

LATEST NEWS for our **Soldiers Care**

Hello Supporters,

Here is the **eighth** update for the First Baptist Church's **Care Package** initiative for our US Soldiers in the Middle East.

Faithfully,
Joy Thomson, Coordinator

Current Point Leaders

- ★ **Capt Gregory Hayes** in Afghanistan
- ★ **Spc Luis Barrera** in Korea
- ★ **1SG James Primo** in Afghanistan
- ★ **PFC Miguel Ordonez** in Iraq
- ★ **SSG Jason Henley** in Afghanistan

Current News:

Celebrate that the following Point Leaders are now home safely!

- ★ **1058th Transportation Company of the Massachusetts National Guard**
- ★ **SPC John Hagerty**
- ★ **PFC Gregory Miller**
- ★ **1Sgt Chuck Barney**
- ★ **1LT Richard A. Volp**



Office memo: We are working on a Facebook page, offering online donation capabilities through PayPal, and other incidentals. We will keep you informed. We have also automated the processing of the Care Packages here in the office, producing labels and customs forms online and requesting USPO carrier pick-up right at our door. That is phenomenal for us but I know many of you will miss seeing Rev. Ludwig trundling down the street to the Hingham Square Post Office with his packages and a big smile.



★ **PFC Miguel Ordonez** emailed: *"...our PX really isn't that great. They sell out of a lot of things quickly and only have a small selection of items. I thank you for helping out my unit with Care Packages."*

★ **Spc Luis Barrera** emailed: *"I got 5 of the 6 Care Packages; thank you very much. I got 2 yesterday and 3 today. I placed the two yesterday in our common area with a free sign and it was emptied within the hour. I'm sure my unit appreciates the thought."*

★ You may remember in the last edition of this newsletter we printed an email from 1LT Richard A. Volp describing the Ariana School which his unit was sponsoring in Afghanistan. He hoped we could send pencils, pens, paper, etc. The response was heart-warming and we were able to ship over 30 boxes of school supplies to the children through Ric's outfit. Supplies for 16 of those boxes were donated by the Daisy Troop 74839. They maintained a collection drive, delivered their supplies,



Daisy Troop 74839 bringing donations



A happy Daisy Troop after hard work



Showing Ariana School teacher the pics of the girls

and then packed the shipping boxes themselves. They did a marvelous job and deserved the ice creams they all ate afterwards.

Along with the supplies in the boxes, we put pictures of the girls inside them which were given to the children in the Ariana School (*see photos*).

The next newsletter will be dedicated toward photos and descriptions of this school and the children receiving our supplies. We have wonderful pictures. However, there is just too much info to place in this newsletter.

★ **The Hingham Lions Club** once again made a generous contribution to Care Packages. On December 31 they donated \$1000 to our cause. Many thanks to Janice Bosworth Dunphy who is their project coordinator and Mark Casale, president.

★ **Navy Chief Petty Officer Keith Jermyn** was a Point Leader for us who returned home to Hingham on April 9, 2009. He is still very active in supporting our outreach. He recently emailed that *"I have been in touch with a comrade who benefited from your Care Package Ministry by being stationed with me at that remote outpost last year. He wants to return the favor and has an organization in Malden to which he belongs that will donate 40 Care Packages to you."* The pic to the right shows Jermyn and Petty Officer Don Lockhart with their delivery. We need a bigger hall.



Keith Jermyn ALSO presented our outreach with 25 60-minute cell phone cards (*pic above*), which were donated by the Southeast Mass. Veterans Service Officers Association.



Congratulations to Chief Petty Officer Keith Jermyn.
Keith is Hingham's new Veterans Affairs Officer.

(great match, don't you think)



We would like to cite an article that was in the *Hingham Journal* recently, authored by Keith Jermyn re contributing to veterans charities:

"To the Editor:There are a number of private organizations raising money, which divert a substantial portion of your contribution to defray fund raising overhead expense. Thus, in many cases, much less than half of your contribution finds its way to the cause which you intend to support."

We want to assure everyone that FBC's Care Package Outreach is staffed by volunteers only, and 100% of your money goes to benefit our Soldiers.



Birthday parties to benefit our Soldiers

It all started with 6 year old Charlie Goebel. Instead of receiving presents for himself at his birthday party, he requested gifts for Soldiers instead. Word got around. It's become a popular idea. Even for a 60th birthday! A lovely woman recently had a huge 60th party and everyone brought at least one item for a Soldier, and in many cases, several. Once again, our office hallway could hardly hold the donations. Her daughter is pictured (left) as she delivered the many boxes.

Halloween Candy donations were a big success!

We intend to do this every year, so spread the word when Halloween rolls around in 2011 (*can you believe 2010 is gone*). Once again, you can't walk in our hallway (*right*).



BLESS EVERY ONE OF YOU. YOU ARE DOING A GREAT JOB!

Current Donation Requests:

Cough drops, gum, hand sanitizer, protein bars, air fresheners, cans of fruit (small), nuts. All donations will be sent as soon as possible.

For suggestions go to: http://www.firstbaptistchurchhingham.org/html/items_list.html.



NOTES:

The First Baptist Church will pack and ship items for you. Donations may be brought to the FBC Office in the building to the right of the church. There will be a donation box on the porch. 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 and always have a connection with Hingham. They distribute donated items to their unit, focusing on the greatest need.

For those who prefer to send a financial contribution toward postage instead of shopping for items, it will be gratefully accepted. Please make a check out to First Baptist Church Benevolence Account and note "Care Packages Postage" on the memo line. Mail to 85 Main Street, Hingham, MA 02043.