



P.O. BOX 3209 HAGATNA GUAM 96932 [guamhq@pmapacific.org](mailto:guamhq@pmapacific.org)

APRIL 2020

Dear Praying Friends and Faithful Partners,

*“How long, LORD? Will you forget me forever? How long will you hide your face from me? How long must I wrestle with my thoughts and day after day have sorrow in my heart? How long will my enemy triumph over me?” Psalm 13: 1-2*

We may be asking this question to God, “How long, LORD?” as we live one day at a time during this COVID 19 pandemic, our present enemy. How long will this last? The daily news informs us that the worst is not over yet. David asks God four times, “How long LORD?” The Lord remains silent. And yet the Word of God shows clearly that David acknowledges Him as LORD (all caps) – His Holy Name, He is the all-powerful, all-knowing, Sovereign God who created all things. Just as David waited for answers, we too, wait for answers in faith. We know that God remains faithful even if we are not (2 Timothy 2:13). Faith may not give us all the answers but it gives us courage to face each new day with His strength and grace. No matter how this pandemic seems to be uncontrollable, we can trust in the Lord that He is in control and has already declared victory over it!

**GUAM.** As I write this News Update (April 5, 2020), Guam has already 112 confirmed cases, 23 cases have recovered and with 4 deaths. We also have an aircraft carrier docked here on Guam, which also now have positive cases of the virus, 9 of which are included in the 112 ever-increasing cases daily. We pray for the Lord’s intervention in our tiny island and for our leaders to make wise decisions during this time.

**POLILLO ISLANDS, PHILIPPINES.** We are so thankful that the islands were on lock down and enhanced community quarantine was implemented before anyone who was positive with the virus could come into the outer-islands where we serve. However, bro. **Bryn Bantucan** from our PMF church in Patnanungan shared that if this continues for a longer period of time, food supplies may not last in the area. Already, our PMF Apad church members have experienced this and Pastor **Jun Mandreza** asked us if we could distribute rice in this village. The people could still fish for their family, but ran out of rice. Fortunately, there were still rice available for sale in Jomalig and the Lord enabled us to distribute rice in both Apad and Jomalig. Please pray for our island people for the Lord’s provision for their daily needs.

**BAHAY KALINGA ORPHANAGE.** We are also thankful, Oriental Mindoro has 0 cases of the virus. The lock down and enhanced community quarantine were implemented on time. Our caregivers are very careful as they come to the Orphanage and undertake personal sanitation measures so that our children would be safe and protected. Please continue to pray for everyone’s good health and safety.

**REPUBLIC OF PALAU.** A call from the Vice President of Palau informed us that our building would be used as a quarantine site for possible COVID-19 cases. That night, the church gathered to lift the name of God amid uncertainties. There were praises and thanksgiving for the use of the land for years, and for the

opportunity to serve the people of Palau through the building and uttered prayers for the nation, government leaders and the people. Everyone was quick to clear the building for the government's use that very same night. Our last worship service at the Kalau Gym was simple and fervent. Weekly activities were held in other venues, until they were cancelled abiding by the orders set by the government of Palau and to also be part of the solution of flattening the curve of the CoVid-19. We are thankful that we still have 0 positive cases in Palau. We continue to trust the Lord for His grace and mercy. ~ **Catherine Claveria**

**YAP, MICRONESIA.** The day our neighboring island, Guam, received its first confirmed case of the Coronavirus, Yap had already brought in a plane load of passengers the night before and 2 of the passengers had flu-like symptoms. Although these cases turned out to be negative, this still activated all the emergency actions. Schools, and government offices, were closed and everyone went into social distancing mode. We made a decision at PMA to also cancel all the flight reservations that people had made to go to the outer islands and only took cargo to supply them with food. One man affected by the cancelled flights was our ticketing agent from Woleai, Peter Sapelalur. Peter had made a decision about two weeks prior that he wanted to retire from his job as a culture teacher in Woleai and help our Pastor lead a small Bible study group on the island of Woleai. Born and raised in the Roman religion, this was a great step of faith for him. Our Pastor Petrus was so happy for the extra time that Peter has had to learn more from the Bible and get better equipped. The result of these special times of teaching and discipleship was Peter S following the Lord in water baptism! Praise the Lord for his decision to follow Jesus! To God be the Glory! **By Amos Collins**

**POHNPEI, MICRONESIA.** The Federated States of Micronesia is one of the few countries in the world that still has no confirmed case of the coronavirus. Yet. In mid-March, the governor of Pohnpei banned all passengers from entering the island nation. Nob Kalau was supposed to be coming home from Palau/Guam and his flights were canceled two days in a row. Until now, he is still in Guam waiting for the ban to be lifted. We do agree with the strict travel ban. Our people would be very vulnerable; our hospital has neither ventilator nor ICU to take care of critical patients. The virus would overrun a third world country like ours. The US Embassy has alerted all Americans to return to the U.S.A. as flights leaving Micronesia are now only once a week. Should Nob be granted a return flight, he will be required to quarantine in Pohnpei for 14 days after he steps off the plane. As we all pray for one another and for God's mercies during this pandemic may we also be encouraged that God is in control, that He is calling people to Himself and He wants to use His children to spread the Good News! **From: Sylvia Kalau**

*“Our God is our Refuge and Strength, always ready to help in times of trouble. So we will not fear when earthquakes come and mountains crumble into the sea.”(Psalm 46:1-2)* Yes we will not fear, because He is our Strong Tower, our Safety and Anchor in these anxious times. The same David who questioned *“How long?”* victoriously said: *“I’ve thrown myself headlong into your arms— I’m celebrating your rescue. I’m singing at the top of my lungs, I’m so full of answered prayers!”* (Psalm 13:5,6) Yes, our God cares and He answers prayers! We can trust in His unfailing love. We pray for you dear friends and partners, always thanking God for you and praying He will keep us safe and secure until he says, “Peace be still!” to this virus. God bless you more!

**In Him we live and move and have our being,**

**Melinda R. Espinosa**  
**CFO/Administrator**