April 2021 Issue 35

SoldiersCarePackages.com

First Baptist Church, 85 Main Street, Hingham, MA 02043 fbc.hingham@verizon.net 781-749-2516

Soldiers we are currently serving:

A Fielding in Kuwait M Spoke FPO J McCormick in S. Korea M Proctor in Japan E Carman in Kuwait <u>J Molina in Jordan</u> D Clark on ship K Hasenstein in Kuwait TAmra on ship J Claypool in Japan LAdams in S. Korea W Wilcox on ship K Ricketts in Kuwait S Hallerman on ship J Kesiner in Bahrain W Carroll in Japan R Paredes in Saudi Arabia T Jackson in Kuwait J Gordon undisclosed E Cho in Kuwait P Dixon in Kuwait C Johnson in Afghanistan D Tisor undisclosed



Do you know of a deployed Soldier? Would he/she like to receive Care Packages? Let us know at fbc.hingham@verizon.net

Cumulative Stats

56,000 lbs. of donations shipped since 2005.

240 Point Leaders since 2005 (some serving multiple times). Each Point Leader has a unit averaging from 6 to 500 Soldiers.







Great Notes From Our Point Leaders:

In the last 2yrs, my unit already executed 2 times of deployment to the middle east and Poland. And now we are going back to the middle east again with about 800 troops. Because of COVID19, the Main Agenda of the States focus on it. But there are unending operations to protect our home country. Soldiers are wearing masks under the extreme hot weather conditions. It will be a great pleasure if soldiers get support from home. Thank you for your support! . — *E Cho*

Thank you so much for your care packages and your support..... I received your packages, and I've made sure to distribute them to every Service Member within our care. Our unit is multicomponent (Army, Navy, Marines, and Air Force) and multinational (over 70 partner nations), and our mission is simple, to defeat Daesh (ISIS). So you're supporting and blessing the lives of Warriors from across our nation and across our world engaged in combat against a brutal enemy. This fight matters, and you matter. You encourage our hearts to keep us in the fight. Thank you for your service, your sacrifice, and your support. — *B Brandt*

Hi all! I am a combat medic hoping to give the people I work with at the hospital a piece of home. Some of the DFAC's have closed due to COVID so it's hard for us to get meals at work. We have an electric kettle, a coffee maker, a fridge and a microwave. We are not picky by any means, we need something to fill us up during our 12 hour shifts. I appreciate you all so much and I hope you're all in good health. Thank you so much. — *P Dixon*

Hello, we don't have much where we are. Supplies are limited. There aren't many hygiene products where we are so we find ourselves not being able to properly conduct laundry. The food is tolerable here. We all have had better but not all deployments have a luxury dining facility. Anything that could be sent to support, my unit and I would be appreciate. — *R Mitchell*

It's finally cooling off here - and by cooling off I mean we are averaging about 100 degrees now during the heat of the day instead of 110 or so. Nights are getting better to the high 60's and low 70's, which is really cold for us, so in the evenings my Soldiers and I sip on some hot coco. We haven't seen a drop of rain since we've been here, and have had maybe two dust storms. The Soldiers here are in high spirits as we have settled down into our routines. The typical workday is about 13 - 15 hours long. Amenities here are holding strong, and the days continue to pass, some more quickly than others, which is fine by all of us! *— I Peterman*

PLEASE HELP US HELP THEM

Great news.....

The Soldiers Care Package Outreach has earned the GuideStar Silver Seal for its transparency as a public charity.

Thank you to Altrusa

Altrusa Clubs based in New England have done an outstanding job in providing regular and creative cards/letters for our Soldiers. These clubs include <u>Meredith County NH, Carroll County NH, and</u> <u>Northeastern CT</u>. Their members produce the

cards, then mail them to us, and in the Care Packages they go! We have always had comments from Soldiers that written sentiments, drawings from children, and cards are extremely special and keep them going. **Thank you to everyone for their wonderful and meaningful contributions.**

The Market at Pinehills

Rt 3, Exit 7 6 Purchase Street in Plymouth

The Market Supermarket at Pinehills recently conducted a month long Care Package campaign which produced a marvelous amount of needed supplies for our Soldiers.









Guess what....we have some news

For your convenience if you have a busy schedule or even COVID limitations, we have established a way you can help us online. The Soldiers Care Package Outreach now has an online

Charity List on Amazon.

The list is already populated with needed items for our Soldiers. You select and place your order. Amazon will ship your donation to us. Couldn't be easier.

How do you do this? Follow these simple instructions:

Pull up your normal Amazon first page and go to the top right corner of your screen. Tap on "Account" and then "AmazonSmile Charity Lists" in the dropdown menu. Our Soldiers List should appear on a new page and you can select and order as normal. (TIP: It's important to tap "See All" on the right side of the page in order to see



ALL the suggested items.) Orders will then be delivered to us for the usual processing and shipping.

No worries for you!

Thank you to the Girl Scouts of Eastern Massachusetts.

cookies in March. This is the third time **girl scouts** they have done this for our Soldiers. The Soldiers couldn't be happier. Girl Scout cookies seem to transform any environment, anywhere.



Guess what again.... we have more good news

In addition to checks and PayPal for monetary donations, you can now donate through Amazon. <u>And the money does **not** even come out of</u> <u>**YOUR** pocket.</u> If you order your own *personal* items through Amazon, go through a special portal....

AmazonSmile

Amazon will then donate 0.5% of your purchase price to us. It's out of their pocket, not yours.



How do you do this? Follow these simple instructions:

Go to smile.amazon.com (drop the www.)

Sign-in page will appear

Tap "Get Started" button and a new page will appear

Fill in your email address

Tap the button saying "New to Amazon?/Create Your Amazon Account" and a new page will appear

Fill out your account information

Tap the "Create Your Amazon Account" button and a new page will appear

Verify your email address

Need to enter your OTP (One Time Password) which will be emailed promptly to your inbox Enter the code you are given from the OTP email

Tap the "Create Your Amazon Account" button and a new page will appear saying "Start picking your charity"

Fill in "First Baptist Church of Hingham" and tap "Search" button

(Even though this will eventually get you to the Soldiers Care Package Outreach, you have to sign in with First Baptist Church since it is the parent organization.)

New page will appear

Click "Yes, I understand that I must always start at smile.amazon.com to support First Baptist Church of Hingham."

Tap "Start shopping"

A new website landing page will appear which should look like a normal Amazon page In the top left corner of the screen you should see "Supporting First Baptist" as your verification

Start shopping. You're good to go.

TIP: Bookmark that page for convenience.

And guess what AGAIN..... we have even more good news



Do you have unwanted cell phones?

First Baptist Church of Hingham is listed on the official **Cell Phones for Soldiers (CPFS)** website as a recommended drop-off location

for unwanted cell phone donations.

The proceeds from these processes are used by CPFS to purchase prepaid international calling cards for troops and also provide emergency funding to veterans (i.e. our Soldiers Care Package Outreach).

This is a perfect solution to beneficially discard your unwanted devices and also help our deserving and deployed US Soldiers.

CPFS recycles and reuses not only cell phones (any type) and smartphones but tablets and MP3 players as well.

This local outreach is convenient to those individuals who are within physical distance of the FBC location. You can drop off your device(s) 24/7 in the brown trunk in the parking lot to the right side of the church, 85 Main Street, Hingham, MA 02043.

However, if you would prefer due to convenience or distance, mail us your devices, use the previous mailing address.

FBC forwards all donations to the national CPFS HQ.

How do you do this?

>Remove all personal data from phone.

Keep batteries and cords attached to phone. If there is no battery, place tape over terminal ends.
If donating an iPhone 4 or newer model, remember to turn off the Find My iPhone feature.
Place phone(s) in a ziplock bag and deposit inside the donation trunk (mentioned above).

What does CPFS do with the donated cell phones?

Mobile devices and tablets donated to CPFS are sold either to an electronic refurbisher or a recycler. Once they receive a donated device, it is quickly wiped of all personal information and checked to see if it is repairable. A cell phone that is repairable is sold to an electronics refurbisher who will repair the device and resell it in the aftermarket. However, devices that are either too old or completely broken are sold to recyclers who strip the devices of any salvageable components and/or rare metals and then responsibly recycle the remaining parts. These monies buy phone cards that are eventually given to us.

Not even pandemics can stop SCPO. Thank you to all who didn't hesitate to step up to help our troops. We are grateful to be part of a community of steadfast support—even and especially during a pandemic.

> You are still the foundation of this outreach. You are extremely appreciated during these unprecedented times.



Current Donation Requests:

Needed items requested by our Soldiers: Peanut butter, nuts, Beef Jerkies, protein bars, cans of fruit (small with pop-tops), feminine needs, hand sanitizer, IcyHot patches, wet wipes.



All donations are mailed in a timely manner.

For other supply suggestions go to: https://www.SoldiersCarePackages.com/list.html

NOTES:

<u>The First Baptist Church will pack and ship items for you</u>. Donations may be brought to FBC where you will find for your convenience a 24/7 brown donation chest under a drop-off sign in the parking lot on the right side of the church. FBC is in Hingham Square on the corner of Elm and Main Street, 2 doors up from Loring Theater.

Our "Point Leaders" are Soldiers who receive our Care Packages. They distribute donated items to their units, focusing on the greatest need. We have had units as small as 3 and as large as 600.

For those who prefer to send a financial contribution, it will be gratefully accepted. Please make a check out to Soldiers Care Package Outreach. Mail to First Baptist Church, 85 Main Street, Hingham, MA 02043. In addition, you can go to our website and use PayPal.



Each one of you is appreciated!

Special Request

If you are receiving this newsletter via email, that's wonderful. We hope you are enjoying it.

If you are receiving this newsletter via postal snail mail, we have a question for you. Do you also have an email address? To help us save on the cost of postage, would you consider receiving our newsletter by email instead? It would be crisper and more colorful. If you don't have an email address or prefer not to use it, that's OK. But if you WOULD consider using it, could you contact us at *fbc.hingham@verizon.net* and give us your email address? Everything helps in running this outreach!