

JUNE 2020

Dear Faithful Friends and Praying Partners,

"The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full." John 10:10

As if the COVID-19 pandemic and economic downtrend were not enough, there is chaos, riots, looting and mayhem in the mainland U.S.A. All life is sacred as only God who gave us life can take it. But how sad it is how things have escalated and out of control as one seeks for justice. I have been asked why this is happening, what they can do --- when fear and anxiety is rampant. The virus "sin" continues to prevail in this world. Even during his time, more than 2,000 years ago, Paul admonished the believers: "Pay careful attention, then, to how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is...." (Ephesians 5:15-17). It is so important for us believers to understand who we are and whose we are. To know what our purpose in life is and to stand in the light and share His love in truth and grace, not only in words but especially in deeds. The spirit of the lawless one – our enemy, Satan is strong in the world, but He who is in us is greater than he who is in the world. So let's stand, let's pray, let's speak the truth in love. Let's not give up – our God is in control and in the end. He wins!

GUAM. I have been on "sheltering" mode since March 15 – even so, I am thankful that the Lord has allowed me to accomplish so much. Communication with our mission stations continues through internet and zoom meetings, reports are completed on timely basis, the latest Island Echoes, PMA's News magazine completed and mailed. Thanks to all who contributed to the stories, Sylvia and Sabine who helped me edit, and especially Roland who continues to do the layout – all done long distance. PMA's executive Board met for its annual meeting. So thankful for each one's attendance in person and zoom and for what was accomplished in the meeting. Thankful for Caroline, one of my staff, who does all the Post Office and Bank errands, and for my grocery needs, I have no less than our CEO – Nob Kalau (who has been on lockdown here on Guam since he arrived on March 17^{th}) and his daughter Chelsea. God is indeed my Shepherd, there is nothing that I want. He provides for ALL my needs.

PHILIPPINES. So thankful for the availability of internet services in our Philippines outer-islands. They are still COVID-free, but for their protection, they are on lock down and on general community quarantine. And yet, because of this, the work and ministry of our Pastors continue to be "in demand". More people desire to know God's Word, through Bible study, to pray and be prayed for and to worship together. These are all done with visitations, zoom and messenger meetings/communication. Pastor Marty Lumigis, continues to "meet" with our pastors via zoom meetings and trains our pastors and church leaders. The enemy of our soul may think that he has stopped the church from growing, forgetting that believers are the church – and will keep on growing and stronger through adversity!

BAHAY KALINGA ORPHANAGE, OR. MINDORO, PHILIPPINES. Our Center head, **Jeny Gutierrez** shares: "Praise God for His guidance and protection every day. Although we are still COVID-free by God's grace, there is still a growing threat and its propensity to infect. God keeps us safe and healthy every day! We celebrated the birthdays of four of our children! We also had a successful interregional matching presentation for 3 of our children. Please pray that they will be matched with God-fearing parents and a loving home."

PALAU. We Thank God that PMA planes are always on standby for search and rescue operations. The evening of the 3rd week of May, PMA Palau received a call from the Ministry of Justice (MOJ) requesting for a sea search for a missing Koror legislator. PMA mission staff were ready to go at daybreak, sadly, the flight was cancelled because his body was found early morning. Then, 2 days after, the MOJ called again for backup. A 17- foot boat with 3 persons on board could not be located, once again the mission staff prepared for an early morning flight. Again, the flight was cancelled, this time, good news! The 3 missing persons were rescued and found alive early next morning! No matter what the outcome, we are prepared to meet the needs of our island community!

Toward the end of the month, Brock Welge and his family completed their internship with PMA after six months of faithful service. They were able fly safely back to Seattle without any hitch: Palau to Guam, Guam to Honolulu, Honolulu to San Francisco then to Seattle! We thank God for them and pray for God's leading as they plan to return to PMA to serve full time. Please pray with us. ~ Monena Borromeo

YAP, MICRONESIA. We have many things to be grateful for here in Yap. Being on an island with the borders closed, we continue to be free of the virus. This enables us to continue "life as usual" which includes a relatively normal schedule of flights to support the outer islands. And especially during the time of graduation, we were able to get food delivered for graduation as well as bringing families to and from the graduation venues. We also had a medevac pop up suddenly in which a young lady was having complications in her pregnancy. As soon as we got her to the hospital they immediately did surgery and were able to save the mother and baby boy from what would have otherwise been a sad ending. Our pastor's wife Queen was there to meet her at the plane and stay with her throughout the whole ordeal, which was another excellent way for our church to show Christ's love. At the hangar, our crew has spent the last month building a large shelter which we will use to shelter an aircraft, use for painting our planes, and also be available to the State Task Force as they need space to quarantine cargo that comes in from Guam before it can be released. Praise the Lord! – **Amos Collins**

POHNPEI, MICRONESIA. One of the prayer requests I pray each day, is for my persecuted brothers and sisters around the world to place their hope in the Lord and keep their eyes on Jesus who promises to carry them through the pain and suffering they face each day. While Covid-19 has not threatened Christians with jail time or torture, we who are used to worshiping in complete freedom have now been given a small taste of reality for persecuted Christians. Everyone I run into from PMF says, "I miss church! When can we start again?" I am reminded that the persecuted church can never gather, and risks their life for secret fellowship and study of God's word. This coronavirus will be contained, its stresses will be relieved, and life will get back to normal – though a new normal. For the persecuted church, however, the pressures will remain. Christians in restricted access countries will still be threatened. They will continue to suffer and die for their faith. Each time they gather, they will be at risk. A reminder to pray! –**Sylvia Kalau**

Thank you dear Partners and Prayer Warriors for your faithfulness! Stand firm in the faith, let nothing move you! Instead of fear, <u>F</u>ocus on Jesus, our Lord, <u>Exercise your God-given gifts to help others and spread the Hope we have in Jesus, <u>Arm yourselves with the Word of God, and <u>Rest on His promises</u>! "May our Lord Jesus Christ Himself and God our Father, who loved us and by His grace gave us eternal encouragement and good hope, encourage your hearts and strengthen you in every good deed and word. 2 Thessalonians 2:16-17</u></u>

In Him we live and move and have our being,

Melinda R. Espinosa CFO/Administrator