

Pacific Mission Aviation's
Quarterly Magazine

Issue 2-2012
March

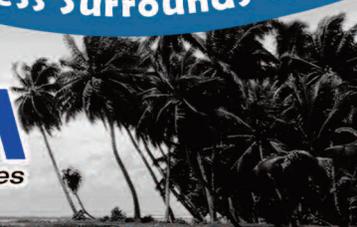
ISLAND ECHOES

Serving Jesus Christ in the Islands of Micronesia and the Philippines



Your Faithfulness Surrounds Us

 **PMA**
Bringing Hope, Changing Lives



Issue

2-2012 (March)

On our Cover

His Faithfulness Surrounds Us

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Pacific Mission Aviation (PMA)

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501(c)(3). PMA is governed by

a Board of Trustees. Our

business office is located in

Guam and a field office in

Pohnpei.

Summary of Ministry Needs

Personnel needs:

Missionary Pastors

Administrative and Ministry Assistants

Youth Workers

IT for Media Ministry

Facility/Equipment Maintenance Personnel

Boat Captain

Boat Engineer

Pilot/Mechanics

Capital needs:

Learning Center, Patnanungan, Philippines

Turbine Aircraft for Micronesia

Acquisition of Land for Churches

*“But who am I, and who are my people,
that we should be able to give generously as this?
Everything comes from You, and we have given
only what comes from Your hand.*

*I know, my God, that You test the heart,
and are pleased with integrity.*

*All these things have I given willingly
and with honest intent.*

*And now I have seen with joy how willingly
Your people who are here have given to You.”*

David's Prayer from 1 Chronicles 29:14-15, 17



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Letter from the President

by Nob Kalau



PMA President Nob Kalau

*“Not to us, LORD,
not to us
but to your name
be the glory,
because of your love
and faithfulness.”*

Psalms 115:1

To our Faithful Mission Friends,

If you asked me, “What do you like most about missionary life?” I would have to say, “the adventure”. As we look ahead to 2012, we can expect great things from God, as we attempt great things for Him. He will not disappoint us! Wasn't it that way for the 12 disciples? They never knew what Jesus might say or do next. They had no idea what would be revealed around the next bend in the road. Life was exciting because God was working and God was receiving the glory.

In this issue the adventure continues with, our CFO sharing highlights of the year and a snap shot of PMA's financial activities. Stories like a man who returned to God and is now standing for Jesus; the Lord teaching our missionary lessons as he was stranded on an island; islanders following the Lord in water baptism; how God called a young man from darkness to serve with PMA. A special story from the past came to mind when the Sea Haven visited the island of Ifalik. I pray these adventures with God will touch and bless your heart.

We look forward to this year of adventures with great confidence and hope – because God is with us and has gone before us. He has shown His faithfulness in the past and we are certain because of who He is, He will continue to be faithful.

Thank you dear friends for your prayers, for your partnership and for your love. Together, we can reach the islands, so that every island may hear.

God bless!

Nob Kalau

Your Faithfulness Surrounds Us

by Melinda R. Espinosa, CFO/Administrator

“O LORD God Almighty, who is like You?

You are mighty, O LORD, and your faithfulness surrounds us.” Psalm 89:8

When Chelsea Kalau was a little girl, she asked me what my work was like at PMA. She asked me if I ever got bored with numbers, or if the work I do was difficult or gave me time to have a life. I smiled as I explained to her that when one enjoys what they do – then it is not a chore or a job. More importantly, the numbers tell a story. The support donations speak to me of the sacrifices and faithfulness of our partners and their mandate for PMA to continue the work God entrusts us to do in the islands. The revenues from user charges show me the faithfulness of the Lord for providing through our support ministries: Aviation and Good News Press. Services like: free medical evacuations, relief and delivery of food and essential items, medicines and medical supplies, transport of patients and their attendants, transport of medical personnel, support of medical ship M/V Sea Haven, The Cross Radio, Studio, PMF churches, and Philippine ministries are benefited by these revenues.

As our external auditor went through our statements and asked me questions like: “Why did this donation/revenue/expense go up or down? What happened here? Where did this go?” I was reminded of the many stories behind each item. How the Lord faithfully provided at the right time for the need of the hour, how problems were overcome by His wisdom and many times, by His intervention, how projects and plans came to fruition, how He placed people on our path who encouraged, prayed, gave of themselves and their substance, how He gave our missionaries the strength, the perseverance and the faith to continue and press on in the face of difficulties, illness, trials and challenges.

What were the highlights of the year? Pacific Mission Fellowship churches in Guam, Palau, Micronesia and the Philippines, continue to share the Word of God in season and out of season. Many lives have been touched and changed; many have grown in the Lord and followed Him in water baptism. In the Philippines, new villages have opened up to the Word of God and started to have home bible studies, two of them now meet as a church.

Pastors and leaders have been trained to effectively teach and preach for life change. In the Philippines, we continue to partner with South East Asia Theological Seminary. They systematically conduct ongoing training courses for our pastors and church leaders. This year, three of our Polillo Island pastors completed their certificate on missional discipleship. Previously, they had completed their ecclesiological studies. For Micronesia, we had Dr. Rainer Kunz lead and teach a three-week, daily seminar on “How to Study, Teach and Preach for Life Change”.

This was participated by 80 pastors and church leaders from all over the islands, including our pastors from Palau and Yap. What a mountain top experience for many of them who have not received formal Biblical training.

As an answer to our prayers, the technicians for our short-wave radio finally came and, together with Nob Kalau, worked on the transmitters, antennas, and repeater sites for the broadcast to be heard all over Pohnpei and as well as the outer-islands. What a great joy to receive news that “The Cross Radio” can now be heard all the way from Pohnpei to Lamotrek (a Yap outer-island) and all the islands in between – a radius of 800 nautical miles, plus all the outer-islands of Chuuk!



Sylvia Kalau handing out solar short-wave radios. These solar SW radios enable the people on islands and atolls without power to listen to “The Cross Radio” as far as the Chuuk outer-islands, and parts of the Yap outer-islands.

The medical ship, Sea Haven traveled 3,000 nautical miles and visited 22 islands from Pohnpei to Puluwat, Chuuk and to the outer-islands of Yap. The health workers were so glad to receive greatly needed medicines and medical supplies for their ill-equipped dispensaries. High schools and elementary schools received much needed paper, textbooks, white/blackboards, teaching materials, chairs and desks. Clothes, shoes, food and supplies, toys, medical equipment, Bibles, and many other donated items were happily accepted by the island people. IOM – International Organization for Migration personnel were on board to assess the islands’ disaster awareness. Rotary Club representatives from Japan and Pohnpei were on board as well to distribute the final batch of solar water stills, completing the distribution to the Federated States of Micronesia area – totally distributing 1,000 stills. And of course, we are very thankful to our Guam trustworthy partners: Ayuda Foundation, Pacific Island Movers and Matson Navigation Company. They are literally, the behind the scenes “movers and shakers”.

51% of our aviation services were non-revenue: providing transport of medicines, food and supplies, sea searches, transport of the deceased, medical evacuation and medical drops (where an island has no airstrip), transport of doctors, patients and attendants, transport of mission staff and their families. PMA continues to be the only fast and efficient link from the outer-island to Yap state – for education, health care, employment and resources.

In the Philippines, our orphanage continues to be the haven for children who have been abandoned due to poverty, as well as a place for them to be temporarily cared for while their parents find better ways to support their families. At the end of the fiscal year, 158 children have been cared for at Bahay Kalinga Orphanage since we started this ministry.

Continuation of “Your Faithfulness Surrounds Us”:

One of the Department of Social Welfare’s mandate for us is to expand our community service in the area. This was accomplished this year as we established BK’s Clinic, specializing in eye care. Dr. John Escote and his assistant Geneziel visit Naujan, Mindoro, every month to conduct eye clinics as well as to check on the health of our children. We received funding from PMA Germany to renovate our clinic facility to include a sterile operating room for cataract and other surgeries. A friend from the U.S. donated funds for the OR equipment. We are thankful that we can serve patients near and far.

Our learning center in Patnanungan, Philippines has prepared and graduated 173 children since 2003. These children not only learn the basics of reading, writing and arithmetic, but more importantly, the Word of God.

Our two-man medical team, Dr. John and Geneziel, zealously do their monthly rounds of Naujan, Mindoro; Lopez, Quezon Province, and Polillo island stations. Total patients they have seen was 5,440, conducted 255 cataract surgeries, and 78 others. A total of 1,545 eye glasses were dispensed.

PMA’s passion continues to be that the mind, body and spirit of the peoples of Micronesia and the Philippines be spiritually transformed by the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We do this by utilizing PMA’s Aviation, Sea Haven, radio ministries (in Micronesia) and in the Philippines, through medical outreaches, orphanage, learning center and livelihood programs. All these contribute toward the effectiveness of PMF church ministries and outreach.

For 35 years now, PMA has dedicated itself to bringing hope and changing lives of Micronesians and Filipinos. Today, approximately 250,000 people are receiving the benefits of PMA ministries, activities and outreaches. May God bless PMA Germany and Switzerland and all our partners and supporters – your faithful partnership through the years have been an inspiration for us to serve our Lord in an excellent manner.

I praise God for the sacrifices and dedication of our mission staff and their desire for God’s work to continue in the islands. Although we work with minimum resources, our enthusiasm to reach the lost has not diminished. God is mindful, He has allowed us to taste and see His goodness in the land of the living – showing us what He can do with surrendered hearts. Looking back at fiscal year 2011, I can definitely say; “God’s faithfulness surrounds us”.

Melinda with some of her Sunday school children. It is a joy for her to minister and teach the children and youth.



Financial Statement of Activities for the Fiscal Year 2011

Support and Revenue

General Contributions	\$	411,201
PMA Germany and PMA Switzerland Contributions	\$	230,776
Revenue for User Charges	\$	402,979
Unrealized Gain on Marketable Securities & other Investments	\$	38,146
Satisfaction of Program Restriction	\$	25,617
Total Support and Revenue	\$	1,108,719

Expenses

Program Expenses			%
Medical Relief (Sea Haven & Aviation)	\$	408,676	33
Evangelism and Church Growth	\$	291,820	23
Studio and Radio	\$	101,429	8
Media	\$	99,264	8
Philippines	\$	215,594	17
Total Program Expenses	\$	1,116,783	
Management and Administration	\$	63,747	5
Fund Raising	\$	82,029	6
Total Expenses	\$	1,262,559	100
Decrease in Unrestricted Net Assets	\$	(153,840)	
Changes in Temporarily Restricted Assets:			
Contributions	\$	41,754	
Net Assets released from Restrictions	\$	(25,617)	
Increase in Temporarily Restricted Assets	\$	16,137	
Decrease in Net Assets	\$	(137,703)	
Net Assets at the Beginning of the Year	\$	1,807,094	
Net Assets at the End of the Year	\$	1,669,391	

86,400...

by Sylvia Kalau, PMA Missionary, Pohnpei

What would you do if every morning a teller from your bank phoned and told you that your account had been credited with 86,400 pennies (\$864)? But the bank had placed the stipulation on it that you had to spend it that day? No balance could be carried over to the next day. Think of the fantastic things you could do with such a gift!

God credits each of us with 86,400 seconds each day. Each night erases what we fail to use and what we use unwisely. Nothing is ever carried over on credit to the next day. There is no such thing as a 25-hour day.

The Bible tells us to “redeem the time” – to make sacred and wise use of every opportunity. It also tells us to “pray without ceasing” knowing that each day we have 24 hours to work with.

In an interview, Billy Graham was asked what he would change if he had his life to do over again. He said, “I’d spend more time in meditation and prayer and just telling the Lord how much I love Him and adore Him and am looking forward to the time we’re going to spend together for eternity.”

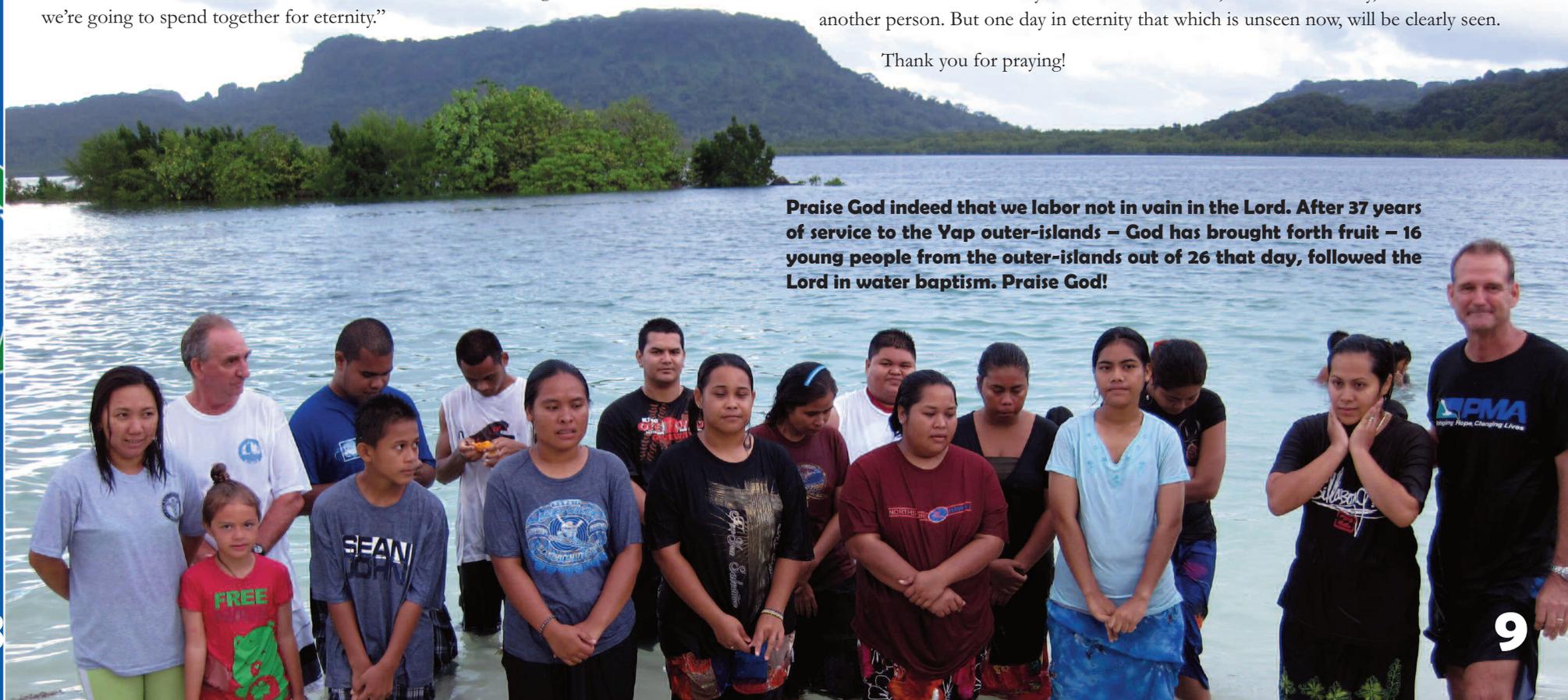
If Billy Graham, the great evangelist, needed more prayer in his life, what might we accomplish for eternity if we invested our time more wisely in the precious activity of prayer. Who might make a decision for salvation because you took the time to pray?

In December, my husband, had the privilege of baptizing 26 Micronesians in the Pacific Ocean of Pohnpei. Of this group, 16 came from the outer islands of Yap. For over 37 years, missionaries and their supporters have been praying that God would provide a way for the outer islands to embrace the Gospel and respond to His free gift of salvation. Coming from the outer islands to attend high school on the island of Yap, has given young islanders the opportunity to attend our PMF church and youth group led by Amos and Heidi Collins. Here they made a decision to follow Christ. PMF Yap has a growing congregation of outer islanders under the teaching of Petrus Haleyalgiy, an outer islander himself, with a burden and zeal to spread the gospel to his own people. Last year, coming to Pohnpei to further their education at the College of Micronesia, these students began attending the PMF worship service. One by one, after the first one excitedly took the step, 15 others came forward with the request to be baptized. What a beautiful site to behold these precious answers to prayer. As a church we celebrated and witnessed their decision to obey and be baptized.

Prayer for those in your family, prayer for the missionary serving on a distant island or land. Your targeted prayers are making a valuable difference for eternity. You may never know this side of heaven how the choice you made to use the 86,400 seconds wisely, affected the life of another person. But one day in eternity that which is unseen now, will be clearly seen.

Thank you for praying!

Praise God indeed that we labor not in vain in the Lord. After 37 years of service to the Yap outer-islands – God has brought forth fruit – 16 young people from the outer-islands out of 26 that day, followed the Lord in water baptism. Praise God!



God's Sustaining Grace

by Jon Taylor, PMA Missionary Pilot/Mechanic, Yap

It was supposed to be the last flight of the day. After loading the airplane's cargo and helping the passengers to their seats, with sweat pouring down my face I nestled into the pilot's chair. It's a great feeling with a long day completed to finally buckle in for the flight home and start the engines. On this particular day however, when I engaged the start switch for the number two engine – instead of roaring to life with a throaty growl, it emitted only a muffled, sickly rattle. And that's when it hit me – without a functioning airplane, the vast track of ocean between outer islands and Yap is suddenly very vast indeed. Unable to takeoff on one engine, I was for the first time in my life, really and truly stranded. Looking homeward over the roaring waves without so much as a toothbrush or change of clothes, I began to understand in a new way just how much the outer islanders rely on PMA.

And yet, I learned something else that day too: As essential as these airplanes are, they can and do break down. In this case, a small chip of metal in the shape of a halfmoon had sheared in half, leaving me with the prospect of days or weeks stranded before a fishing boat could bring a needed part.. Why do missionary planes break down? Why do hardships come our way, even in the midst of obedience? The Bible says, "The creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay." (Romans 8:20)

In reality, God acts mercifully toward us when he causes our best-laid plans to fall apart, for in so doing He destroys our self-sufficiency. He brings all our boasting to nothing and most importantly, He shows us our total inability to save ourselves. I am thankful to have learned this two-fold message so early upon arrival to the missionary field: our airplanes are important, yet they are nothing without God's help.

As it turned out, the next day Juanito, the island's boat mechanic, produced a perfectly snug and strong key by hack sawing a nickel-sized piece of hardened steel from an old bolt and then cutting it in half to get a half-moon. He then filed it to a perfect fit. Hurray Juanito!

Now when I fly to the outer islands I am more appreciative of the wonderful flying machine that God has given us and ever mindful that it is at our disposal only by his sustaining grace.

Jon Taylor with new friend, Anzy - a student at the outer-island high school in Ulithi.



A Life Turned Around

by Ditas Go-Zurbano, PMF Member, Palau

In 2010, Mike was diagnosed with diabetes. This developed into two complications: kidney disease and gangrene. He is now receiving regular dialysis at the Belau Hospital. With gangrene to his extremities, it is hard for him to walk. Sometimes the pain is unbearable and keeps him awake for many days. Born on December 6, 1952, in Angaur, a quiet coral island south of Palau, Mike shares his testimony:



Mike, with his family. How thankful he is that the whole family have placed their trust in Jesus.

"As a young boy, I loved reading the Bible, but I really didn't understand what I was reading until in 1976, Elizabeth Ruimman, a German missionary helped me understand the Bible. I surrendered my life to God and wanted to serve Him. Together with some friends from Emmaus, we were able to reach out to 15 households in my hometown of Angaur. Eventually my father and mother listened and began to read the Bible. I wanted to go to the

Christian mission school, but was urged instead to join Palau's police force. In 1982 I joined Palau's police with the condition that after two years I would go to mission school. I was told to stay on for another two years, though disappointed, I stayed and the two years turned into a lifetime career. As I immersed myself in police work, my spiritual life was set aside. I started to drift away from God. This was a time of real spiritual dryness for me. Things began to change a week after my stepson Leeman's water baptism at PMF, he invited me to attend the Sunday service. The moment I entered PMF's front doors, I felt God's love. From then on, I began to attend the men's Bible studies. Slowly, I began to obey God's word. Others could see many positive changes in my life in the way I treated my wife, children, relatives, colleagues, and even law offenders. I made peace with the people who I felt had hurt me. Now, all past hurts are surrendered to God and I have peace in my heart.

I feel so blessed because despite my shortcomings in the past, God has not abandoned me. He has remained faithful to me," Mike said with a smile. "I give thanks to God each time I wake up. When I am in pain, I pray harder. God has not stopped blessing me and I see His goodness through acts of kindness from loved ones and friends."

Truly, one can say that Mike's life is like the story of the Israelites in the Bible – chosen by God, yet foolishly choosing to wander away from God. Like the Israelites, Mike was able to find his way back to God. And God graciously welcomed him back with forgiveness and unconditional love.



PMF Patnanungan is Celebrating!

by Mercy Sulad, Missionary, Patnanungan, Philippines

Saturday, October 29, 2011, was a great day for celebrating the 27th Anniversary of PMF Patnanungan Church. I cannot count the many blessings the Lord has poured on PMF over the years. God's faithfulness has been evident in the lives of all Patnanungan believers and we thank God for men, women and children added to the fold as they come to know the Lord Jesus Christ.

Pastor William Camba was our guest speaker and he shared about "Pursuing to Christlikeness," our theme for the month. Many were blessed by the message. Our goal for the past year was to pursue Christ's image in our Christian life. Some selected church leaders and members shared testimonies of how the Lord had transformed them. We had tears of joy as we listened and were blessed. Our learning center students rendered memory verses – emphasizing that we grow in the Lord through intimacy of His Word. Their parents came for this special celebration and our prayer is that God's Word and the lives of their children will give them a desire to know the Lord. The following week, Pastor Camba ministered to 7 young people as they followed the Lord in water baptism.

We thank God for the support of our church leaders, couples, youth and Mayor Eusebio, who are all very active and committed to PMF ministry. Everyone participated in preparing for the event. More than a hundred people witnessed the celebration. We had the opportunity of opening cell groups in the homes of visitors who came to celebrate with us. Now they come to worship every Sunday. To God Be the Glory!



Pastor Jun Sulad starting them young – as he teaches the Word of God to the children.



"Mary PMA" – a Special Delivery

by Rev. Edmund Kalau, Founder of PMA

A healthy baby girl was born in early September of 1976 onboard our PMA plane enroute from Ulithi to Yap, a 106 nautical mile trip. Because she was already overdue and in breech position, the mother was being referred to Yap Hospital for delivery. Accompanying her on the plane were her husband, their two small children and Pastor Edmund Kalau. After our pilot made sure she was as comfortable as possible on the stretcher, the plane took off.

Shortly after the plane reached its 6,000 ft. cruising altitude, the woman's rapid labor pains began. The husband panicked and did not know what to do. With no medical personnel on board, Pastor Kalau suddenly found himself thrust into the role of midwife.

He knew the baby to be in breech position and prayed for God to direct him as he massaged and tried to turn the baby into head-first position. His mind raced as he surveyed the situation and supplies aboard the plane – this was not a typical delivery room set up! He took two rolls of toilet paper from the airplane's supply and a rusty razor blade from the father: the only sharp thing he could find in his local woven basket. He used the paper rolls to build a "dam" at the end of the stretcher before the mother's water broke. By the grace of God the baby turned and arrived safely. Edmund used the razor blade to cut the umbilical cord, and the threads from the mother's lava-lava skirt (skirt made out of natural fiber) to tie it off. He then asked pilot Everett to bring the plane to a lower altitude of 1,000 feet in order to help keep the newborn baby warm. They continued the 45-minute flight into Yap, and radioed the hospital to have an ambulance waiting at the airport.

When Pastor Kalau made a visit to the hospital later that day and saw the 8 lb. 4 oz. little girl with her mother, both were healthy and doing fine. Because the baby was born on the PMA aircraft, the parents chose to name her: "Mary PMA".

God answered the fervent prayers of a willing missionary for a safe birth, without complications. How thankful we are to have played a part in this very special miracle delivery in the air.



Mary PMA as she is today, with her own baby living on the outer island of Ifalik.



Why I Love My Job!

by Raynold Jack, Good News Press Staff, Pohnpei

Attending church was a family tradition for me. It was not until I was 22 years old that I understood my need for a personal relationship with Jesus Christ in order to be able to understand the things of God. My new life began when my neighbour invited me to join a Bible study on 1 Peter. When I read 1 Peter 2:2-3 “as newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the Word, that you may grow thereby, if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is gracious”, I knew that the Bible was speaking to me! I was starving for God and felt empty in the deepest part of my heart. I asked Christ to come into my life. I eagerly read my Bible and grew...my spirit at last, was being fed!



Rayray - as he is fondly called by everyone, is thankful to God for allowing him to serve at Good News Press, a ministry of PMA in Pohnpei.

Years later, I was chosen to be one of the 22 new deacons for our church. My relationship with God was growing and I enjoyed serving there. Unfortunately, none of the other 21 deacons assumed their position for long. Soon, I was the only one left! That did not slow me down, though! I was happy when my wife, Mioko, was asked to be a Sunday School teacher. Joining her for the training sessions, I learned about preaching. For 10 years I taught Sunday school until I was called to be one of 7 pastors of our church. I can give praise to the Lord because I have grown in Him and really enjoy preaching to the church of 220.

On Jan 4, 1992, I started working with PMA Pohnpei. First, I was employed in construction until I was asked to join the Good News Press.

I did not know anything about the

printing presses and it was really difficult for me – so many buttons to press and covers to flip! But God was faithful and sent some volunteers to PMA who could also teach me printing skills. I really love working at Good News Press. We are a good team: Esther, Bev and I. I am so thankful to PMA for providing me and my family with a steady job and income which gives us a stable living and security.

accountability. Working next to each other in the printing shop, she advised me how to treat my wife from God's perspective: to cherish and lead her. I also learned a lot about communication skills. My marriage and family life have really benefited from what I have learned from Elisabeth.

Nob Kalau is another very encouraging person in my life. He comes to the print shop every day, greets me and shows great interest in me personally by asking about my family. He also gives me good advice about diet and health and how to be a Biblical father to my children. We discuss the challenges in my church and village and I really appreciate the advice he gives.

I have learned so much about family matters at PMA and I always want to take that back to my church to teach my people. In the Pohnpeian culture, we never talk about such topics and counselling is practically non-existent! As a pastor, I look into many sad eyes and I would really like to help them. My prayer request is that my people would want to have open minds so that issues can be addressed and hearts healed and changed by the power of God.

Rayray enjoys his work at the press, thankful to be part of a team that honors the Lord.





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