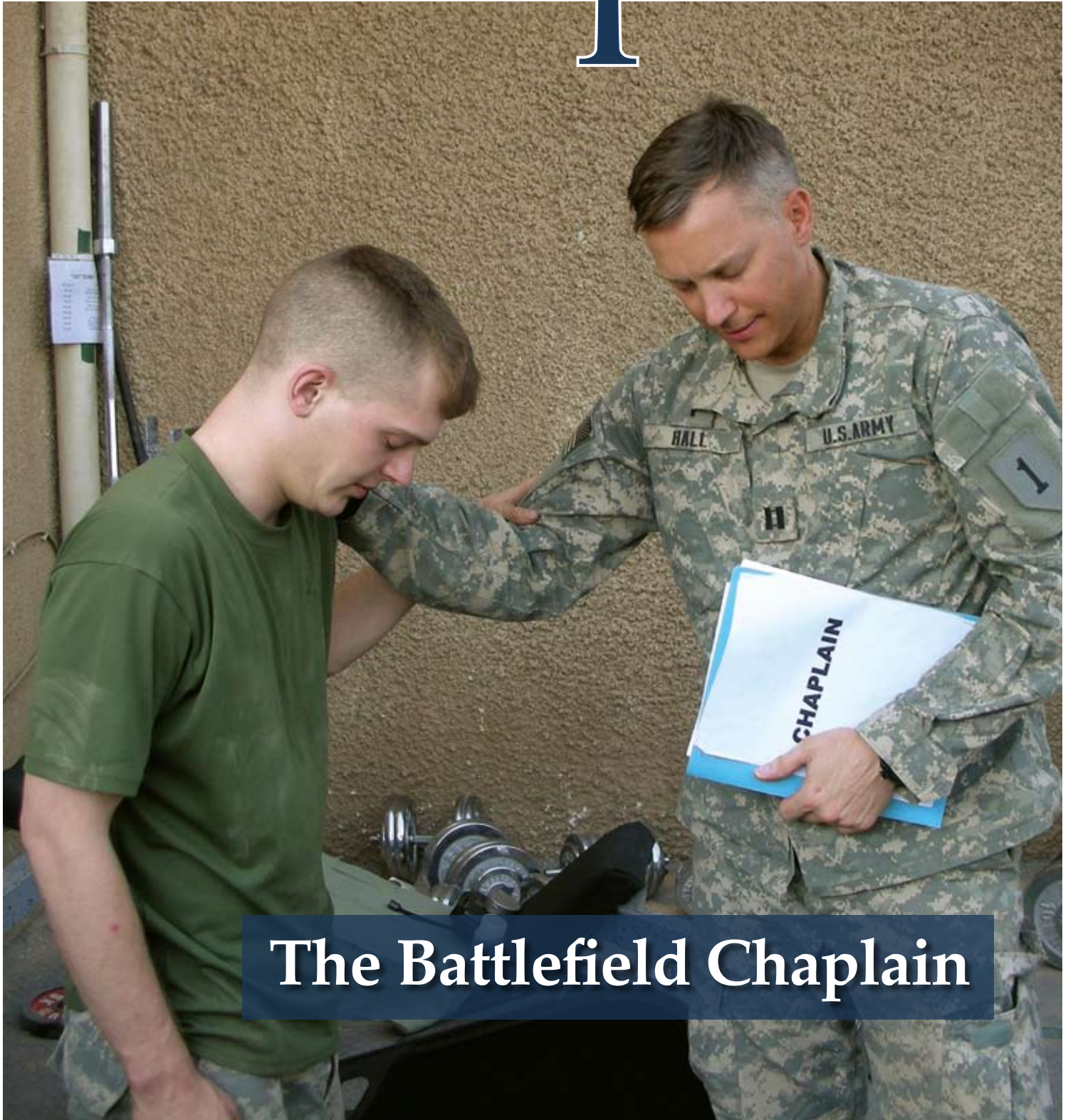


# THE ADVENTIST Chaplain

April-June 2007



**The Battlefield Chaplain**

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THE ADVENTIST CHAPLAIN is a quarterly publication of Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries, the chaplaincy services department and official endorsing agency of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

This newsletter is distributed worldwide to chaplains, institutions, church leaders and others involved in chaplaincy. To be added to our mailing list, call us at 301-680-6780. This number may also be used to let us know about Adventists who are in the U.S. military or those who are attending public colleges and universities. Articles, comments, photographs and questions are always welcomed!

Quoted Bible verses are taken from the New King James Version, unless otherwise noted.

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*I will love thee, O LORD, my strength.*  
PSALM 18:1

## ACM CALENDAR

*May 18 - 23, 2007*

Seventh-day Adventist Military Chaplains Association Annual  
Conference • Silver Spring, MD

*June 22 - 25, 2007*

Adventist Military Support Center - Europe Religious Retreat •  
Garmisch, Germany

*August 7, 2007*

ACM Committee

*September 18, 2007*

ACM Committee

*November 6, 2007*

ACM Committee

*November 21 - 28, 2007*

Seventh-day Adventist Correctional Chaplains Association  
Annual Conference • Germany

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# To Whom Do You Belong?

By Martin W. Feldbush, Director  
Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries

*“When the Counselor comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who goes out from the Father, he will testify about me. And you also must testify...”* John 15:26, 27

When I was a boy people would ask, “What do you want to do when you grow up?”

Trying to pull out of an eight-year-old an accurate prediction of future livelihood is unpredictable at best! I didn’t really know then, but in the years that

followed I dreamed of several potential occupations. In grade school I wanted to be an engineer designing automobiles (perhaps a natural for a kid growing up in the suburbs of the Motor City, Detroit, Michigan). Then in high school I planned on becoming a lawyer, but my academy principal got it right when in the class prophecy he described me as being a minister in the future!

Looking back on those childhood inquisitions, however, I somehow think that the better question would not have been what will you be, but rather *who* will you be – or even better, whose will you be? Come to think of it, that is a fitting question for every Christian today, and especially for ministers of the Gospel: Whose are you? To whom do we individually belong and owe our allegiance? After all, ministry flows from a relationship with Christ.

In John 15 Jesus promised the Holy Spirit to those who accept and belong to Him. The Spirit provides giftedness and spiritual empowering for ministry. Read the great spiritual gifts passages:

Romans 12:4-8

I Corinthians 12:1-31

Ephesians 4:7-16

In these and other passages biblical scholars identify two major categories of spiritual gifts: the *speaking* gifts and the *serving* gifts. All of us have at least one gift from at least one of these gift sets, but many of us have multiple gifts. They are the Spirit’s bestowal of abilities to testify



of, and minister in the name of, Jesus Christ. And that’s not all – the same Spirit then fills us with spiritual power and discernment to accomplish those ministries! As Charles Spurgeon once wrote, it is *all* of God’s grace and power!

The use of these spiritual gifts in ministry, then, is an overflow of a relationship with Christ. Is your ministry flagging? Are you in need of revival? The core issue is not

the enhancement of knowledge and skills (as important as they are), but rather the rekindling of a relationship with Jesus. Years ago Carl Meile taught me that lesson. Carl was a vice president of a major American corporation, with a dream of serving in youth ministry during his retirement years. As those golden years approached, however, he was diagnosed with brain cancer. Treatment finally brought him to our hospital and to the floor on which I served as chaplain. Over the months that ensued Carl and I became friends as he struggled with the reality of impending death. One day I stopped to see him while en route to give a worship talk to a group of nursing students; “Carl,” I said, “what can I share with these students about their medical ministry?” After a moment he replied simply, “Marty, just tell them it all begins with John 3:16.” And so it is; from that relationship flows ministry to others.

Deciding what you want do may be a matter of choosing a career path and learning relevant knowledge and skills. Being a minister, however, involves much more. It is the outcome of settling the question of God’s primacy in our lives, receiving the gifts of the Spirit and ministering from an overflow of a daily walk with Christ.

To Whom *do* we belong?



## Life Sketch of Ed Bowen

Edwin Earl Bowen was born in 1948 in Loma Linda, California, joining his older sister Shirley to complete the family of June and Glenn Bowen. The pastoral family resided in California and Wyoming until Glenn joined the US Army as a chaplain in 1953. During his father's career, the family would reside in Japan, Germany, North Carolina, and California.

Ed considered Fort Ord to be "home" since his father served 3 tours there. Ed graduated from Monterey Bay Academy in 1967, a parochial boarding academy near Watsonville, CA. His collegiate education was at Pacific Union College near Napa, California, where he graduated in 1972.

His experiences during those years included one college year at Middle East College in Beirut, Lebanon and another college year as a student missionary in Uganda and Kenya, East Africa.

Ed married Joan Elaine Petersen in 1971. Their family grew to include their two children, Jason and Jodi, and now 2 grandchildren. He received his Master of Divinity degree in 1975 from the Seventh-day Adventist Seminary in Michigan. Ed was ordained as a pastor by the Seventh-day Adventist Church in 1979. He was pastor of several churches in Ohio and New Jersey.

In 1981, Ed joined the US Army Reserves as a chaplain and was accessioned for active duty on January 31, 1983. Ed became the first second-generation (father/son) Seventh-day Adventist Army chaplain. His first chaplaincy assignment was at Ft. Ord, California, less than a mile from where his father's career had started, and where his father retired in 1973. As if that isn't enough of a coincidence, Ed and Joan lived in the same house at Ft. Ord that his parents had lived during one of their assignments at Ft. Ord. Ed and Joan's military assignments also took their family to Germany, New Jersey, Georgia, Hawaii, Washington State, Maryland, Washington D.C., and Texas.

Chaplain Bowen was a graduate of the Chaplain Officer Basic and Advanced Courses, the Combined Arms Service Staff School, and the Command and General Staff College.

Chaplain Bowen's Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE)



*Chaplain (LTC) Ed Bowen*

experience began with one unit at Kettering Medical Center in 1975. He then completed 4 units of community-based CPE in the Army at Ft. Benning, Georgia. His follow-on assignment was at Tripler Army Medical Center, Hawaii. Ed's ward ministry at Tripler included Labor and Delivery, Cardiac Intensive Care, and General Surgery. He served on the "Living with Dying" staff, was a facilitator with "Make Today Count" groups (cancer survivors), and coordinator of The Human-Animal Bonding program.

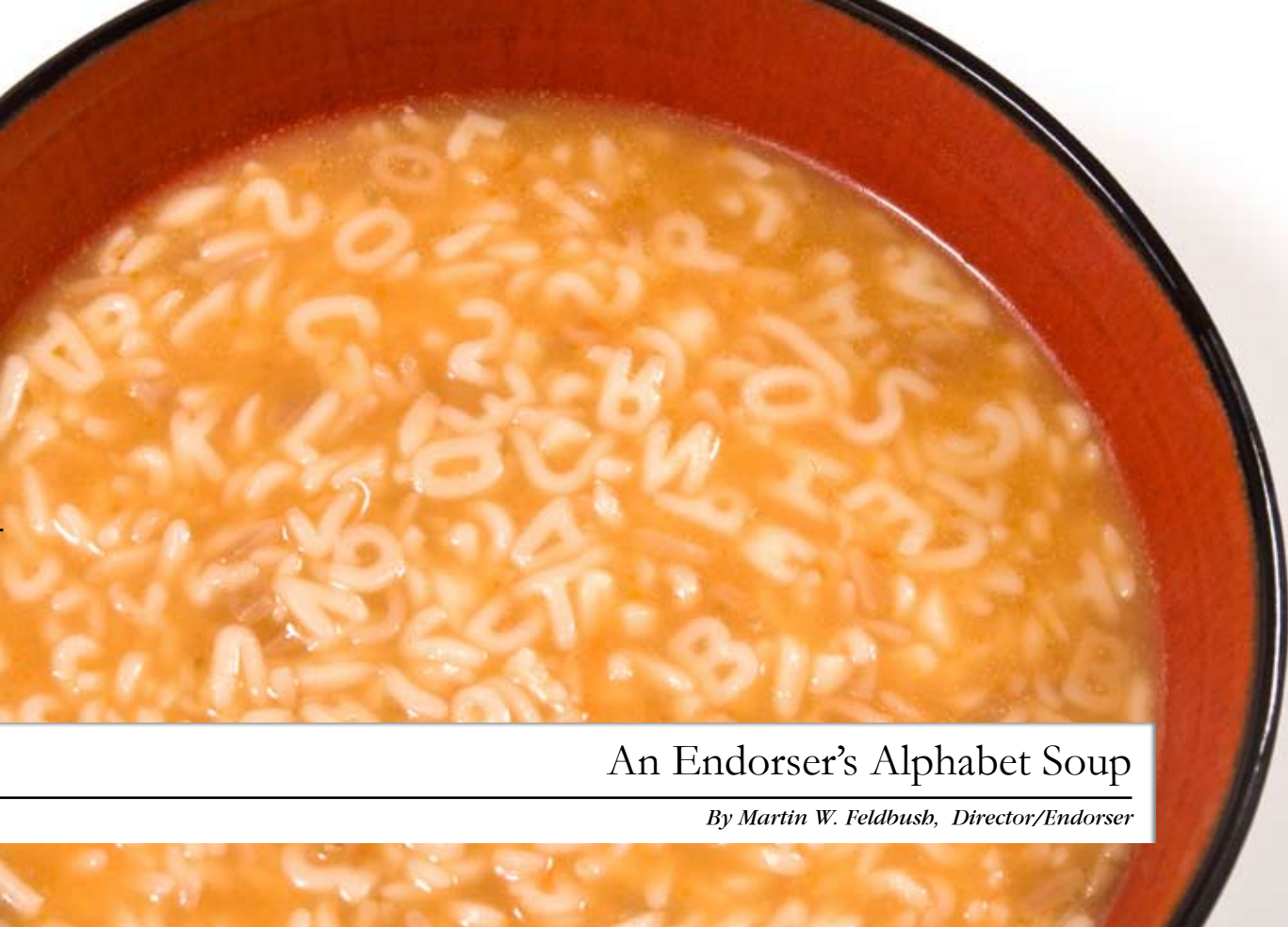
Chaplain Bowen entered CPE supervisory training in 1996 at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C. He became an associate CPE supervisor in 2000, and became the director of the Walter Reed AMC CPE program

in 2002. Then, in 2004 CH Bowen became the director of the CPE Center at Brooke Army Medical Center, San Antonio, Texas, and served as consultant for the Army CPE, ensuring that the Army CPE system was in compliance with and met the standards of the Association of CPE. Ed achieved full ACPE supervisor status in 2005.

Chaplain Bowen's military awards include The Meritorious Service Medal (3 OLC), Army Commendation Medal (2 OLC), Army Achievement Medal, National Defense Service Medal with (Bronze Star Device), Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Humanitarian Service Medal, and the Overseas Service Ribbon.

Ed is survived by his wife Joan Petersen Bowen of Schertz, Texas; son Jason Bowen of Waco, Texas; daughter Jodi Pennington (Tim) and two granddaughters Kianna and Cheyanne of Ft. Meade, Maryland; sister Shirley Finneman (Jerry) of Battle Creek, Michigan; parents Glenn and June Bowen of Battle Creek, Michigan; brother-in-law Keith Petersen of Loma Linda, Calif.; and sister-in-law Jeanne Petersen Cummings of Littleton, Colorado, as well as aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces and nephews.

Chaplain (LTC) Edwin E. Bowen was laid to rest in the Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery where he awaits Jesus' second coming. Donations in Ed's honor and memory can be made to the *Voice of Prophecy*, P. O. Box 53055, Los Angeles, California, where Ed and Joan were both employed before they were married.



## An Endorser's Alphabet Soup

*By Martin W. Feldbush, Director/Endorser*

One look at my calendar – or that of Associate Director Gary Councell – reveals a bewildering array of acronyms, those sets of letters that represent the wide range of government and professional organizations with which we must relate. These are organizations by whom our chaplains are employed or professionally certified, or with whom we advocate for issues that impact our chaplains' careers, or whose annual conferences we attend, or on whose committees and boards we sit. To an endorser the cornucopia of initials soon becomes familiar, but the uninitiated often shake their heads. Below are a dozen of these acronyms and what they represent:

- AAPC (American Association of Pastoral Counselors)
- ACPE (The Association for Clinical Pastoral Education)
- APC (The Association of Professional Chaplains)
- AREB (Association of Religious Endorsing Bodies)
- BOP (the US Federal Bureau of Prisons)
- CAPPE (The Canadian Association for Pastoral Practice and Education)
- COMISS Network (Coalition on Ministry in Specialized Settings)
- CPSP (The College of Pastoral Supervision and Psychotherapy)
- CSC (Correctional Services Canada)
- ECVAC (The Endorsers Conference for Veterans Affairs Chaplaincy)
- NCMAF (The National Conference on Ministry to the Armed Forces)
- PCFP (Pastoral Care Foundation of the Philippines)



*ACM Director Marty Feldbush, with friends and fellow ecclesiastical endorsers from the American Baptist Church, Assemblies of God, Christian & Missionary Alliance, Church of God, Coalition of Spirit-filled Churches, Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, Federation of Christian Ministries, Four-Square Gospel Church, Lutheran Church Missouri Synod, Presbyterian Church USA, United Church of Christ and the United Methodist Church. Other faith group endorsers are not pictured.*

There are more, but these twelve will suffice. You've no doubt noticed that I threw in the PCFP to illustrate the growing international dimension of the pastoral care and counseling movement. For a little fun and education, Google each of these acronyms and organizations and find out more about them – and what your ACM leaders do in our "spare time." We're there representing our church and you, and making a contribution to the development of the pastoral care movement so that all will benefit.



## Faith in the Army: An Introspective Look at Army Chaplaincy

*By Chaplain (Captain) James Hall*



*Chaplain Hall prays with a fellow soldier.*



*Easter services in Iraq*

As I return from Chapel on the waning hours of an Iraq Sunday, I realize that a few days ago, I passed my first anniversary as an Army Chaplain. Since coming to the “Rangers”, I often ponder what being at a church would be like compared to the Army Chaplaincy. As I contemplate God’s calling for me, I am reminded by my good Friend that unlike churches back home, chaplaincy in the Army is dirty, dusty and raw.

There are not frills and thrills as most of the world, or the “regular” ministry would see it. The frills are normally getting a good shower, and the thrills are usually seeing that one Soldier come out of his or her shell long enough to reveal a spirit that is seeking greater things than themselves – seeking God. The glitter and gleam comes from spending a night having a Bible study while the lights are flashing due to diesel generators that are on the fritz. In addition, there’s always the late night knock at the door when a frightened soldier seeks counsel from “Chappy”. The reward is crying with them as they deal with tragedy back home.

People do not drive their clean cars to church services and park them in lots. They arrive in battle array in a HUMVEE, or by boots covered in dust or mud. Most haven’t bathed in a few days. They are wearing the dirty, well-used uniform that may have been changed a few days before.

The “pew” in the chapel they attend is an MRE box,

a makeshift picnic table, a cot or the ground. If there is a spare room available we meet there, but it is usually shared with someone working, or maybe napping. The first prayer is usually not for the soldiers themselves, but for a struggling spouse, a brother or sister back home, or a fallen comrade’s family. A sick father or a mom that is out of work might be the next prayer. Finally, comes a prayer for a good night’s sleep or a restful break for the day in and day out. Oh... and the protecting hand of God. This is the quintessential Army Chaplaincy experience.

Who are the parishioners of the “Army Chapel”? They are the children of teachers, truck drivers, factory workers, secretaries, single mothers, and many other professionals. They hail from cities, suburbs, rural areas, and some from the “hood”. They are the MTV, BET, CMT, XGames, Xbox, PSP, and Game Boy generation doing things their peers would never dare to imagine to do. They are Americans, from coast to coast.

Every day for the last year I have been honored to have an opportunity to help guide soldiers and their families through the “Walk of Life”, from births to baptisms, marriage to divorce, life to death. I pray daily for us all. After all, war is hell, death is painful, freedom is expensive, and faith still matters. There truly is no better ministry. God bless = less stress.




*The chapel setting may be makeshift, but worship services are important and meaningful to the troops.*

# THE ADVENTIST Chaplain

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*Expect to have hope rekindled. Expect your prayers to be answered in wondrous ways. The dry seasons in life do not last. The spring rains will come again.”*

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Sarah Ban Breathnach