

SEPTEMBER 2024



ACCTS *in action*

OUR MISSION: To assist in the development of Christian leaders in the armed forces of the world and in the establishment and growth of military Christian fellowships.

Catalysts for Change in the Gulf Coast



Matthew 28:19-20 is Jesus' command for Christians to be a catalyst for eternal heart change in our neighbors and around the world. Each week, ACCTS staff members Dave and Karen Wittman host a Bible study and life group for US and international military and law enforcement personnel and first responders in order to train and equip them to be that catalyst for Christ. In August Dave reported, "We have several participants who are returning to home in the Philippines and Taiwan and transferring to new duties stations throughout the world. We're honored to have been a part of their lives and help in the advancement of sharing the love of Christ!" Please continue to pray for the Wittmans and all ACCTS staff as we strive to be catalysts for change in the lives of international armed forces personnel!

Moldovan English Camp Adventures

In July an English language camp in Moldova, sponsored by the Moldovan military Christian fellowship, the Ministry of Defense, and ACCTS, transformed the lives of young Moldovans. ACCTS worked with the Moldovan MCF to host this camp in order to further its relationship with the Ministry of Defense and active-duty personnel in their nation.

For one action-packed week, 36 campers aged 11-16, who were primarily children of military and government officials, experienced a blend of learning and fun under the guidance of MCF leader Mariana Rosca. ACCTS staff member Dick Barnes helped plan this event and led engaging sessions with the young participants, using biblical stories to explore themes like friendship, loneliness, freedom, and leadership. His teachings culminated in a session on Jesus as the ultimate Teacher. Campers discussed these spiritual lessons daily and worked on their English skills through interactive grammar exercises.

The camp was not just about language learning—participants also enjoyed a pellet shooting range, set up by a local military unit, and soldier-led talks about safety, staying away from drugs and alcohol, and being selective in internet usage. The days and nights were filled with games, singing, and outdoor activities.

Dick reports, “This was the second time we were welcomed into an MOD camp, which provided unique opportunities for ministry to military dependents and their parents, as well as a powerful validation for the military Christian fellowship of Moldova. Please pray that the children who attended will continue to find relevance from the spiritual lessons and the challenge that I left them with: ‘What will you do with Jesus?’”



Caribbean Chaplain Training



“This course was a wealth of knowledge, and it was greatly enriching. I see it enhancing the chaplaincy in my unit, as well as my spiritual walk,” noted a participant after attending the August International Chaplain Training program in Trinidad and Tobago, which was cohosted by ACCTS and IAEC (International Association of Evangelical Chaplains). Twenty-four delegates attended, including personnel from the Trinidad & Tobago Defense Forces and five personnel from Antigua & Barbuda, Barbados, Jamaica, and St Kitts.

The two-week training course was based on the Basic Chaplaincy Course curriculum. The curriculum included classes on: the biblical view of the chaplaincy profession; universal principles and roles of a chaplain; conflict resolution; pluralism; critical incident stress management; ethics, ethical decisions, and code of conduct for chaplains; chaplain-commander relationships; and hospital and prison ministry.

At the end of the two-week course, the delegates were awarded a Certificate of Completion. ACCTS staff member Chaplain Ron Huggler reports, “The graduation was unique. At the same time our course was happening, two other courses were being taught at the academy. All three courses graduated on the same day in a combined graduation. Attending this combined graduation was the Chief of the Defense Forces (the highest-ranking officer in the TTDF) and all the chiefs of all the services attending our course.” Along with the Chief of Defense

Forces, Major General (USA, Ret.) Bryan Watson spoke about the importance of their support for the new voluntary chaplains in their respective forces. Afterwards, all the service chiefs affirmed their determined support of their new volunteer chaplains.

“It was also an immense joy to witness LT(N) Kwame Clarke, the first full-time paid chaplain for the Trinidad and Tobago Defence Force,” Ron continues. “Kwame attended ACCTS’ International Chaplain Training program ten years ago when there was no chaplain in the TTDF and he was just a corporal. He took our training seriously and started to function as a volunteer chaplain. He did such a good job that his commanders noticed, and they were the ones who supported him being commissioned as their first full-time paid chaplain.”

Please continue to pray that all the participants will harness their newfound knowledge to be powerful ministers of the gospel throughout the Caribbean.





"After this I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb." - Revelations 7:9

"Communication with people who are different than us – outside 'our tribe' - must be found in two components of our identity: who we are in Christ, and that Christ's kingdom is for others from every tribe, culture, identity, and nation."

Chaplain Bruce Sidebotham

*A higher standard.
A higher purpose.*



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