

#### Gratitude for the Past, Excitement for the Future



Military Christians in the Philippines

Throughout 2023, ACCTS maintained a steady focus on our mission to disciple, equip, and encourage military believers to carry the Gospel to their nations by integrating their faith into their calling to serve God within the military. We hope you are encouraged by this annual report which gives you an idea of the breadth of ACCTS' ministry as it supports and strengthens military Christian leaders and fellowships around the world.

Dear Friends of ACCTS,

Remember the video game "Tetris"? Differently shaped blocks would fall from the top of the screen, and you had to turn and position them to fall into place. The problem was, as you succeeded in positioning each block, the next ones kept coming in faster and faster.

2023 was a great year for ACCTS' ministry, but at times it reminded me of Tetris. God would send us ministry opportunities in one country, which led to open doors in a second, where we would encounter some spiritual need in a third.

We stayed very busy as we engaged with an expanding circle of military Christians through our continued support of outreach in the Ukraine-Russia war, further development of Christian military leadership and ethics training material, training and encouragement visits, and other fields of ministry where we have focused in the past.

We believe that every military Christian, no matter what nation they serve, deserves the opportunity to fellowship with military personnel of like faith and learn how to share their faith with others. This is at the heart of all that we do. Our prayer is that every ministry activity we conduct will equip soldiers with the vision, knowledge, and skill needed to serve and lead with Christ-like character and a commitment to love others and share their faith through their words and lives.

One of the things that is always hard to quantify in an annual report is the importance of the personal relationships which our staff have with international military Christian fellowship leaders worldwide. These global connections have been a tremendous source of spiritual encouragement and growth for Military Christian Fellowship (MCF) leaders and have allowed our staff members to share ministry ideas with them and work together on ministry projects in their nations.

In 2024 the Brazilian MCF is hosting the Association of Military Christian Fellowships (AMCF) World Conference in Sao Paulo, Brazil. Held just every ten years, this event will bring together hundreds of future and current MCF leaders in order to encourage and equip them for ministry, start or strengthen relationships among military Christians in different nations, and experience a taste of the motto of the AMCF, "All One in Christ Jesus". (Galatians 3:28) We are praying that most of the 150+ countries with MCFs will be represented at the conference, and we earnestly invite our supporters to help finance the attendance of MCF leaders from poor nations who cannot fully afford to come.

ACCTS remains committed to continue to be Biblically-based, Spirit-led, prayer-centered, and people-focused by supporting military families in war torn countries; providing much needed military ethical and leadership training; helping individuals to minister to those with trauma; reaching out to hundreds of international military students in this country; and by helping to build strong military Christian Fellowship around the world.

We are extremely thankful for your financial support of this ministry, and for the countless blessings God has given military believers around the world through your generosity. Please continue to support us with your prayers and financial contributions. If you aren't already

Bible Distribution: Working together with national military Christian fellowships (MCFs), ACCTS staff helped to distribute thousands of audio Bibles to international military personnel in multiple nations, including Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Ukraine, Romania, other Eastern European and Asian countries, and more than a dozen South and Central America countries. We are grateful for our partnership with Digital Bibles for the World which provides electronic Bibles in hundreds of languages so we can get God's word into the hands of military personnel around the world!



International Chaplain Training graduate

**International Chaplain Training:** Military Christians from 11 nations participated in this annual chaplain training program in San Antonio, including a participant from a Middle Eastern nation and a chaplain from Ukraine. Additionally, ACCTS staff helped lead a Nigerian chaplain training conference late in the year. Since its inception, ICT training has led to similar training of chaplains and MCF leaders from more than 70 countries.

**Interaction-Rocky Mountain High:** With young military participants from Brazil, Honduras, Romania, and a sensitive Mideast nation, IRMH 2023 continued its legacy of inspiring young military leaders to take on the mantle of military ministry in their own nations. As one participant to the Colorado camp stated, "I plan to ... have a one-week summer program this summer and I want to help it and the person organizing it by using what I've learned here." IRMH has also inspired similar programs supported by ACCTS in other countries, including, Brazil, Madagascar, South Africa, Mongolia, and several young leader events in Romania. One of the young leaders at the Romania ski retreat testified, "Although I am going through a difficult time, I have managed to get much closer to God ... I can't wait to have more camps like this."



Trauma Healing training program

Conferences and Teaching Events: ACCTS staff members spoke at multiple military events including the German MCF's 125th anniversary celebration, the Bulgarian MCF's 25th anniversary event, Latin America, and the 25th anniversary celebration of the MCF in a Central Asia country. We also supported a meeting in the Czech Republic which included participants from 21 European nations, and a conference in a Mideast country which saw the establishment of a new MCF there.

Trauma Healing: Staff members led online discussion groups to help international military believers heal from military-related and personal trauma, and also conducted Welcome Home weekends for U.S. veterans. ACCTS has worked with MCFs and well-respected ministries that are involved in meeting the massive need in Eastern Europe and Africa. Some trauma healing course participants are continuing to pursue training to help others heal from trauma, and some team



Exploration Program, Barbados

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members are networking with other ministries so that this ministry can expand to meet the growing global need.

Cadet Ministry: The ACCTS Exploration Program brought eight U.S. Air Force Academy cadets on a short-term mission trip to Barbados where they were hosted by the country's defense forces and met with Barbados' Chief of Staff and students from their cadet corps. They returned with a vision for international military fellowships and ministry.

Mongolian English Language Program: ACCTS and the Mongolian MCF co-hosted an English language program to help the MCF reach more military men and women. An ACCTS staff member who helped lead this program also commented, "It was so exciting to see the vision that the senior military Christian officers have for starting 75 new churches all around Mongolia to meet military needs."

Military Ethics: Staff members hosted monthly presentations, testimonies, and discussions on Christian military leadership and ethical challenges that military leaders face in both peace and war. The topics and lessons from these meetings form the subjects of downloadable material that ACCTS is developing, including Bible studies and other educational resources.

**Ukraine Support:** Through our generous donors, we continued to support the military Christian fellowship of Ukraine and volunteer chaplains in their work with war widows and children, injured soldiers, and men and women on the frontlines.

**International Student Ministries:** Through hospitality, Bible studies, English language assistance, and family support, ACCTS staff continued outreach to international military personnel who are temporarily stationed in the U.S. for military training.

Adapted Ministries: One of our biggest joys has been to see military Christians worldwide adopt and adapt ACCTS training programs to use in their own nations. This past year, examples of this type of program adaptations took place in South Africa (Table Mountain Top Interaction), Croatia (Adriatic Interaction), Nigeria (chaplain training), and Romania (I-RMH).



Mongolian English Language training



Croatian MCF Conference attendees



European military Christian leaders conference

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supporting our ministry, I humbly ask you to consider donating to ACCTS on a monthly basis. Your generosity will directly impact the lives of military men and women around the world and provide hope for members of the armed forces who need Christ's redemption and joy.

In Christ for the whole ACCTS team,

Philip J. Exner Col, USMC (Ret)

Executive Director

## FINANCIAL REPORT:

#### Praising God for His Work Among the World's Military!

"And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus." Philippians 4:19

As I look back over this last year, I'm amazed at how God works and how faithful He is to answer our prayers. Last year I participated in the German military Christian fellowship's 125th anniversary celebration. As an ACCTS staff member, and a German native, I have been blessed to know this German group for years. The MCF leaders and I have often been concerned with the low number of young people, and the general decline of Christianity in my home nation. At this anniversary celebration, however, there was a good number of young military personnel in attendance, and I was so thankful and excited to see that answer to prayer.

In the same way, I am always amazed at how God works financially on ACCTS' behalf. As a small organization, He has allowed us to do mighty things thanks to the generosity of our donors and our faithful staff. In years where I've been concerned that we wouldn't have the finances to accomplish everything we felt God was calling us to do, I can see how God's hand provided for us so that we were, indeed, able to carry out our mission worldwide. In 2023, as in years past, I can see how the support of God's faithful people allowed ACCTS to impact military personnel in over 100 countries so they could grow in Christ and impact their countries for God's glory and honor.

The chart on the right shows how the resources God provided were distributed throughout the year. With your continued help, ACCTS will be able to continue to deepen relationships with MCF leaders, teach

leadership and military ethics, bring hope and the love of Christ to many military families in war torn countries, and support the AMCF World Conference in Brazil. Thank you again for your prayer and financial support!

In Christ, Bourlad Kalter Good

Bernhard Kaltenbach

Deputy Director/Director of Finance

Fiscal Year 2023 Ministry Expenditures
of \$890,132
October 1, 2022 - September 30, 2023
\$81,895, 9%
\$103,174,
12%
\$705,063,
79%

Int'l. Ministry Publications = Overhead

#### Revenge...or Peace?

Few quotes encapsule the need for military Christians better than this one, from a participant at ACCTS' Interaction-RMH program this summer. Why does ACCTS continue to minister to military personnel worldwide? So they personally know the peace of Christ and can share it with their coworkers, friends, and our hate-weary world:

"In the past, I wanted to be become a soldier in order to avenge the killer of my brother [killed while a soldier], but after I got to know Christ and accepted him in my life...for this reason we must spread peace and love among the fighters in the military." -- Interaction RMH 2023 participant







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**ВЕТИВИ SERVICE REQUESTED** 

