



October 3, 2010

An Open Letter to the Sunday School Classes at South Reno Baptist Church,

Recently the Women's Ministry hosted a Patriotic Dinner at which we collected items to send to the troops in Iraq and Afghanistan. We collected enough items to mail 13 boxes. At this time our church has two young men serving in Afghanistan. We sent 4 of the boxes to each of them to share with their buddies.

I went to a website called www.anysoldier.com, to get 2 more names and addresses. I found a 2nd Lt. platoon leader in a remote area of Afghanistan and a Chaplain's assistant at another camp. We sent each of these men the remainder of the boxes. The website asks that if you take a name, to continue to support the soldier(s) throughout their deployment. The two names I got from the website have been deployed since September of this year.

I am making a one year commitment to these 4 soldiers and their buddies who have put their lives on hold for us to serve in a remote outpost in a foreign county, to send them each at least one box a month. I am asking each of the Sunday School classes to join with me and help fill boxes for these brave men and women serving our country. Their emails tell of their struggles, both personally and militarily, the shortages they face of everyday items, and the homesickness for news of anyone and anything from the good old U.S.A. And, another son of a church member will be deploying to a war zone after the first of the year and I want to add him to the list for receiving packages.

Some of the items they are asking for:

Any kind of snack food (individual size)	Underwear (any size or style!)
Tuna packs	Long Distance Cards
Hard Candy	Scented Candles
Crackers	T-shirts
Homemade cookies & goodies	Hats
Water	Gloves
Afghans	Room Fresheners
Individual water flavor packages	ipods or MP3 players
Jerky	Movies (DVDs or blue ray)
Party in a box (for a birthday, holiday or just because)	Balloons
Vitamin Supplements	Magazines
Gum	Books
Lip Balm	Pictures of our lives
Toothbrushes	Letters from us
Toothpaste	Greeting cards they can send home



Floss
Mouthwash
Bars of Soap
Shampoo
Deodorants
Shaving Razors
Shaving Cream
Baby Wipes
Electronic games
Paper Plates and Bowls

Stationary & pens
Holiday Decorations
Batteries (all sizes)
Shoe insoles
Socks
itunes cards
Card games
Playing cards
Board games
Plastic silverware

All food items should be packed in plastic or cans.

The smallest contribution to the boxes is a big help, even a letter or card, some pictures, a newspaper, or a magazine. Please leave any items you donate for the troops in the front office. I will collect them and mail them each month. Gift cards or cash are welcome. Please make any checks payable to South Reno Baptist Church and on the memo line note "Our Soldiers Ministry."

If we all give a little, these men and women receive a lot. Thank you for your help.

Sincerely,

Karen Sagarra