

Military Outreach Summary for 2010

In January, we continued our collection of magazines throughout the year and delivered them to Miramar to send to overseas. Several boxes of magazines were collected. Some of the home and garden magazines were given to the Food Locker to disperse to the wives at home. Books were also collected and delivered.

We resumed selling coffee and baked goods during the Bill Creasy Bible class on Thursday mornings. From the net proceeds, we were able to provide gift baskets to needy families. We delivered 13 baby baskets to Miramar Food Locker this year. Each basket has a value of \$100-\$150. We provided five Crock-pot gifts that included special recipes, cooking utensils, food packages and grocery gift cards and two skillet gifts packaged with cookbooks, utensils and pot holders. We also purchased a new set of cooking pots. Many of these gifts were given to military newlyweds and/or first time parents.

"Operation Easter Egg" was another success this year. We raised enough funds to provide Easter meals to 325 Marine families at Miramar as well as some wounded warriors families stationed at Camp Pendleton.

In April we purchased a musical keyboard in response to a need by Balboa Naval Hospital. This keyboard will be used in their music therapy program for wounded warriors who are recovering in the hospital.

In May we teamed up with teachers from La Jolla High, University High, Serra High and La Jolla Country Day who encouraged their students to write letters to the soldiers. The children from Kumeyaay Elementary also provided colorful cards. We collected 900 cards and letters which were delivered to troops in Afghanistan. Several members of the ministry were active in proof reading these letters.

We had a successful Memorial Day bake sale at church. Proceeds were used to purchase items for five 18-gallon containers filled with snacks, drinks and homemade cookies of every kind. Kevin Schulte, Family Readiness officer sent these packages and letters on planes to his troops in Afghanistan. Four separate care packages were mailed to other troops stationed in Afghanistan through the "Any Soldier" program.

In the summer we assisted the San Diego Stand Down program to benefit homeless veterans. We worked Sunday morning in the clothing tent to assist veterans find appropriate clothing. We also helped with closing down the tent after the program ended.

In September we began our collection of gently used Halloween costumes. Five schools joined our efforts: Kumeyaay, Curie, Torrey Pines, Bird Rock and La Jolla Country Day Elementary schools. A total 300 costumes were collected. Ministry members gathered one Saturday to examine and bag each costume. Costumes were given to families at Miramar.

In October we assisted Kevin Schulte with his fall festival at Miramar. Approximately 150 family members participated in fun activities such as hay rides, haunted plane, pumpkin patch, and a petting zoo. Our ministry provided meals from El Indio, a carnival games, caramel apples, tattoos and a popular face-painting clown named Skippy.

In November we helped to set up, price items and supervise sales of the church rummage sale. Some furniture and baby items that were not purchased were donated to Military family at Miramar. The amount of \$700 was raised for Military Ministries.

For Christmas we donated \$200 to the Trees of Hope program to benefit the marines. Kevin Schulte arranged for some of his men to help unload the trees as they arrived at the church. For their efforts, they were given a free tree. We provided \$700 to the Miramar Food Locker to fund Christmas meals. We also helped coordinate the collection of 150 toddler toys to be donated to children of Military families.