DECEMBER 2018

Dear PMA Family:

Could it be that you are mourning today? It's the month of Advent and Christmas yet the news hasn't always been joyful. In fact, it's been a hard month. When you lose someone who is close to you, the world seems to stop. You never plan for such a thing. And it hurts. Yet Jesus said this, "Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted." Because of Jesus, there is a blessedness in mourning. There is hope! Life continues to move on toward eternity because we have a Savior who came to us in the town of Bethlehem.

As a Pastor I have had to deal with a lot of sad news lately and share words of comfort to those families at our church and coworkers experiencing the ultimate loss of their beloved one. At the same time, I am leading the preparation for our Christmas celebration. Oh the joy of Christ entering our world at Christmas! Thanks be to God to use me when I am weak and emotional and to put the sad and joyful things of life into perspective for those who are struggling and need to hear about God's amazing message of Hope.

And so we rejoice as messengers of hope as we celebrate the birth of Him who came to Earth to offer up His life so that we could be set free from the pain of death and live with Him for eternity. My heart rejoices as our PMF Choir will sing:

"The heavens roar, the angels sing, All glory to our God and King! O night divine forever more Alleluia, Alleluia. Christ, the Savior of the world He has come! Alleluia, Alleluia To the highest name of all, Alleluia!"

Thank you for giving and loving to be involved in ministry to our island people. Our missionaries thank God for you and pray for your influence in your world across the Ocean from us.

May your family experience Christmas as the time to adore the newborn King, who came to earth to be with us so that we could go to Heaven to be with Him.

Nob Kalau President/CEO

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MISSION NEWS UPDATE:

GUAM. With Pastor Anton and a group of Pohnpeians joining our partner church, the Sunday school I teach has grown with more children. The first Sunday they joined us. I was given the opportunity to share the Gospel to them. I thank God that they opened their hearts to Him and prayed to receive Him. Please pray that as they continue to come to Sunday school, that they will continue to grow in grace, knowledge and obedience to our Lord Jesus Christ. ~ **Melinda R. Espinosa**

PATNANUNGAN, PHILIPPINES. We thank God for the successful Couple's Seminar conducted by Pastor Marty and wife, Dadine. Many couples from various Pacific Mission Fellowship (PMF) stations who attended were blessed with many new things learned in keeping our relationships fruitful and in accordance with God's ways. Praise God also for the members of PMF Patnanungan for their help in set-up, cooking and serving of meals. To God be the glory! ~ **Bryan Bantucan**

BAHAY KALINGA ORPHANAGE, OR. MINDORO, PHILIPPINES. Praise God for His continued provision for all our needs. We end the year with 10 children in our care with two others in different facilities who are in need of special care. 6 of the children are now being processed for adoption and we pray for a smooth and orderly process for each of them to be matched with godly parents. Since we began this ministry, we have cared for 221 children. We thank God for the impact we have had with each of them! **From: Jeny Flores-Gutierrez**

REPUBLIC OF PALAU. After a Chinese tourist got lost while spearfishing, PMA was contacted 24hrs later. Unfortunately, the chances of finding a missing person, diminishes by the hour and 24hrs is a long time and ocean currents can pull one any which way. Sadly we weren't able to find the lost person, despite several flights. Sea-searches are one of the many services PMA is committed to do here in Palau. On the bright side we were able to have an in-depth conversation about faith with one of the people involved in the search. And that is our ultimate mission here, to plant seeds of faith and share the Gospel in every situation and every circumstance God is leading us in. ~ **Prisca Klassen**

YAP, MICRONESIA. PMA Yap celebrated Thanksgiving with 40 people around a table. Some of these were new believers and their families who are going through discipleship with our Pastor Petrus and his family. The rest were our staff and their families. It was great time of reflecting on the many things we are thankful for: safety of flights as we served the needs of the outer islands, growth of the new believers in the outer islands, good health and hard work of our staff, and also our local employees voicing their gratitude for working with PMA. We have a good team and it's a pleasure to serve together. **By: Amos Collins**

POHNPEI, MICRONESIA. Have you ever been in a situation where you were literally praying for your life or the life of someone else? Tonight the Ladies Bible study meets for our study in Psalms 27 entitled: What Can I Do When Trouble Overwhelms Me? David has the answers as he was running from Saul and we need the answers for the problems that chase us in life. If God were to ask you, "What one thing do you want me to give you?" What would you say? When God asked Solomon that question, he wished for wisdom to rule God's people. God liked that answer, but I think that He liked David's reply even more: "That I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord and to inquire in His temple." Vs. 4 God wants us to live in His presence. He is all about relationship and our dependence upon Him. He delights in our seeking Him and asking for our daily needs. I guess you could say that the great tragedy in life is not unanswered prayer, it's unoffered prayer! **From Sylvia Kalau**