

Pacific Mission Aviation's
Quarterly Magazine

Issue 1-2014
March

ISLAND ECHOES

Serving Jesus Christ in the Islands of Micronesia and the Philippines

Remembering Pastor Edmund Kalau



 **PMA**
Bringing Hope, Changing Lives

Issue

1-2014 (March)

On our Cover

Pastor Ed Kalau with outer-island Chief Dapoi and his latest picture.

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Pacific Mission Aviation (PMA) is incorporated as a non-profit Christian mission organization by the Government of Guam, Territory of the United States. All donations are tax-deductible under section 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 for PMF Churches
Missionaries to Island People
Administrative and Ministry Assistants
Youth Workers for Island Churches
Boat Captain for Medical Ship Sea Haven
Boat Mechanic for Sea Haven
Pilots/Mechanics for Micronesia/Philippines

Infrastructure Needs:

Patnanungan Learning Center: We thank God for His provision as the project is near completion. The teachers and learners are all excited to have a brand new, spacious building.

44MA Engine Over-haul: The Lord has been faithful. The first engine overhaul has been completed. The other one is nearly done. Meanwhile, we just heard that the owner of the company and main mechanic just had a stroke, so we do not know when everything will be finalized and shipped out to us. Please lift him up in your prayers.

Hangar for Palau: Please pray for the construction of a hangar for Palau which will house our aircraft, office and parts inventory. Amount needed is \$150,000.

Sea Haven Dry Dock: The dry-dock for the Sea Haven Medical Ship is long overdue. We would need \$175,000 for this project. This does not include fuel to take the ship to dry-dock. Pray for a place - Guam would be ideal.

"Enlarge the place of your tent, and let the curtains of your habitations be stretched out; do not hold back; lengthen your cords and strengthen your stakes." Isaiah 54:2



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Letter from the President

by Nob Kalau



PMA President Nob Kalau

To our Faithful Mission Friends,

"Stand steady, and don't be afraid of suffering for the Lord. Bring others to Christ. Leave nothing undone that you ought to do. I say this because I won't be around to help you very much longer. My time has almost run out. Very soon now I will be on my way to heaven."

This verse that Dad shared with me, from 2 Tim. 4:5-6, resonates in my heart as I think about his last days here on this earth.

Dad was keenly aware that his time on earth was running out, that soon he would be in heaven. He truly had a blessed assurance, his faith rested in the finished work of Christ.

Yet, he still had so many things to do, so many things to organize. That was Dad, always a ministry/project to attend to. But there comes a time when God says, "It is finished" and He calls us home. For God's time is not our time and He sees the big picture of our life from birth to death, when we can only see a short glimpse.

With family encircled around his bedside, we were all able to say goodbye and let him go to his Lord, knowing that we would see each other again someday soon in the beautiful place that God is preparing for His children... heaven.

This issue is dedicated to the founder of our mission, my father. Although the leadership of PMA was passed on to me in 1999, my father will always be the one that God inspired and used to blaze the trail of ministries and establish the churches in the islands. His memorial service was truly a celebration of his life and what God accomplished through him. Yet, he would be the first to say, "Missions is never the work of one man." In this issue, we have included remembrances from Guam, Yap, Pohnpei, Palau, the Philippines, and from PMA Germany and PMA Switzerland. As you will read, a life well lived for the Lord is never wasted. When God gives you a talent, He gives you the ability to use it and then to see how He multiplies the blessings. Thank you Dad, for humbly and boldly using your gifts in Micronesia and the Philippines.

To God be the glory!

Nob Kalau

Eulogy For Dad

by Melinda R. Espinosa, CFO/Administrator

Nob called me at 7:00 a.m. on the morning of Wednesday, January 8, informing me that Dad may not be with us for long. I thought I still had time to see him one last time. A little after 9:05 a.m., Chelsea Kalau called and tearfully said, "Auntie Mel, Opa's gone." It seemed that there was finality in her words. But to me, it meant Dad had arrived! He was finally home! His longing to see the One he loved and served finally became a reality. How I would have wanted to be there to witness his home coming and to hear the Lord saying to him personally:

"Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful... Come and share your Master's happiness!" I would envision Dad clapping his hands and laughing out loud as he would do when he was very happy!

Anyone hearing of his passing would say that Dad went so fast. Well, no one should be surprised about that – Dad was fast. He was always in a hurry. When we traveled with him, we needed to be at the airport so early that the check-in counter would not even be open yet. Going to any function, we were always the first to arrive. And there we would be, waiting for the people to arrive and for the function to begin. That was Dad... He was a man of action and lived a life with a purpose. When he had a mind to do something, he just went and did it. He believed that his love should not only manifest itself in words but in deed and truth.

Observing Dad's life up close and personal taught me so many things. I will share with you just a few that stood out to me.

He was a man of vision. He dared to dream and embark on new endeavors against all odds. It was because he was a man of great faith who believed God could do anything and could accomplish more than he could ever dream or imagine. And he was contagious – he invited us to dream as well, be part of the dream and live it. He invited me 28 years ago to live the PMA dream and it has been an immensely great adventure: faith-stretching, full of challenges with valleys and mountaintop experiences, never a dull moment! But I would never exchange this for the world. I am eternally grateful to him for the opportunity to be a part of God's work in the islands of Micronesia and the Philippines bringing hope and changing lives!

He taught me that my God is BIG. That nothing is impossible with Him. He believed in a God who could provide all things. That is why PMA's policy was never to owe anyone (except the debt of love). Through his term of leadership and until now, we have purchased airplanes and ships, and undertaken projects – all on cash basis. He believed that if God wanted us to have what we needed, to do what was needed, He would provide. And He did.

He was a man of prayer. O how he loved to pray. He always told us that the highlight of his week was our prayer meeting. This was where his personal, intimate relationship with God was clearly demonstrated. Every day, he and Mom spent time in prayer – praying for the family, for PMA family and for many needs. Many decisions, spiritual battles and victories were a result of his time with the Lord.

He led by example. A servant at heart, it was not beneath him to work with his hands alongside anyone who needed help, be it construction work, cleaning, carrying heavy loads... He was a hard worker and was able to accomplish much because of his "can do" attitude. No task was too small or too great – if it needed to be done and he could do it, he would! It did not matter who received the credit, the important thing is that the work was done and that it was done excellently.

He was a very gracious man – He told me that he had experienced and received God's amazing grace, and therefore, freely he received, freely, he also gave. He accepted everyone without judgment or condemnation. You were "safe" with him. You didn't need to be perfect to be accepted, he would just love you anyway. So it was very easy to love him. And many people did.

He taught me to hold the things of this world "loosely." Prestige, title, position, or riches, were never important to him. When PMA was 25 years old (15 years ago) – through his recommendation and approval by our Executive Board on Guam – his son, Nob Kalau, took the helm of leadership in PMA as its President and CEO. Dad was still very healthy and strong at that time and he could have held on to this position, but what was important to him was the perpetuity of the Mission as it faced challenging times and the growth and maturity of his son as a leader.

Dad and Mom Kalau celebrating Melinda's milestone birthday on March of 2013.



Continuation of Page 5:

I perceived the wisdom of this action because he would still be there to provide wisdom and important counsel when Nob and the Board needed it.

And when people would praise him for what he had done, he would say – it is not Ed Kalau who has done this, but God! He gave credit where credit was due. He always encouraged and praised those who served with PMA, recognizing their gifts and contribution to the work. He always had a good word for us, and for anyone he came in contact with. He was a true Barnabas, he encouraged and built people up, always having something good to say of someone. I never heard him tear anyone down, even if they had hurt him. And he gave and gave and gave of whatever he had. He was a very generous, kind hearted man. He could never say “no” to anyone in need.

Dad was a man who served the Lord with all his heart, mind, strength and soul, bringing hope and changing lives, impacting and influencing so many people for eternity. I have received many letters from people all over the world whose lives were touched by his love – a love which reflected our Savior’s love. He attempted great things for God and expected great things from Him, and God never failed him!

I thank God for friends who grieved with me; without words, just hugged me. Although not his flesh and blood, they knew and understood the deep devotion and love I had for this man, Ed Kalau who was “Dad” for 28 years. Not only was he a like a father, but he was also a mentor, a pastor and a faithful friend. I will never forget Him and will miss him every day of my life. He will always have a special place in my heart. Dad, thank you for your legacy and love. It has been a privilege and honor to serve the Lord with you. I’m looking forward to being with you one day in heaven (but not yet) in God’s timing. To God be the glory for all you have accomplished in His Name! I love you Dad!

**Pastor Ed is presented Rotary International’s Highest Honor;
“Service Above Self” Award.**



Pastor Ed – Service Above Self

My name is Mickey Flynn and I am a past President of the Rotary Club of Guam Sunrise. Our Rotarian motto is: “Service above Self”. Pastor Ed became a Rotarian with Sunrise Rotary on September 13, 2005. I calculated that, over the years, he attended approximately 700 of our Sunrise Rotary breakfast meetings and was usually the first person to arrive. Pastor Ed was not only a Rotarian, but our close friend.

Pastor Ed was very active, notwithstanding his age. He especially involved himself in our Rotary-sponsored Chuuk Water Distillers Project, a project which built and then brought water distillers to islanders who had no water, and a project concerning the Micronesian Multi-Purpose Center in Tai, Mangilao, which was built to be an outer-island community gathering place.

On February 22, 2013, at our Rotary District Conference in Tokyo, Japan, Pastor Ed was presented with the Rotary International “Service Above Self” Award, which is Rotary International’s highest honor for individual Rotarians, presented annually to only 150 Rotarians worldwide. In our Rotary District only 4 Rotarians have ever received this award. The award is given to Rotarians who have demonstrated exemplary humanitarian service, with an emphasis on personal volunteer efforts and active involvement in helping others through Rotary on a continuing basis. Of course, Pastor Ed gave credit to Rotarians, the Sea Haven and God for the award.

Pastor Ed exemplified the Rotary spirit in all of his efforts through our Rotary projects that helped the outer island communities. Most especially the Rotary involvement with the Sea Haven and his fellowship with us at our Rotary meetings. On those occasions where I arrived on time, I will remember Pastor Ed reviewing the morning’s paper, taking notes, engaging with our fellow Rotarians and guests while enjoying his breakfast. Then Pastor Ed would be called on to lead us in prayer. His prayer was intimate and thoughtful. He prayed for each of us Rotarians, he prayed for our community, he prayed for our service members, he prayed for our guest speakers and for all the work that we do as Rotarians. Pastor Ed was a peaceful man of prayer. That is how I will best remember him.

**Mickey Flynn of Guam,
honors Pastor Ed Kalau on his
85th birthday celebration.**



Blessed Assurance

In memory of Rev. Edmund Kalau

by Dr. John J. T. Escote, PMA Medical Director

I was preparing for a day of cataract surgeries when I received a text message from the office at 9:05 a.m. informing me of Rev. Edmund Kalau's demise on January 8, 2014. I had mixed emotions of sadness and joy, but was inclined to believe it was more of the latter, because I was certain he had gone to heaven.

While I was trying to collect my thoughts about this news, a hymn immediately came to my mind and I started singing it to myself. "Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine! O what a foretaste of glory divine! Heir of salvation, purchase of God, born of His Spirit, washed in His blood. This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all day long..." The words of this hymn and the thought of Pastor Ed now in heaven strengthened my confidence in Jesus Christ's gift of salvation – sure, eternal, and sublime.

The longest time I had with Rev. Kalau was when PMA sent me to Germany in September to October of 2002. He, Michael Lange and I composed the team that visited some of the local churches that continuously supported PMA. It was a time full of joyful fellowship, plenty of engaging conversations, and laughter (especially during meals). That exposure and experience caused me to ponder on who he was, relating this to the next stanza of the hymn: "Perfect submission. Perfect delight! Visions of rapture now burst on my sight; angels descending bring from above, echoes of mercy whisper of love."

This is what I also saw in Rev. Kalau: a servant's heart, humble and merciful.



As Dr. John shares about the medical ministries in the Philippines, Pastor Ed translates in German.



Dr. John (4th from left), Pastor Ed Kalau and PMA Germany's Administrator, Michael Lange pose with some friends in one of their church visits in Germany.

His passion and love for the Lord's work and His people was impressed upon me, during one of our meal-time-talks regarding the many necessities of the mission, when he uttered, "I will never cease raising support for the ministry even if it means 'begging' for the Lord." I did not fully comprehend what he meant and what was in his heart, but all I understood was that, here is a man of God who echoed God's mercy and who heard God's whispers of love, and spread them around so that others might find God's mercy and love. It encouraged my heart toward God's loving kindness and tender mercies – marvelous, beautiful, and unending.

I will never forget one particular verse from 1 John 3:18 that Pastor Kalau often quoted; "Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth." I had experienced it from him. He embodied the last line of the stanza of the hymn saying, "Perfect submission – all is at rest. I in my Savior am happy and blest; watching and waiting, looking above, FILLED WITH HIS GOODNESS, LOST IN HIS LOVE." It revitalized my resolve as well to be a vessel of God's goodness and love – sacrificial, patient, and kind.

It was not a coincidence that the hymn spoke to me right after learning of his death. Rather, it was God's providence that I could tell something, though little, of how he lived and left a legacy of immortal values for us, of his heavenly vision and mission in this part of the world, the Philippines.

I am deeply grateful to the Lord that I have been blessed by his life.

See you soon Rev. Kalau! When the right time comes for us!

Kalau – My Spiritual Father

Editor's Note: This was shared by Timna Falrog during Pastor Ed Kalau's Memorial Service in Yap. This was translated by her son Moofal, whom Pastor Ed Kalau baptized and named Gideon. He and his mom continue to be active members of their church. As this was orally shared, Heidi Collins transcribed this.

Thank you and I'm happy to have the opportunity to share about Pastor Kalau. But first, I want to tell you something about me before I met God. Before I even met Kalau, I had heard about him, and I would tell people not to listen to him because I thought he was a liar. Later, Kalau wanted to start a Bible Study in my village. Kalau answered all of my questions from the Bible. He was the instrument who led me to believe in the Lord Jesus Christ.

Kalau helped me to accept Jesus Christ into my life, and after that, if anyone said anything bad about Kalau, I would get mad! Later I heard he was going to start a flight service. He said planes were mostly used for war. But he wanted to use them to help people and share the Gospel with them. Later, he helped me get a job at the youth center snack bar. Some people said he was just a businessman trying to make money, but I explained to them and said, "You think the fuel for the plane and the spare parts are just lying around on the ground to be picked up? These things have to be paid for, you know."



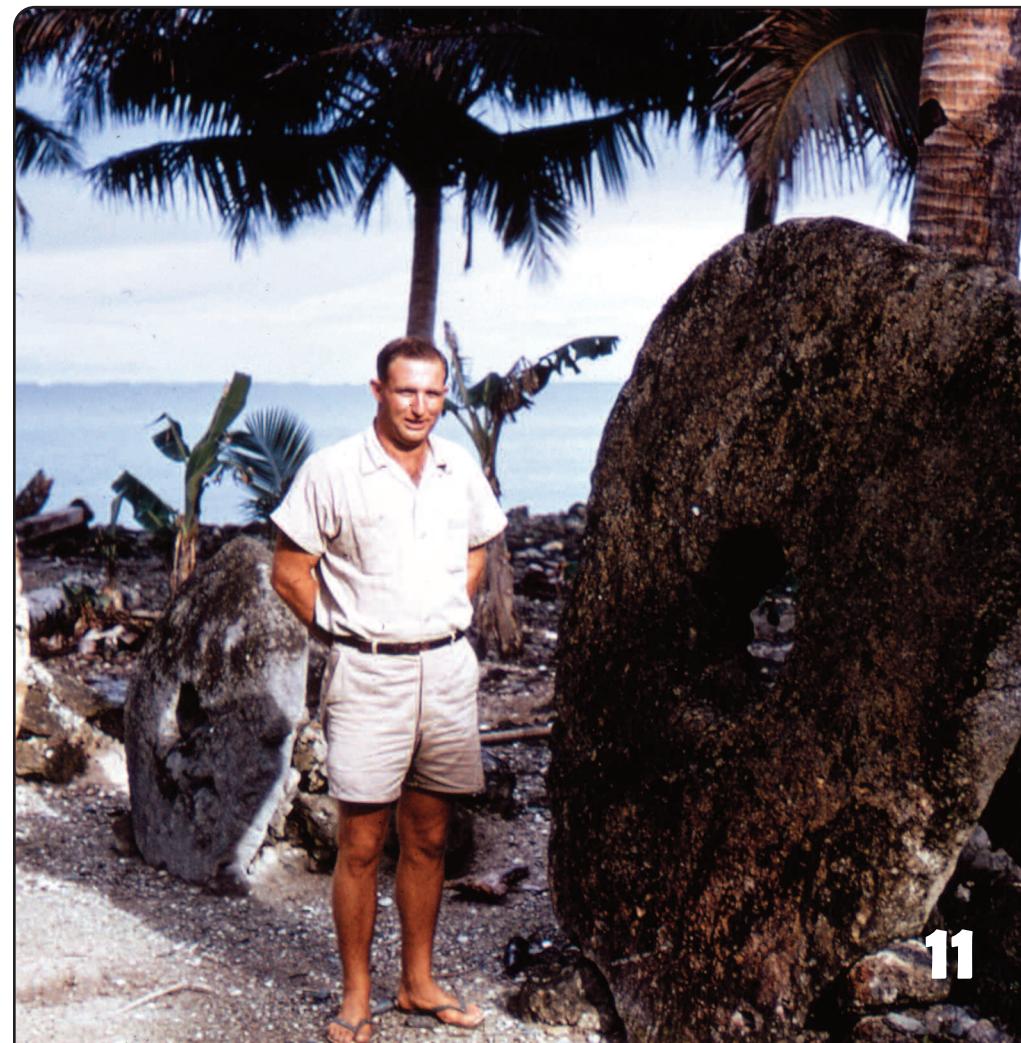
Falrog shares her memories of Pastor Ed Kalau in Yapese with son Gidion, translating to English.

I began to grow in my faith, and I look to Kalau as my spiritual father. Even though he's not with us any longer, his faith is still with us. This reminds me of Abraham... God told him to go to an unknown place and that He would bless him and bless many nations through him, and in the same way, many nations have been blessed through Kalau's service – here in Yap, the rest of Micronesia, and the Philippines too.

The last time I met Kalau, he came to Yap for a visit. He went with me to the prison to share God's Word with the prisoners. He asked the prisoners, "What sins do you think God WON'T forgive?" They thought for a while, and one prisoner said "maybe if you murder someone." Kalau then told the prisoners, "You know, I killed many people in World War II, and God still forgave me of those sins." Then he said, "I'm going to tell you – there's ONE sin God won't forgive." He lifted his Bible and said, "If one does not believe in God's Word, if one does not obey and have faith in Christ Jesus alone, God will not forgive him."

I've learned many things from Kalau, and that is why I'm devoted to teaching and sharing God's Word with people today. Because that's what Kalau wanted and also what God wants us to do.

Pastor Ed Kalau and family lived and served in Yap for 20 years. These years were fruitful as the Lord used him to establish churches, a youth center, Good News Press and an aviation ministry.



“You’ve Influenced Me!”

by Pastor Epel Ilon, PMF Church, Pohnpei

The passing of Edmund Kalau made me recall his great influence on me, especially my faith in Jesus Christ. He led me to realize how much I needed Him and I finally received Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior in 2001!

Growing up on the island of Oneap, I had heard about PMA but never met its founder, Edmund, until my family and I moved to Pohnpei in 1987. Since then, I began to notice how dedicated Edmund was to the people of Micronesia. He did not work just within the confines of his church, but was out among the common people and leaders alike, helping and promoting the diplomatic relationship that the FSM and Germany have enjoyed over the years. Edmund was never pushy about the Gospel, but was very gentle and respectful, which disarmed me as an uninvolved observer of the Christian way of life for many years. My admiration and respect for Edmund and for his wife Elizabeth also, was sealed when I learned that he actually chose to remain and serve the people of Micronesia for the rest of his life instead of returning back to the comfort of his home country, Germany, or the United States. I admire the lifelong dedication to the call of God!

Edmund had an engaging personality which made discussions not only interesting but humorous. Like his stories of his years in Yap where he found himself running frantically away from an expanding blow fish... in case it blew up! His first experience of eating with islanders and not finding any utensils or way to wash his hands before eating. I will never forget the many stories as they are very telling of what kind of a man Edmund was; he was very practical and yet very polite!

During my visit with him before he passed away, he asked what I was doing in Guam and I told him I was just following the sick one, just like he had followed me when I was in hospital in 2003! We laughed about that, but the truth is, Edmund was someone that I admired greatly and I would gladly follow him wherever he goes. I so look forward to seeing him again in heaven one day, in the presence of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.



Influenced by Pastor Edmund’s life, Epel Ilon continues to serve the Lord in PMF Pohnpei.

“How Do I Describe Pastor Edmund Kalau?”

by Anita Del Rosario, Former PMA Missionary, Palau



“Welcome to Palau” were the first words of Pastor Kalau to us on the day we arrived. His bright smile and encouraging words were enough to dispel the fears in our hearts as we worked under his leadership for 20 years. Those years were actually God’s gift to us. Only God knows how he impacted our lives.

Well, what can I say about a legend? A “Hall of famer” in the ministry? Let me venture to describe him through his name:

ED KALAU

E - Eager to put God first in his life. He counted the cost and he passed it with flying colors.

D - Dreamed dreams for the ministry. Always seeing the big picture and going for it with boldness to fulfill his dreams.

K - Kind and in touch with the people he worked with in spite of who he was.

A - Attracted to people and made them alive and memorable with his videos. It was a rare gift from the Lord.

L - Loving his wife. Doing the mundane things or house hold work, as in washing dishes when he is around the house. Mrs. Kalau shared this with me. Indeed, he was also a real Father to his children. He produced successors, one followed his dream and served in the mission faithfully with her missionary pilot/mechanic husband, and the older son became PMA’s President and CEO. Somebody said, “A success without a successor is a failure”.

A - Always eager to make us comfortable by encouraging us to voice out our inner struggles and problems, and offer help as much as possible. Only a sensitive man can do this.

U - Understanding and willing to be a friend, to say the least. A servant and a soldier to his God whom he served throughout his life.

“The Lord giveth and the Lord taketh away. Blessed be the name of the Lord.” (Job)



PMA Germany and PMA Switzerland remember Edmund Kalau

by Michael Lange, PMA Administrator, Germany

PMA Germany and Switzerland are remembering and celebrating the life of Edmund Kalau! In his passing, we have lost a man whom God has used in a very special way in the lives of people throughout the world. Fearlessly standing for his faith, he was a humble and fervent witness of the God he loved and served! “*The love of Christ controls us,*” (2 Corinthians 5:14) was his motto and the inspiration of his actions.

Having great confidence in the ability of his LORD, he dared to attempt things others thought impossible and over which they even shook their heads in disbelief. Yet God gave Edmund a passion and strong faith to fulfill his God-given visions. He wanted not to establish his own reputation, but to establish the name of Jesus Christ as the only true Savior and Redeemer among the oft-forgotten people of the remote islands. This was his purpose until the end.

Edmund and Elizabeth started their married life as missionaries: a few years of preparation in the U.S., 3 years in Palau, 20 years in Yap, 25 years in Pohnpei, and 11 years on Guam.



PMA was started in the mid-seventies with support raised from a handful of the Kalaus' friends and relatives. Over the years, PMA Germany has become a strong pillar of support to the ministry of PMA in Micronesia and the Philippines. In 1999, friends from neighboring Switzerland joined and founded PMA Switzerland. Edmund had a God-given gift for meeting the right people at the right time, especially in his almost yearly trips to Germany and Switzerland. He succeeded in raising awareness of the ministry of PMA, and it was always a joy for him to encourage everyone he met. More than once he said, “I am not ashamed to travel as a pauper for the cause of the Kingdom of God and for the people of the Pacific islands!”

Edmund Kalau was a great story teller: he truly spoke from his heart. You could listen to him for hours on end. Even today, a large portion of prayer and monetary support is due to Edmund's relentless visiting of churches and individuals throughout Europe to tell them of God's working through the ministry of PMA.

The dear friends in Europe remember him, especially the boards and members of PMA Germany and PMA Switzerland. It is our desire to make every effort possible to continue and support the ministry of PMA in the spirit of Edmund Kalau. His trust in Jesus Christ, his love for Him, his love for people, and his constant readiness shall be our model! May our Lord enable us just like He enabled Edmund.

As children of God, we have a wonderful destination: the eternal joy and splendor in the presence of our Lord Jesus! We know that Edmund is home with his Lord whom he loved and served.

PMA Germany and PMA Switzerland board members and friends.





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