



Third Anniversary Newsletter

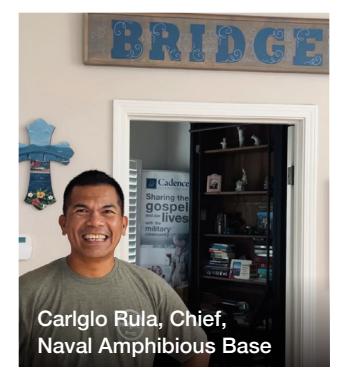
"His divine power has given us everything we need for a godly life through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness." 2 PETER 1:3

As we complete our third year of ministry here, we are so grateful God called us to *this* place! Sailors, BUDs, and Marines from six different military bases continue to find their way to *The Bridge*. Our weekly gatherings have been full and inspiring as we engage in food, fellowship, worship, and Bible study together. Following our study of the Upper Room Discourse, we moved on to Jesus' Sermon on the Mount on Thursdays. Saturday mornings, the guys are delving into the wisdom books, and the gals are learning about various women in the Bible.

Relationships with Christ and one another are deepening as we spend time sharing life's ups and downs together. We count it a privilege to walk alongside each one as many of them begin and others continue their military career in San Diego. Sadly, we often have to say goodbye to those who move on to their next duty stations. However, unlike the water in a river that passes through town, never to be seen again, we take comfort in knowing they will serve the Lord wherever He leads them, and we will see our "family" members again.

One of our longest-running *Bridge* members, Carl glo, recently left for Japan, where he will finish his Navy career. Growing up in the Philippines, he wanted to join the U.S. Navy. God answered that prayer and eventually drew him to Cadence. Here's what he had to say:

"The Bridge has been a huge blessing to my life, my faith, my family, my leadership as a Navy Chief, and my Sailors. Ed and Joy have been a spiritual father and mother to me; they see me as their son. They guided me through life and my career. I grew so much. It's been a great ride! The people that I met here at *The Bridge* have been a blessing to me, and it's hard to leave this place. I want to thank everybody, but most of all, I want to thank the Lord for allowing me to learn and grow here."



Carl glo Rula, Chief,
Naval Amphibious Base

This has been quite the summer of weddings. We've attended five, four of them including people from our community. We provided pre-marital counseling for two of the couples and performed the wedding ceremony of another. We are big fans of marriage—a great institution designed by God Himself, and we stand committed to helping the next generation do it His way. Michael & Nohemi (pictured here) met at *The Bridge*!



The Bridge

community enjoys connecting with other organizations and ministries to serve and impact military members, and our partnership opportunities continue to grow each year. Here are some new ones:

- **SkillBridge**—a transition program that bridges the gap between active-duty military members' end of service and the beginning of their civilian careers. This summer, we welcomed Cadence's first Hospitality House SkillBridge Intern, Justin.
- **Midshipmen from The Naval Academy**—a large group of future junior officers who come to Coronado every summer to observe the Navy life. Through our neighbors, the McCollums, we were able to share the Cadence mission with these academy students and invite them to experience a meal and ministry night together with us here at *The Bridge*.
- **Wildfire**—a growing movement of young adults who meet on the beach in Oceanside during the summer, started by a Marine from Camp Pendleton. Ed had the opportunity to speak twice this summer to that group of 80, and some of our community participated with them on Monday nights.

Joy and I were delighted to join one of our Sailors, Luke, and his family on a Friends and Family Day cruise aboard the USS Carl Vinson. Reporting at o-dark-thirty, we boarded the vessel and sailed out of the bay into the Pacific. This was such an eye-opening experience for us to see up close and personal what our men and women endure. Ship life is not easy! Please keep all our military



members and their families in prayer, specifically those on this aircraft carrier which leaves again this month for at least five months of deployment, with five of our *Bridge* sailors aboard.

Many thanks to those of you who answered the call to partner with us in prayer and financial giving as we fulfill our mission of *"sharing the gospel and our lives with the military community."* Be encouraged! Our great God is at work calling this next generation!

In His grip,
Ed & Joy Bissonnette



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The Bridge Hospitality House
466 Alameda Blvd.
Coronado, CA 92118-1615

Ed.Bissonnette@Cadence.org
619.622.8814

Joy.Bissonnette@Cadence.org
619.622.9846

Acct.# 10794