

## PACIFIC MISSION AVIATION P.O. BOX 3209 HAGATNA GUAM 96932 \* <u>guamhq@pmapacific.org</u>

## MAY 2023

Dear Praying Friends and Faithful Partners,

"For this reason, since the day we heard about you, we have not stopped praying for you. We continually ask God to fill you with the knowledge of His will through all the wisdom and understanding that the Spirit gives, so that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God, being strengthened with all power according to his glorious might so that you may have great endurance and patience, and giving joyful thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of his holy people in the kingdom of light." Colossians 1: 9 – 12

What a powerful prayer this is that Paul prayed for the Colossians, which is our prayer for you dear Partners and for ourselves as well. To be continually filled with His knowledge through wisdom and understanding of the Holy Spirit means to surrender our will to Him and to allow Him full control of our lives. The result of which gives us the will to please the Lord in all we do, allow Him to bear the fruit of the Spirit in our lives, do good works and give us the hunger and thirst to know and love Him deeply. With God as the source of our strength, we are able to endure, be patient, experience joy and to be thankful always. Praise God!

**GUAM.** Because Guam is the hub for flights to and from Micronesia, I am privileged to welcome, and bid "God Speed" to missionaries who come through Guam. We thank God that **Sabine Musselwhite** came through Guam on her way to Pohnpei all the way from Germany. Her stopover in Guam enabled her to rest and get over her jetlag. I met with **Dave Kendrick** who flew from Yap, then Palau with a short stopover here on Guam on his way back to Bakersfield, California. Spent a good 3 hours with him over breakfast listening to his experience in the islands. What a great blessing he has been and he was also quite blessed with our team on Yap and Palau. We thank God that he will continue to serve with PMA as Director of Flight operations.

**PHILIPPINES.** It was with great excitement that Pastor Bryan reported to me that the construction of PMF Busdak church would be finished this May. We thank God for His protection and safety over our crew and for the continuance of the project despite bad weather. The Lord used friends of PMA to provide for the funding of this Project. We do have a Big God who provides for all our needs! To Him be all the glory!

**BAHAY KALINGA ORPHANAGE, NAUJAN, ORIENTAL MINDORO.** We are thankful for the visit of RACCO (Regional Alternative Child Care Office) of the National Authority for Child Care. It was good to meet with them as they came to monitor the case management of the children under our care. They reiterated their availability to provide technical assistance to us in order to strengthen the implementation of adoption and other alternative child care programs of BK. Their visit came at an opportune time as we have 3 children ready for adoption and temporary care children needing foster care. Please pray for our Social Worker, Ann Caspe for wisdom to process all these. Pray for the Lord to provide a Center Head as well.

**REPUBLIC OF PALAU.** PMA Palau is in the midst of some major upgrades to our aircraft. We are preparing to launch two of our staff members, Stephen and Monet Newton, to restart a PMA aviation base in Manila, Philippines. We want to equip them with the best possible aircraft to serve isolated people around the Philippines. The plane they are taking is receiving a complete avionics upgrade and auxiliary fuel tanks to

extend the range. Dale Liff and Jim Newman from Missionary Maintenance Service have travelled all the way from Ohio for over a month to help us accomplish the work. With all the other operational demands and maintenance projects, it is very helpful to have them here bringing their avionics expertise. This is a giant leap of progress toward restarting a base in the Philippines and serving many more people and churches in the Pacific. ~Melody Coleman

**YAP, MICRONESIA.** We bid farewell to our teammate Dave Kendrick who returned home to the US last week. Dave has served with PMA for almost two years since we brought the King Airs over and has been a tremendous help with all the flights we had. Dave flew over 500 hours in the King Air. We moved a lot of people within the FSM in the height of COVID and then when the borders opened, we transitioned to our new international route between Yap and Palau. Dave enjoyed the weekly flight to Palau and built strong friendships with our team down there as well. He will continue to serve with PMA while in the US as our Director of Flight Operations. He will also assist us in a minor role as recruiter for PMA whenever he has time. Dave will always be a good friend and his sense of humor and easy going flexible attitude will be missed.

**POHNPEI, MICRONESIA.** One of the challenges of being a career missionary comes to us when we want and need to care for our elderly parents, yet live thousands of miles away on the mission field. It's a challenge and another opportunity to trust in God's timing and sovereign guidance. One day at a time, we walk by faith not by sight. For Nob's mother Elizabeth, we cared for her in Pohnpei until she went to heaven in 2020. This year I faced the challenge of my dear mother Lilli, who had a bilateral stroke in February. I quickly dropped everything and flew to Texas to care for her. Mom was hospitalized in 3 different locations until we were able to take her to her home. Initially, she was receiving rehab and getting stronger and then some other complications set in and rehab was no longer an option. We decided on hospice care in her home as the decline was happening rapidly. On April 12, 2023, my dear mother crossed the finish line and was escorted to heaven by God's angels. How thankful we are that I could be with her as life here on earth ended. "Brothers and sisters, we do not want you to be uninformed about those who sleep in death, so that you do not grieve like the rest of mankind, who have no hope. For we believe that Jesus died and rose again, and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in Him." 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 Thank you Lord, your timing is perfect! And thank you friends for praying for us and the challenges we face. – Sylvia Kalau

We are so thankful that through the varied ministries of PMA/PMF, men, women and children are being reached for Christ. We are thankful for the strength that we have in the Lord "*with all power according to His glorious might*" (*Colossians 1:11a*). The power available to us is the power that raised Jesus Christ from the dead. Imagine that! We can therefore press on with endurance, not growing weary in well doing, resting in the Lord and allowing Him to refresh us and rejuvenate us every day with His Word and presence in our lives. May we be able to share the reality of His presence, power and provision with those we serve. Thank you for your prayers and partnership. God bless!

In Him we live and move and have our being,

Melinda R. Epinoen

Maria Melinda R. Espinosa CFO/Administrator