

AUGUST 2017

Dear Praying Friends and Faithful Partners,

Jesus said, ''Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.'' Matthew19:14

Summer months are busy in the islands. In PMA, we take the opportunity while children are on vacation to reach out to them through Vacation Bible School. In the Philippines, our team, led by Head Teacher, Mercy of our Learning Center, together with 12 teachers/ volunteers traveled by land and sea on PMA's boat the *Evangel* to 8 mission stations, reached 408 children, in 28 days. Their theme: "Fearless" encouraged each one to place their trust in Almighty God! In Yap, they had 90 plus children learning about Jonah – from Fish to Faithful! In Palau – our PMF church together with a local church came up with their own theme: "Island Home, God Loves you and Me". They had 90 children in attendance. PMF Pohnpei just completed their VBS with 170 children having the greatest time of their lives and learning to "Conquer challenges with God's mighty power!" We are truly blessed and thank God for these outreaches to children – our prayer is that they will, if not already, start attending PMF services and pray that they will bring their family members as well.

GUAM. It was truly shocking to find out that one of my Sunday school learners passed away so suddenly. She was 9 years old. I praised God that she had received Jesus Christ as her Lord and Savior in my class. What a great assurance this was. I was able to share this during the first night of her wake which was held by the Pohnpeian church. This brought encouragement to her family and others in attendance. Her death has made me more mindful and intentional in my preparation of the Sunday school lessons to prepare the children for eternity.

PHILIPPINES. Our Kilogan and Calutcot churches still don't have a full time Pastor, hence, Pastor Jun Tayangona visits these churches during the week for prayer, Bible study and fellowship. He is also the full time Pastor for Amaga, and he acknowledges his strength comes from the Lord. He is very thankful for Paul, who continues to be trained in our Discipleship classes taught by Pastor Marty, as well as one-on-one mentorship with Pastor Jun. He now accompanies him in visitations to the PMF churches. Pray for the Lord to raise Kingdom men for the islands.

BAHAY KALINGA ORPHANAGE, MINDORO OR. PHIL. "It is always a joy to have our children come visit us after their adoption. After 17 years, Arjay came to visit BK together with his brother and parents from Netherlands. What a great visit we had! Again, the Lord allowed us to see and experience His goodness!" ~ Jeny Flores

PALAU. "July was a month full of transitions for the aviation ministry. First we've said our goodbyes to the Schulz Family after three years of serving on Palau with PMA. Then to Kurt, our aviation volunteer for the last 6 months. And finally we welcomed the Ferguson Family on Palau who transferred over here from Yap Island. Good-byes and fresh beginnings, this is life in the islands." **By Prisca Klassen**

From **Pastor Mike Hammond**: "PMF Palau is moving in wonderful directions. We completed our combined VBS with Koror Evangelical Church, and had over 90 children participate. We are also starting accountability/mentoring groups in our men's, women's, and young adults groups. God is good, and we are excited to see what He does here next."

YAP, MICRONESIA. Centerville Christian Fellowship, a church that supports the Fergusons, sent three pastors to Yap for a week long summer ministry. Eric, Chris and David conducted a 4 day PMF Bible Training to strengthen and equip some of our church members that live in the neighboring islands. It was initially geared to train leaders but everybody that attended was able to take the truth that was taught and apply it in their lives.

PMA was able to fly 14 people from Ulithi to Yap to attend this training at the cost of PMA. We prayed hard that the boat schedule that would bring more members of PMF to Yap would work in our favor and it did arrive on time.

I want to praise the Lord together with you that ten people from Faraulep, Elato and Ulithi committed their lives to Jesus at the end of those four days. Several others recommitted their lives to Jesus. A few of our new family members in Jesus were baptized a week later here in Yap and others want to wait till they get back to Ulithi to get baptized. We want to continue to pray for those new believers in Christ and that the seed would grow and that they themselves would plant seeds.

We praise the Lord for all the hard work the Fergusons have put into the Flight operation and the Church. Indeed, they will be missed. We will continue to pray for their transition in Palau and their responsibilities there. ~ Simon Hammerling

POHNPEI, MICRONESIA. Sylvia Kalau shares: "We just completed a weeklong vacation Bible school with 170 kids and 65 volunteer helpers. This morning as I was getting ready for the last day, a 12-year-old boy approached me excitedly saying, "I'm so happy today because I get to come to vacation Bible school and it's my birthday too." I said to him, "it's your physical birthday but would you like to also have a spiritual birthday? ". He looked puzzled and then I explained the simple gospel to him. I asked him if he wanted to receive Christ into his life and he prayed the sinner's prayer. I told him that today is a double birthday for him his physical birthday and spiritual birthday. In the Bible story time today at VBS, the lesson was all about heaven. What a fitting ending for a boy who celebrated the most important decision of his life today."

Psalm 127:3 says, "Children are a gift from the Lord; they are a reward from him." We are thankful to God that we are able to reach young lives for Him. We pray that they will grow in the knowledge and wisdom of the Lord and that as they grow older they will make godly choices and live righteously before the Lord. Will you pray with us? They will be the future of the churches in the islands hence this is of great consequence. Thank you for your partnership and God bless you more!

In Him we live and move and have our being,

Melinda R. Espinosa CFO/Administrator