 5-9
Your Help is Needed!.....Page 10

UMCEB on the WEB

<http://umceb.com.br>
<https://www.facebook.com/umceb.umceb>

Poland's MCF Celebrates 20 Years

The 20th meeting of the Polish MCF, *Korneliusz*, took place in October. Forty delegates attended, including participants from Germany, Sweden, and the United States. The MCF president spoke about the MCF's history, including the influence and importance of the German MCF in encouraging them to form a group.

Korneliusz is built on three pillars:

- presenting the Gospel;
- building personal relationships among members; and
- encouraging one another in daily service.

In addition to annual meetings, the MCF ministers to Poland's armed forces by sharing the Gospel during combat training, in military barracks, on bases, and in academies.

The MCF also hosts marriage seminars and father and son retreat weekends, and encourages its members to participate in sailing and ski retreats with MMI (<http://www.mmi.org.uk/>), and the outdoor adventure program, Interaction-Rocky Mountain High, with ACCTS (www.accts.org).



CONFERENCE THEME

"Forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus."

– Philippians 3:13-14

Interaction Croatia



Members of the MCF of Croatia, *Zajedno U Ratu: Zajedno U Kristu*, gathered in September for encouragement, fellowship, and lessons in leadership. International military Christians from Italy, Macedonia, Bulgaria, and United States also participated.

One way in which the MCF's leadership ministers to their nation is by helping soldiers and retired military people who have post-traumatic stress disorder from their experiences in the Balkan wars. Please pray for the MCF and all the various ways it shares Christ's hope with Croatia's armed forces personnel.

Czech MCF Update



Over 40 people attended a September weekend of encouragement and fellowship which was hosted by the Czech Republic military Christian fellowship.

Delegates included families with young children, serving and retired people, and civil servants representing a spectrum of Christian denominations.

There are 30 chaplains, representing multiple Christian denominations, ministering to the Czech military, which consists of about 20,000 people. Pray for these chaplains as they provide spiritual support and insight to Czech Republic's military personnel.

Visit the MCF's website at <http://www.aka-acr.cz/html/index.php>.



Three Temptations That Military Christians Face

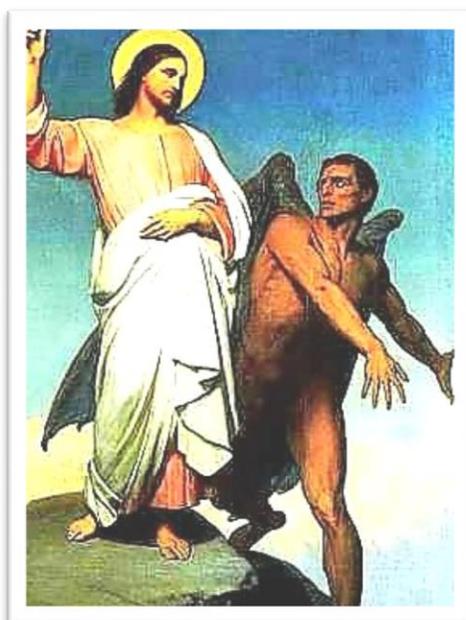
*"No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so you can endure it."
-- 1 Corinthians 10:13*

1. The temptation to do anything to be accepted by your commander and others, including when you are a new cadet, plebe, or officer; when you first arrive at a new command for duty; and when Satan tempts you.

David faced this temptation when Commander Saul said, "Wear this armor." David refused and instead chose five stones and a sling, and killed Goliath (I Samuel chapter 17).

Jesus faced this temptation when Satan said, "Throw yourself down from the temple and have angels rescue you -- then you will be accepted by everyone when they see it." Jesus refused, instead quoting Scripture to Satan -- especially when facing temptation, it's important to know Bible verses (Matthew chapter 4).

2. The temptation to do anything to be ranked "number one" -- the first and the best -- in competition with others, including when you have been a cadet or officer several years; when you are competing for grades at the military academy; when you have been at your duty station for a while and are trying to get the highest position; and when Satan tempts you.



David faced this temptation when Commander Saul feared that David wanted to be commander. David refused the temptations to be the leading commander, and the temptation to kill Saul (I Samuel chapter 24).

Jesus faced this temptation when Satan said he would give him all the kingdoms of the world, and he could then command others. Jesus refused, and instead quoted Scripture to Satan.

3. The temptation to use your position for personal gain and needs -- to give in to pride and abusing your power, including when you are a senior cadet or senior officer with power; when you have been at your command for a long time; and when Satan tempts you.

David faced this temptation when he was the senior commander -- he used his position to have sexual relations with Uriah's wife, and then have Uriah killed (2 Samuel chapter 11). David overcame temptations as a junior officer but later, as king, fell into temptation due to pride and abuse of power.

Jesus faced this temptation when Satan said that Jesus could turn stones into bread and meet his need of tremendous hunger.

The Power We Need

"Temptations which accompany the working day will be conquered on the basis of the morning breakthrough to God. Decisions, demanded by work, become easier and simpler where they are made not in the fear of men, but only in the sight of God. He wants to give us today the power which we need for our work."
- Dietrich Bonhoeffer



DAY OF PRAYER AND PRAISE!

28 October 2017

28 October is AMCF/ACCTS' Annual Day of Prayer and Praise. Please join us, and military Christians around the world, as we focus our prayers on international military ministry. Please pray for:

AMCF Leaders: Pray that the AMCF president and vice presidents will be examples to others by their speech, conduct, love, faith, and purity (1 Timothy 4:12): President General Srilal Weerasooriya; Vice Presidents Col. Torbjorn Bostrom, Chap. Eric Burton, Grp. Capt. Sunday Igwe, Col. Omar Larrazabal, Capt. Peter Louwrens, Col. Joaquin Maldonado, Comm. Saleem Mathew, Col. Daniel Alain Njoya, Lt. Col. Nestor Ogilvie, BGen. Isam Oumeish, Col. Ernesto Sacro, Comm. Mike Terry, Lt. Col. Andrew Tzeng, and Brig. David Wakaalo.

Military Christian Fellowships (MCFs): Pray that MCF members and leaders will exhibit the fruits of the Holy Spirit (love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control) in all their ministries.

Support Organizations: Pray that AMCF's three support organizations – ACCTS, Military Ministries International, and Mission Support Organisation – will continue to be firmly established and steadfast, sharing the hope of the Gospel with military personnel and furthering God's kingdom.

Albania: Pray that MCF leaders will show wisdom in sharing the Gospel in this nation, which is still recovering from decades as the only European country that was officially atheist. Pray for strong fellowships that reach out to families and those hungering for the Gospel, that they would draw others to Christ.

Argentina: Uphold in prayer preparations for the 2018 South American conference, which will be hosted by this nation's MCF. Praise God for their work for Christ.

Armenia: Thank God for opening doors for the establishment of an MCF. Ask for wisdom for MMI staff as they work with military Christians here to start an MCF.

Australia: Pray for the annual MCF dinner and for the

ongoing planning for next year's AMCF Southwest Pacific conference and Interaction in October 2018. Ask that participants be blessed and encouraged.

Azerbaijan: Pray for military Christians in this country which suffers under some of the worst religious persecution in the world.

Bangladesh: Praise God, and pray for, the 45+ MCF members. Pray that they will have wisdom in all they do for Christ.

Belarus: Pray that military Christians will be a force for good in their nation as they build meaningful relationships with others. Thank God for the progress in reconciliation over historic conflicts that has taken place with neighboring countries' military Christians.

Day of Prayer and Praise!

Brazil: Pray for solutions for the country's political and economic situations; ask that MCF leaders be refreshed as they serve God and others, and have wisdom as they fill their important national security roles. Praise God for this large and active MCF, and pray that it has an impact proportional to its size.

Burundi: Pray for the expansion of the MCF and political stability; praise God for the MCF's evangelism efforts.

Cambodia: Ask for the success of military leadership training programs in this nation, and pray for MSO's work with the MCF.

Canada: Pray with the MCF as it pursues its goal of taking the good news of Jesus Christ to Canada's military community; pray also for its 10-12 November retreat.

Cape Verde: Pray that military Christians here would be strong in their witness, and for a healthy and effective MCF to impact its military.

Chile: Praise God for this MCF's 50th anniversary this year, and pray for their continued efforts for Christ.

China: With its powerful military, expanding economy, and large population, Christ can bring peace and joy to this nation. Pray that knowledge of Him will grow – especially in the armed forces.

Colombia: Pray with military Christians as they bring God's grace to Colombia's armed forces. Ask God to help the MCF there continue to grow among all ranks.

Costa Rica: Pray for spiritual strength for military believers and military families.

Cote d'Ivoire: Pray for an end to violence, and praise God for military Christians serving Him and their nation.

Cuba: Pray for military and civilian Christians to stand firm in their faith in Christ; pray for open doors to this nation.

Czech Republic: Praise God, and pray for, military believers who are actively giving them-

selves to the work of the Lord. Pray that their numbers will increase.

Democratic Rep. of Congo: Pray for peace and stability for this conflict-ridden nation, and for military believers to work uncompromisingly for God's kingdom.

Dominica: Pray for more people to join the Police Christian Fellowship.

Egypt: Pray for a stable government and strength for all Egyptian Christians, particularly those in positions of authority within the military.

Estonia: Pray that military Christians' lives and personal testimonies will highlight the peace that comes through Christ during the current international tensions.

Ethiopia: Pray that the number of military believers will grow; praise God for this nation's rapidly-growing economy and the benefits that gives to everyday citizens.

Finland: Praise God for the MCF's 60th anniversary this year, and pray that the group will attract new, active-duty Christians to its membership.

France: Pray for military Christians as they pursue Christ's unity and share Him with their friends, families, and coworkers.

Georgia: Ask God for wisdom for those who are working to build and strengthen an MCF there, and for plans to hold an English Language Training course for military personnel.

Germany: Uphold in prayer the MCF's 27-29 October conference; ask that it encourage all who attend. Pray for the MCF's growth.

Ghana: Pray with military Christians as they invite their coworkers into the life and joy of Christ. Ask God to reinforce cooperation between the MCF and chaplains.

Guatemala: Pray with the MCF as it hosts the 25-29 October 7th AMCF regional conference; pray that this event will glorify God and encourage attendees. Pray for Interaction Guatemala, to be held 29-31 October.

Day of Prayer and Praise!

Haiti: Pray for spiritual growth and discernment for MCF members, and for stability and an end to corruption in this nation. Thank God for young and enthusiastic leaders, including those who have participated in ACCTS' I-RMH over the past three years.

Honduras: Pray for the effectiveness of the MCF, which has been asked to share the Gospel with the entire military. Pray for military Christians striving to establish ethical leadership throughout every level of society. Pray for victory over the encroaching influence of drug cartels, and for the military that are resisting them.

India: Give praise and pray for military Christians as they start MCF groups at many bases around the country. Pray for an upcoming meeting among military Christians, and for peace between India and its neighbors.

Indonesia: Pray that military believers will continue to be a force working toward God's plans for their nation.

Italy: Ask that military believers continue to be distinct from non-believers by the love and concern they show for others. Thank God for the MCF's rapid growth and pray that it produces fruit throughout Italy's military.

Israel: Pray for a two-month discipleship and leadership program for military believers, which is led by Israeli Christians. Pray for God's guidance on all they do for Him.

Jamaica: Pray that Jamaican Christians will claim the power of Christ as they follow Him and make disciples. Thank God for strong Christian military leaders in this vital Caribbean nation, which has a strong influence throughout the region.

Japan: Pray for new military personnel to join, and become active in, the MCF.

Kazakhstan: Pray for wisdom and discernment for all military Christians, as military personnel in this nation do not have full religious freedom.

Kenya: Pray that military believers will model

Christ's servant leadership and care for the downtrodden in all they do; ask for smooth transitions after the August national election.

Kosovo: Praise God, and pray for, the MCF that was recently formed. Pray for discernment, wisdom, and unity among believers in Kosovo.

Kyrgyzstan: Laws passed in 2014 restrict military personnel from expressing their faith. Pray that military Christians will know the hope and peace Christ gives, and pray for full religious freedom. Thank God for Christians who continue to strive to live for Christ – for their courage, wisdom, and faithfulness.

Laos: Pray that more military Christians will take up the mantle of Christian leadership, and that their numbers will grow.

Mexico: Pray that this MCF, in the world's tenth most-populated nation, will be revitalized so that military Christians can be a strong voice for Christ.

Moldova: Pray for wisdom and blessing on military Christians and for spiritual growth and strength for MCF members. Thank God for the MCF's work among the tens of thousands of Ukrainian refugees who fled to Moldova, and pray for wisdom as they deal with seemingly overwhelming challenges.

Mongolia: Praise God for this MCF's 20th anniversary, which they celebrated this year. Ask that they continue to pursue unity with Christ and each other in all they do. Pray for the MCF's outreach within its military and to other countries in the region.

Myanmar: Pray for military believers in this nation, as they sometimes face restrictions and repercussions because of their faith. Pray that the aroma of Christ may spread through its military through the faithful witness of the MCF.

Nepal: Give praise for a new MCF chapter in a southern city, and ask that God increase the ministry vision of all military Christians.

Netherlands: The MCF's motto is, "Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor,

Day of Prayer and Praise!

erving the Lord." Pray that this verse will be true of all MCF members as they witness for Christ in one of the most secular environments on earth.

New Zealand: Pray that the MCF's annual weekend will deepen bonds of friendship and encourage participants to honor Christ with their lives.

Nigeria: Pray for Joshua-style leaders for this MCF and for spiritual revitalization for its members. Ask for an end to this nation's struggles with insurgencies and instability, and pray for protection for Christian villages that are targeted by Boko Haram.

North Korea: Pray for religious freedom, as religious activity is banned. Pray that God will work in the hearts of its political and military leaders to turn them to Christ. Pray for a peaceful reunification with South Korea and for its beleaguered citizens, particularly Christians, whose only crime was being born there.

Norway: Pray that military Christians will shine as beacons of grace and joy in an environment which can be indifferent to Christianity. Pray for strong vision among its MCF leaders and members to share the Gospel.

Pakistan: Pray for wisdom for MCF officers and members, and for spiritual and numerical growth; pray for a strong chaplaincy program. Pray against increasing fundamentalist ideologies and the fear they bring to people.

Palestinian Authority: Pray for wisdom, strength, and a heart to live for Christ and share His love. Pray that Christians will find fellowship among their fellow police and sense His presence. May their professional excellence and courageous personal testimonies draw others to Christ.

Papua New Guinea: Pray that the knowledge of Christ will spread through this nation's armed forces, and ask for wisdom for military believers who share Him.

Peru: Ask for God's guidance on MCF leaders and members as they live their lives for Him.

Philippines: Pray that MCF members will be

filled with the knowledge of God's will and share His redemptive plan with others.

Poland: Praise God for this MCF's 20th anniversary this year. Ask for the Lord's guidance on its ministries and for a new season of spiritual and numerical growth among the military Christians. Thank God for the MCF's leaders and pray for a harvest of young Christians from their military academies.

Portugal: Pray that this year's MCF conferences and other activities will encourage and inspire participants and bring about positive changes in their lives.

Romania: Pray for the weekly prayer meeting for military Christians, which is held in Bucharest, and ask that MCF members follow Christ faithfully.

Russia: Pray that God will reign in this nation which has such political, economic, and military power. Praise God for military believers who minister for Christ. Pray for unity in the Christian community.

Rwanda: Ask for open door for the Rwandese who are working to revitalize the MCF.

Sierre Leone: Pray that our contacts with military believers in this nation will increase, and ask that their numbers grow.

South Korea: Praise God for the strong and effective South Korean MCF. Ask God's blessings on it, and pray that its leaders and members will always work in His power and strength and not their own. Pray that the KMCF's efforts to reach 75% of their country for Christ by 2020 will continue to bear fruit.

Sri Lanka: Pray for peace along ethnic and party lines. Pray with the MCF, which meets the last Friday of every month, and for spiritually-strong MCF members.

South Africa: Pray for this MCF's outreaches, including its prayer breakfasts and charity to the poor. Pray for active MCF groups in all nine provinces, and for strong and mutually supporting relationships with military chaplains. Ask that MCF members be witnesses for Christ in their words and deeds.

Day of Prayer and Praise!

South Sudan: Pray for full reconciliation between the government and rebel factions, and ask for Christians to extend charity and care to downtrodden citizens. Pray that God would shower this nation's people, especially its military, with grace and love for one another.

Somalia: Pray for peace for this nation as it faces ongoing clashes between the government and Islamist factions. Pray for Christians to act as God's "hands and feet" in helping Somalia's citizens and those who have fled the country.

Swaziland: Thank God for the growth of the strong MCF in this country. May the many Christians in this nation's MCF have a great impact for Christ.

Sweden: Pray for wisdom and joy for military believers as they serve Him in a nation where religion has a very limited role in everyday culture.

Syria: Pray for peace in this war-ravaged nation. Pray for food and supplies to reach its citizens, and for wisdom for all involved in military decisions. Pray for the millions of refugees and those who have lost loved ones and homes.

Tanzania: Pray that the military establishment will allow an MCF to be established.

Thailand: Ask that military Christians understand God's direction for their lives and ministries; praise Him for their faithfulness.

Timor Leste: Uphold in prayer the MCF's monthly meeting. Pray with military Christians who are working to increase the number of chaplains.

Turkmenistan: This nation has been blessed with a rapidly-growing economy; however, there are restrictions on religious freedom. Ask that military believers have wisdom in sharing God's goodness with their coworkers.

Uganda: Uphold in prayer a December regional prayer conference. Pray for wisdom, compassion, and resources for Christians minist-

Ukraine: Praise God for the chaplaincy, and chaplains involved in the MCF. Pray for military believers who give support to troops in combat zones, soldiers in hospitals, widows, and PTSD victims. Thank God for the interdenominational cooperation among MCFs as they deal with the effects of war in Eastern Ukraine.

Uruguay: Pray for the success of a Christian radio station as it spreads the Word of God; pray with believers as they share Christ with their coworkers

Uzbekistan: Pray for increased religious freedom, courage, and safety for believers. Pray for improvements in the nation's economic and judicial system.

United Kingdom: Give praise for the MCF (the AFCU) – the oldest in the world. Pray that UK military Christians will continually be revitalized in their faith. Uphold in prayer the MCF's 9 November prayer service.

United States of America: With its military and economic power, pray for political and military leaders to make wise decisions during turbulent times; pray also for spiritual awakening, courage, and wisdom for military Christians and growth for MCFs.

Venezuela: Pray for the triumph of peace in a country facing violence; pray that military Christians will face challenges with wisdom and peace.

Vietnam: Praise for the MCF's recent expansion to six new cities; pray for continued growth and safety of military believers.

Zambia: Pray for peace in this nation and spiritual strength for its military Christians.

Zimbabwe: Pray that military believers will know who they are in Christ and their role in military ministry in their nation. Pray for a strong MCF to develop.

AMCF PRAYER

The following prayer was adopted by AMCF in 1930 with the suggestion that it be prayed each Sunday:

“Heavenly Father, we thank you that the blood of Jesus Christ cleanses from all sin. Bless the service men and women of all nations, and grant that we who know the joy of being ‘all one in Christ Jesus’ may be filled with your love and pass it on to others through the power of the Holy Spirit until His coming again.”

AMCF

Association of Military

Christian Fellowships

www.amcf-int.org

amcf@accts.org



WE NEED YOUR HELP!

We need your help to make sure the AMCF newsletter has information and photos from military Christian fellowship events around the world!

Please send reports and photos from your MCF's events, as well as prayer items, to amcf@accts.org so we can include them in future newsletters!

This newsletter is produced by ACCTS (www.accts.org) as a ministry to the AMCF.

Thank you,
E.A. Humphrey,
Editor