**JULY 2017** 

Dear Praying Friends and Faithful Partners,

"...But David strengthened himself in the LORD his God." 1 Samuel 30:6

What do you do when everything you had – your family and property have all been taken away from you? On top of that, your men blame you and want to stone you, as they too lost everything? That is exactly what David was going through in 1 Samuel 30. Through all these, David realized that even if everything was lost – one truth remained, the Lord was with him, and so he found strength in this. David was able to strengthen himself in the Lord because he knew God personally. For us, to strengthen ourselves in the Lord would mean that we remind ourselves of what Scripture says about God and His promises and then we apply those truths to our current situation. David knew from Scripture and experience who God was, hence He could draw strength from these. Strengthening oneself in the Lord is an intentional act – a persistent and continuous effort. It is not something that just happens. David's Psalms attests to his deep, abiding relationship with the Lord – the source of his strength.

**PHILIPPINES.** Thanking God for great news from **Pastor Marty** as he shared about another open door in Jomalig - Apad Village. Families there have asked us to begin a ministry there – hence a Bible study, Sunday worship service and children's ministry have started there. Pray for Pastor Jun and some PMF Jomalig Bayan Team as they minister in this area. Please pray for the Lord to raise a pastor for this church and for the spiritual growth of the congregation.

**BAHAY KALINGA ORPHANAGE, OR. MINDORO, PHILIPPINES.** "It was a joyful occasion as we witnessed 3 of our children reunited with their grandmother after their three-month stay at Bahay Kalinga. From the time they were under our care, until their reunion, they had grown healthy and active. We thank God for the opportunity to be part of their lives. We thank God that we can visit them periodically and follow up their care. Please pray for them and grandma." ~ **Jeny Flores-Gutierrez** 

**PALAU.** From **Mike and Nadia Hammond**: God has really been moving through our activities here in Palau. We are planning a VBS this July, and we are excited to partner up with a local church for the event. The last month, we had three people come to know Jesus as their Lord and Savior. We are excited to see what doors and opportunities that God will open up for us in the near future.

**YAP, MICRONESIA.** The outer islands of Yap range from 100 miles away to 500 miles. Most of these islands don't have runways and depend on a supply ship to bring food and fuel. There is a ship designated to the State of Yap to make regular runs to the outer islands, but it has been down for over a year. This summer, already starting in April, we have noticed an unusually high

amount of traffic flying with us. It has been reinforced in my mind how essential PMA is here in the islands providing safe transportation, food supply, and medical evacuations for these isolated communities. It has also been a blessing that we currently have three pilots and 3 airworthy planes to provide reliable support. This has made everything run so smoothly. We continue to praise God for his protection in all of our flights.

Summertime for our PMF church is always a busy time of year, as we are heavily involved in running a Youth Retreat and VBS. This year we took on a little extra. A team from the Ferguson's home church came out to help with Outreach and Biblical training seminars. This coincided with a VBS that we do each year for the outer island community. So in the mornings, we have VBS for 80-100 kids ages 6-12. Then, once that is done, in the afternoon, we roll into 3 back to back sessions where the gospel message is presented. Our target group has been people who usually live on the outer islands, but have come in to the main island for the summer. There are also those from Ulithi who expressed interest in learning from the Bible, and we flew them in to participate in this conference. Our first night was tonight and it was a blessing to see a good turnout and a clear presentation of the gospel to eager ears. Our prayer is that many seeds will be planted, many hearts will turn to Him, and those who know Him will strengthen their foundations. By: **Amos Collins** 

POHNPEI, MICRONESIA. One day before we left for Arizona to attend our daughter Nadya's wedding, the antennae for the radio station failed. Climbing the tower to see what went wrong, Nob found a faulty cable that had been weather beaten. With no such supplies on the island Nob consulted with the experts in Christian radio that helped us to set up our radio station 11 years ago. They gave him a trouble shooting list of steps to take to isolate the problem. Because we were leaving the next day, we had to turn off the station for the length of our vacation. After the wedding we returned to many islanders asking, "What happened to the radio?" "I miss the programs, words and songs of praise when I drive", said one taxi driver. With only 4 stations to choose from on the island, you can understand that The Cross Radio is a favorite choice for many who long for good music and excellent teaching around the clock. A few days after we returned Nob was able to temporally fix the problem while the parts were ordered. Sometimes you don't realize how much you love and appreciate something until it is gone. . It's good to know that The Cross Radio continues to be a blessing to many listeners on the island. "So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; It shall not return to Me void, But it shall accomplish what I please, And it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it." *Isaiah 55:11* – By: **Sylvia Kalau** 

In my last visit to the Philippines, I met up with Pastor Marty and wife Dadine. He shared what was going on in the islands. Many exciting news. Many challenges as well. Our pastors/workers live in the different islands of Polillo, separated by the vast Pacific Ocean. Many times, they have no one to share their concerns, yet we are thankful that they can draw strength from the Lord and His Word. Please pray for all of us who serve with PMA. We know the Lord is with us – but there are times we get overwhelmed by circumstances and people's actions/reactions. Pray we will always stay in the Word, hide His Word in our hearts, act on it and be steadfast and persevering in our walk as Christ followers. To be still and know that He is God – He is in control and will always take care of us.

Dear Partners, thank you so very much for your faithfulness. Your prayers, support and short letters of encouragement give us the strength and inspiration to "not grow weary in well doing." God bless you more!

In Him we live and move and have our being,

Melinda R. Espinosa, CFO/Administrator