

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Prepping for the storm....

By **CHAPLAIN (MAJ.) TERRY PARTIN**
CSJFTC Deputy Installation Chaplain

“Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. 25 The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock.”
(Matthew 7:24-25 NIV)

As I write, the spring rains of South Mississippi are pouring down outside. During our first few months of moving to this area, my son, being surprised by another one of the famous sudden storms that we seem to have regularly, commented that we needed to check and see if Noah was on the porch.

Several afternoons that week we experienced sudden afternoon thunderstorms that seemed to pop up out of nowhere. Often we had just stepped inside from enjoying a perfectly sunny day to hear rain

drops pounding on our roof! So, when we hear Christ speak of storm proofing our lives, we should take a moment to listen.

According to what we know about life, storms are really a part of everyday living. If we live, we will experience storms. If we live long enough, we will endure at least one, if not several, major storms in life.

We are reminded of this as Saint Matthew records Jesus’ story of two builders. One built his house on a sand foundation, the other on a solid rock foundation. Both experienced storms. Of course, the house built on the solid foundation endured. The one on the sand didn’t.

Jesus finishes the story by reminding us that if we build our lives on his teachings, we too can outlast the storms. Let’s call it spiritual storm preparation.

Spiritual storm preparation begins by understanding that storms will come. When buying a piece of property on the Tenn-Tom Waterway, the Realtor looked

me in the eye and said, “You know this land will flood one day.” He echoed that which we really didn’t want to hear. Living on the river is great but it comes with dangers.

Likewise, life can be great, but it will have its drawbacks. If you live near the coast, you will experience hurricanes. The upside is that those who have experienced the storms, learn how to deal with them.

People close to the coast, know that the best way to deal with a storm is to stay prepared. Many of my friends keep generators ready, have an evacuation plan and keep storm related supplies on hand. They do not have to frantically try to find what they need when the storm hits. They are already prepared. We too can stay spiritually prepared.

Staying spiritually prepared means being a part of a faith community on a regular basis. I am a part of a great church family. We enjoy each other, encourage each other, help each other, and pray for each other. I know that when I face a life-

storm, my church family has my back.

It also means living my faith in the small struggles of life so that I am strengthened to face the large struggles. Believe it or not, preparing for and experiencing a Category One hurricane can help you get ready for the Category Three storms.

Always remember, the Soldier who can bench press a car probably didn’t start on day one with the car. God will help you deal with the big storms as he leads you through the small day-to-day storms.

Though your next spiritual storm may not be on the horizon; start preparing now. Start working on your spiritual resiliency now! Pull out the storm shutters of daily prayer and devotion. Build an emergency kit of scriptures that can be used to give strength. Find a family of faith to encourage and support you during the tough times while celebrating with you the good times. Build a firm foundation that can withstand the storms that will certainly come.

CAMP SHELBY AREA WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

The following worship opportunities are available through Camp Shelby Joint Forces Training Center.

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General Protestant
Sunday, 9 a.m., Greer Chapel
Sunday, 12:30 p.m., Greer Chapel

Catholic Mass
Saturday, 2 p.m., Greer Chapel

(Confessions at 1:30 p.m.)
Sunday, 2 p.m., Greer Chapel
(Confessions at 1:30 p.m.)

For Jewish, Latter-day Saints and Muslim services, please contact the Post Chaplain for assistance at 558-2378.

Lutheran
Sunday, 8 a.m., St. John Lutheran

Church, 2001 Hardy Street, 601-583-4898.

OFF POST
*Transportation provided for Jewish, Episcopal, Lutheran, Muslim services ONLY (due to time scheduling) Units are responsible for arranging transportation by calling 601-558-2622.

Latter-day Saints
Sunday, 9 a.m., Latter-day Saints Meeting House, 1618 Broadway Dr., 601-268-2438/ Hall: 601-268-9706. Contact the Post Chaplain.

Episcopal
Sunday, 8 a.m., Trinity Episcopal, 509 West Pine St., 601-544-5551

Jewish
Friday at Temple B’Nai Israel at 801

Mamie Street, 601-545-3871. Every Friday at 6 p.m.

Muslim
Contact Post Chaplain

Others
Church of God at Bellevue, Hwy. 589, Hattiesburg
Jesus Christ of LDS, 2215 Broadway Drive, Hattiesburg

Progressive Motorcycle Program promotes safety among the ranks

By **1st LT. RODNEY HALL**
CSJFTC Safety Office

As of May 9, the Army has lost more Soldiers from accidents as opposed to combat-related deaths in the current fiscal year; many of the accidents involved motorcycle driver negligence.

In order to address the dire trends of motorcycle accidents, the Army instituted the progressive motorcycle program (PMP) designed to cyclically engage riders to promote safe riding techniques, reduce rider complacency, and to establish lifelong learning among military riders. While this program is still in its infancy, many changes have occurred in order to foster more awareness to motorcycle safety; however more changes are expected in the near

future.

The U.S. Army Combat readiness Safety Center intends to create rider specific web-based and hands-on training to further emphasize rider safety.

Implementation of the Progressive Motorcycle Program (PMP) was mandated by rapid action revision (RAR) to Army Regulation 385-10, The Army Safety Program (Oct. 4, 2011). Under the PMP, all soldiers who own or operate a motorcycle must complete four separate training events at specific time intervals. Listed below are the current regulations for authorized motorcycle operation for both on post and off post riders:

■ The Motorcycle Safety Foundation’s Basic RiderCourse (BRC) must be taken prior to operating a motorcycle; this is a

onetime requirement.

■ The Motorcycle Safety Foundation’s Basic RiderCourse-II (BRCII) or Motorcycle Sports Basic RiderCourse (MSBRC) must be completed within 12 months of taking BRC.

■ Motorcycle Refresher Training is required for all soldiers who have deployed for more than 180 days. The Motorcycle Refresher Training is also required for soldier experiencing a hiatus from riding for more than 180 days.

■ Sustainment Training must be completed every three years following BRCII. Approved sustainment training includes but is not limited to retaking BRCII or MSBRC.

As Soldiers complete their training and gain authorization to

ride motorcycles, the following personal protective equipment (PPE) is always required:

- Helmet – DOT approved with properly fitting chin strap
- Eye Protection - Impact and shatter resistance
- Foot Protection - Sturdy over the ankle footwear
- Protective Clothing - Long sleeved shirt or jacket, long trousers, full fingered gloves

Unit readiness is vital for sustaining a force ready to deploy and engage the enemy in combat and to fulfill this obligation motorcycle safety must become conspicuously integrated in all riding circumstances. By exercising prudence and follow the PMP, soldiers can remain safe and ready to fight while reinforcing safe motorcycle behaviors for continued personal enjoyment.





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