

Pacific Mission Aviation's  
Quarterly Magazine

Issue #2 - 2021

# ISLAND ECHOES

Serving Jesus Christ in the Islands of Micronesia and the Philippines



Serving Children with Christ's Love



## Issue

Issue #2 - 2021

## On our Cover

Bahay Kalinga staff  
showing compassion  
to children we serve.

## Editors

Melinda Espinosa  
Sylvia Kalau  
Sabine Musselwhite

## Layout

Roland Weibel

Pacific Mission Aviation  
P.O. Box 3209  
Hagatna, Guam 96932  
Phone: (671) 646-6464  
Fax: (671) 649-6066  
guamhq@pmapacific.org  
<http://www.pmapacific.org>

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governed by a Board of  
Trustees. Our business office is  
located in Guam and a field  
office in Pohnpei.

## Summary of Ministry Needs

### Come join us in Bringing Hope and Changing Lives:

- Administrative Assistant for Guam HQ
- Missionary Pastors/Youth Workers  
for Island Churches (Guam and Micronesia)
- Boat Captain for Medical Ship Sea Haven, Micronesia
- Boat Mechanic for Medical Ship Sea Haven, Micronesia
- Missionary Pilots/Mechanics  
for Micronesia/Philippines
- Media Production Personnel  
(graphics design and videographer),  
Guam, Micronesia and Philippines
- Technical Missionaries for Agriculture,  
Water Projects, Philippines

Please contact PMA Headquarters at  
[guamhq@pmapacific.org](mailto:guamhq@pmapacific.org) for job descriptions.

### Infrastructure Needs:

**Church Building for Guinaygayan and Apad:** We praise God for the generous donation of our partners - we have now received 100% funding for both PMF church buildings. Please pray for logistics for the building materials, manpower and supervision of these projects. The goal is to construct buildings that can withstand strong typhoon winds and rain.

**Outer-Island Airstrip in the Philippines:** Due to the Pandemic, Patnanungan Island has been on lockdown. Hence, CAAP (Civil Aviation Authority) still has to come and inspect the property. We are clearing the land and will start to put up the fence upon CAAP inspection. We still need \$50,000 for this project.

*"The young lions lack and suffer hunger;  
But those who seek the LORD  
shall not lack any good thing."  
Psalm 34:10*



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**PMA President  
Nob Kalau**

Dear Friends,

The Apostle Paul was an amazing, powerful, Christ-follower and disciple-maker. Truly one of my heroes of the faith. He shows by example the "what" for my life. What do I do with the life God has given me? What do I do with the people God has placed in my realm of influence? His answer is most passionate and compelling: Make disciples! Make one disciple! Make countless disciples! Do life with others and multiply yourself. What a great mandate for PMA as we build the kingdom of God in the islands.

*"You have heard me teach things  
that have been confirmed by many reliable witnesses.  
Now teach these truths to other trustworthy people  
who will be able to pass them on to others."*

2 Timothy 2:2

Paul commands us to teach and entrust unto faithful people. Over the years of doing life in the islands it has been a rewarding joy to see trustworthy men and women put their shoulders to the plow and not look back. They have given up the "world's dream" and followed "God's dream" for their life. God's desire that none would be lost but all come to the knowledge of the truth is at the forefront of their minds. They trek through jungles, drive motorcycles across muddy trails, ride boats in rough seas, fly over the vast Pacific Ocean, from island to island, village to village, simply to teach God's Word and make disciples.

*"I have become all things to all people  
so that by all possible means I might save some."*

1 Cor. 9:22

My co-laborers in these remote islands of Micronesia and the Philippines are faithful men and women who daily go the extra mile with joy and purpose in order to answer the "what" in their lives. In this Island Echoes you will read about a family that is answering the call to uproot their family and serve as missionaries in Palau; a missionary stuck in her home country due to Covid, yet finding many opportunities to minister there. Our orphanage in the Philippines displaying compassion 24/7. Training new Sunday School teachers in remote villages. Leaving a legacy behind in all that we do.

Paul was passionate about people, specifically he was passionate for their salvation and their perseverance in the faith. And that passion fueled his preaching, writing, traveling, and praying. Because of your faithfulness in praying and giving, our PMA team of disciple makers can continue to go into the island world and make disciples. Thank you!



# Leaving a Legacy

by Melinda R. Espinosa, CFO/Administrator

*“We will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord.”* Psalm 78:4

It has been a great privilege to teach children in Sunday school and Kids Klub for many years now. Many of my former students now live in different parts of the world, but thanks to social media, I am still in contact with them. Some of them are married with children. The greatest joy for me is to see them still walking in the Lord and making a difference for eternity in the lives of their children and with others. I praise God for allowing me to be part of their lives and sow seeds of truth and grace for a particular moment in their lives and see that seed growing, blooming and spreading its fragrance wherever each one is planted!

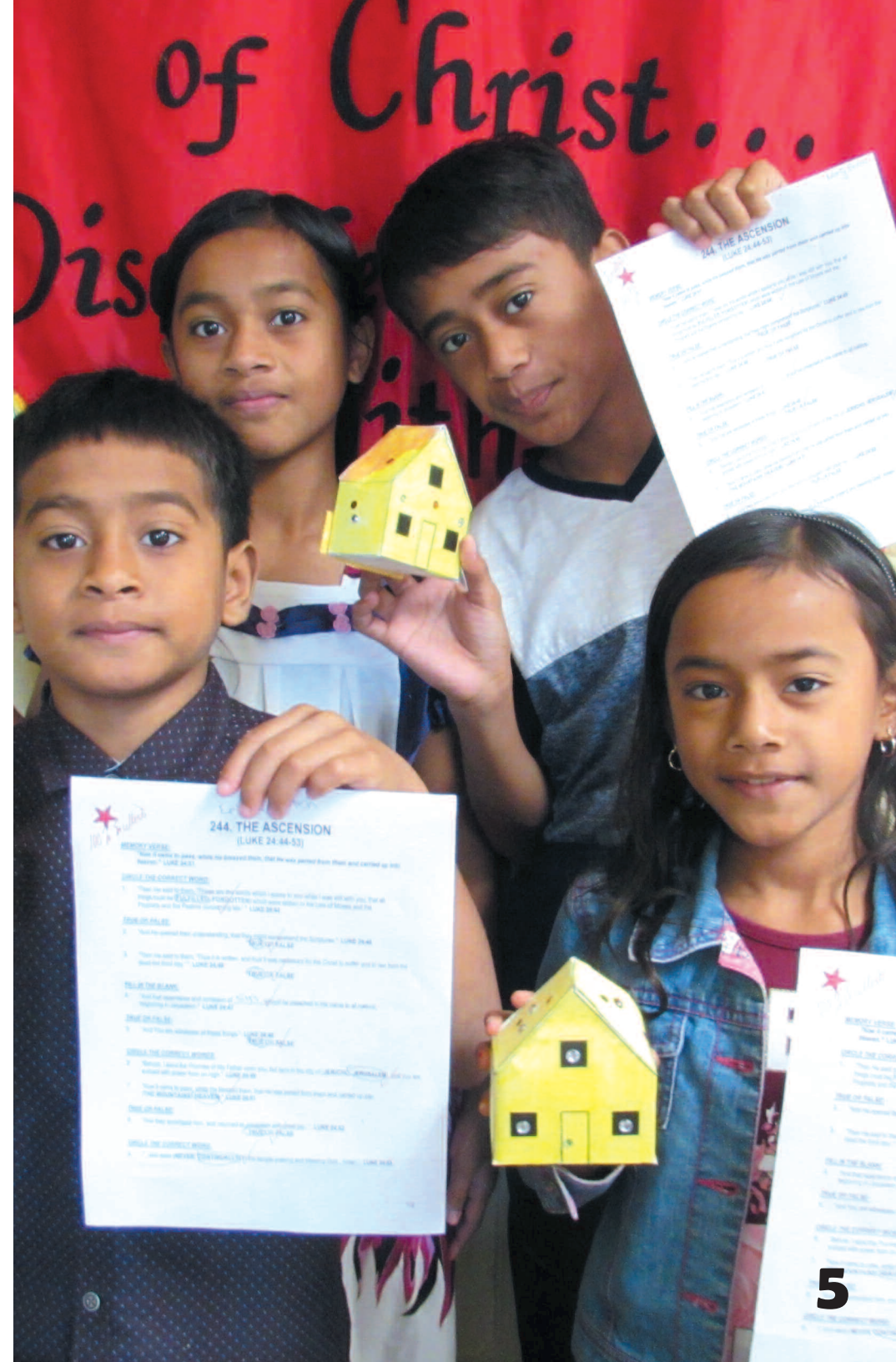
Whether we plan for it or not, we all leave a legacy. What legacy will you be leaving behind? Another question would be: “What are you pursuing today?” For the life we live today would be the legacy we leave. What would the next generation be like after we are gone? Are we intentionally pursuing an intimate relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ? If we are not passionate for Jesus, if we have not experienced Him in our life – we cannot pass on a godly legacy. We have to know Him before we can make Him known. When we love Jesus, our life will overflow with Him.

Pacific Mission Aviation (PMA) has been serving the islands of Micronesia for 46 years and the Philippines for 37 years – it is our desire to leave a legacy of Christ’s love in all we say and do – loving all people, building the body of Christ and discipling the faithful – through the various ministries of PMF church, aviation, medical ship, radio and print, orphanage, medical and community outreaches – meeting the needs of the total person, body, soul and spirit.

We thank God for Rev. Edmund and Elisabeth Kalau who started the ministry of PMA and the many who have come after them through the years, serving faithfully, each one embracing and embodying the mission and vision of PMA: “Bringing Hope, Changing Lives”.

How thankful we are to God for faithful partners and supporters, who stand behind us, pray for us and give – so that the legacy which God wants us to leave in these islands we serve would continue... that all may know Him and make Him known. To God be the glory!

**Children learn that in heaven, our Father has prepared many mansions for those who have placed their trust in Jesus - a legacy that will keep their hearts focused on the eternal.**





# True Compassion

by Melinda R. Espinosa, CFO/Administrator

*“Therefore, as God’s chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.” Colossians 3:12*

Compassion is a feeling of deep sympathy and sorrow for another who is hurting, in pain, or has misfortune and is accompanied by a strong desire to help the suffering. Jesus is our greatest example of a true compassionate person. He not only helped those who were sick, but exemplified compassion when He gave His life for us by dying on the cross, bearing all our sins.

The children who the Lord has given to us in Bahay Kalinga Orphanage come from various tough backgrounds. Some were abandoned; some neglected and unloved, some surrendered due to illness of the parents, poverty or inability to care for them due to extreme family crisis. When the children are given to us, we want to give them the best care and love we can give, emulating Christ’s compassion and love.

Going through letters I receive here at PMA HQ, I came across one from Yvonne Miller, a sister in Christ, friend and a partner of Bahay Kalinga: “I was amazed how God has made it possible for me all the way from U.S. and for my friends from the Philippines: Minette and Ethel to visit Bahay Kalinga. Arriving in Naujan at Bahay Kalinga we had joy being with the children, playing and interacting with them. The staff are so dedicated and we had a wonderful time of fellowship with them. The funny part was that we kept thanking each other for the help and contribution to the ministry. It is one thing to pray and support financially, but being there day by day for the children to be a channel of service, is another story. The manner in which the caregivers treat the children would be the closest family experience the children can have. I was awakened in the middle of the night by one of the children crying. It was his feeding time. I saw firsthand how the caregiver patiently attended to his needs. The following morning, we watched the older children get ready for school. The Orphanage is a happy place for the children and one can see this on their countenance, hear this in their laughter and their openness to people. I praise God for allowing me to be with the children and the loving and dedicated staff. One of the girls accepted the Lord when Ethel shared the Gospel with her. What joy and blessing for us! Being there for their prayer time, bed time, play time and meal times were great privileges for us. We appreciate the warm welcome we received, the fun and laughter we had with the children. It is my prayer that God will continue to allow this home to provide a safe haven for the children and that the children will thrive spiritually, physically and emotionally in an atmosphere of acceptance and love.”

Compassion is an action word and our Bahay Kalinga staff have shown this in their love, kindness, gentleness and patience with the children and the families that had to give up their own. We thank God for using Bahay Kalinga to show His compassion. To Him be the glory!



**Our Bahay Kalinga Social worker, Juvelyn spends afternoons teaching children to read and write. Caring for the children at Bahay Kalinga embodies PMA’s mission of caring for the body, soul and spirit - a manifestation of Christ’s compassion**



# Entrusting the Word of God

by Mercy B. Sulad, PMA Academy Head Teacher,  
PMF Christian Education

*“And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses  
entrust to reliable people who will also be qualified to teach others”*

2 Timothy 2:2

The PMA Academy was on a Christmas break. Our islands were still on lock-down but we could travel within the outer-islands of Polillo. The Lord placed on my heart to use this time to teach and train those who would be serving in the children’s ministry. After receiving the approval of my leaders as well as the needed budget, I started asking all our churches to send those who were called to serve and teach children.

And so we had a plan from December 23 through January 19 to train 32 teachers at PMF Kilogan, PMF Jomalig and Apad, PMF Patnanungan and Guinaygayán as well as PMF Amaga and Calutcot

I am so thankful for all these ladies who have stepped out from their comfort zone and taken the responsibility to learn, train, equip and grow themselves so that they would be able to teach others also. Many of the wives of our pastors are filled with joy that they now have a team of teachers they can rely on and be part of the teaching ministry at their respective churches.

It proved to be a period of refreshment and nourishment for their souls as they had fellowship and prayer time one with another.

The “Wordless Book” was a smash hit as a tool to share the Gospel with the colors of gold (Heaven), black (sin), red (the blood of Jesus), white (the cleansed and forgiven heart) and green (growing in Jesus), in a fun and easy way. Those that did not have the confidence to share the Gospel before, now could share with ease with the Bible verses they memorized that come with each color. How excited everyone was!

The importance was stressed that each one who desires to teach the Word, must themselves be filled with it before sharing a story with the children, for how can one effectively share if they have not read, studied and understood it. Some of the youth who attended found out that they too can teach and discovered that they had a desire to be a blessing to children! One participant was so nervous that she almost gave up because each one had to go up front and demonstrate how to share the Bible story. But with the encouragement of everyone, she completed the training and now serves with a heart to teach the children!

Truly, the Word of God is powerful and the hope we share in Him results in changed lives. I am so thankful for my husband Lorie and daughter Faith who were my constant companions as we traveled from one church to the other. Faith provided the music during worship time and my husband was our cook. Brother Bayani transported us with our boat “Evangel”. The waves were not as peaceful during travel times, but as we trusted in the “Prince of Peace”, He calmed the winds and the waves so that we arrived safely at every destination! Praise be to God for a productive and faith strengthening time during this Christmas break!

**Entrusting the Word of God to faithful ones keeps the mission and vision of PMA alive as we love all people, build the body of Christ and disciple the faithful. Praising God for Teacher Mercy and her burden to teach and train others to know Christ and to make Him known.**



# The Lord's Plan

by Brock Welge, Palau Aviation Ministry Manager.

*"The heart of man plans his way, but the LORD establishes his steps."*

This verse from Proverbs 16:9 was echoing in my mind as we sat with a decision to make. Because of Covid, there are no flights in and out of the Palau this month. What do we do? I had just put in my resignation from Boeing in the beginning of December 2020 and had planned to book a flight for me, my wife and our 3 children to serve as full time missionaries where I would be the base manager on the island of Palau. "Do we just wait here in Washington State until a flight opens up?" I prayed to God: I give you my plans with open hands. As I contemplated our options and continued praying, the phone rang. It was my home church. They asked what we were planning on doing with our house and if we would consider renting our house out to a single dad with 2 kids who was struggling to find a home. If we gave them our house, we would be "homeless". If we didn't, they would be. Rachel and I prayed about the decision and with a peace that passes all understanding, we trusted God and rented our house to the single dad. Soon after, we became aware of the opportunity to help with the new King Airs planes that Samaritan's Purse had donated to PMA. Also, there were some training classes that I could take that would be helpful with the King Airs, until a flight opened up in Palau. The Lord was establishing His steps as we were praying.



**Brock is redeeming the time by training on the King Airs that were donated to us by Samaritan Purse. What profitable time this has been!**

So, we closed up our shipping container, gave our house keys to the single dad, and away we went with open hands to exactly all the places He would want us to go. We have visited family, friends, supporters, and churches along the way. We have traveled through a total of 16 states and over 5,900 miles. As I reflect on our journey so far, I see God's provision, direction and hand in our path and how we were able to meet, minister and serve people along the way. Our windy path across the United States has been straight to every place God wanted us to go. God says in Proverbs: "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths." Proverbs 3:5,6

While I was in Tennessee helping work on the King Airs, we were given permission by the Palau government to enter the country. We purchased our airline tickets, took a 14 day pre-travel COVID test that came back negative, and started a 2 week pre-travel self-quarantine per Palau's requirements. Eight days into the quarantine, we were notified by the Palau government that the flight we were approved and had tickets for, would no longer be carrying any passengers. This was a complete surprise to us, because we thought that God had finally opened the doors for us to travel. However, this was no surprise to God, who just has other plans for us. As the King Airs are finishing their modifications, we are heading to a two-week training course on all the systems of the King Air 200 and B200 in Wichita, Kansas. As I think about how many times our plans have changed, I think about how they are not getting interrupted, but rather guided by the hand of God so many times as an answer to our prayers. It just reminds me that we have a loving, caring God who is continually interested in every aspect of our lives and He is interested in every aspect of your life too. And He knows best!

**Brock and King Air. Brock and family have discovered the Lord's wonderful plan in their lives while they wait for Him to open doors in Palau. They are experiencing His faithfulness to carry them through this journey of faith.**





# Reward

by Amos Collins, Director of Flight Operations

About twice a month, I get a phone call from Peter Reichert (my predecessor who served with PMA for 36 years and is now retired in Oregon). When I tell him stories of what is going on, and especially when I say how busy we are, he always says, “If I were 20 years younger, I’d be out there in a heartbeat,” or “If I could, I would do it all over again.” This makes me ponder my service with PMA and I would have to agree that I cannot think of anything else I would rather be doing. I don’t know what the future holds, but as far as I can see on the horizon, PMA is where God wants me and my family.

As we transition into the new KingAir planes that are coming to Yap this summer, we are actively writing our contacts and spreading the word to get more pilots and mechanics to come out and serve. Yes, we require “high-time-pilots”, and we also expect them to support themselves, so it is very difficult to recruit pilots to come out to this remote place and not get paid as much as they could make at a commercial job. But if only they knew the rewards...

Out here, the aircraft becomes a lifeline to some very remote locations that might only see a ship come through 4 or 5 times a year. Our mission of “Bringing Hope and Changing Lives” is felt by the communities on these islands and we receive many expressions of thanks for the services we provide, such as the medical evacuations and the sea searches which are also the most rewarding for us as pilots. Two recent events come to mind in which we are certain that lives were saved as a direct result of the aircraft.

**We thank God for a successful sea search! A 14-year-old boy out fishing with his friends at night when the anchor rope breaks and he drifts out to sea. The friends call the police and the police dispatch a local fishing vessel. In the morning PMA is called to join the search. After 2.5 hours of searching, one spotter on the plane sees the boat. The coordinates are sent to the fishing boat who comes and rescues the boy. The boy was at sea for a total of 14.5 hrs.**



**Another glorious day as we witnessed 10 believers follow the Lord in water baptism. We thank God for Pastor Petrus and wife Queen for their persevering work among the outer-islanders in Yap. To God be the glory!**

On January 30, we were involved in a sea search for a young 14-year-old boy who had drifted out to sea one night when his anchor broke. We found him sitting in an aluminum boat out on the open ocean about 18 miles off shore. If he hadn’t been found, he would have drifted for weeks out in the vast Pacific Ocean, which can be very unforgiving once you run out of drinking water.

On March 25, we landed in Ulithi on a regularly planned flight and the medic came out with news of a small 1-year-old boy who had fluid in his lungs due to pneumonia and was also severely dehydrated. On the return flight, we stayed at low altitude and told the ambulance to be ready because this boy was barely hanging on. Three days later the boy was recovering well and soon discharged.

These are recent examples of lives that were saved because of the service that PMA provides. What a great blessing to be part of a mission that reaches these remote islands!

The aircraft is also a tool for bringing the Good News. Several times a month, our PMF pastor will join the flights to the outer islands where he leads small group Bible studies. These small groups were permitted to meet by the chiefs because of the relationship we have made with the communities. We pray that these Bible Studies will build a strong foundation to the faithful disciples and raise up leaders in the church. And here on Yap, our PMF church had a baptismal service where 10 of our members were baptized. How rewarding that is to see the ministry here bear such fruit!

As we work to recruit pilots and other staff members to join our team, I wish we could convey that a decision to serve with PMA is one that they would not regret. But I also understand that it is not about me telling a person how exciting and rewarding this work is. It must be the Lord who reaches out, who calls and impresses people to come. And we are seeing it happen already! The Lord plucking people from all different walks of life to come out to Micronesia and use their skills to serve the people of these isolated islands.





# For Such a Time as This

by Sabine Musselwhite, PMA Missionary Pohnpei,  
Interim mission in Germany

All of us, cherished readers, have gone through challenging times this past year. Plans were shattered, hopes dissolved and lifestyles disrupted. Never before in history has humanity undergone such a worldwide enforced conformity in view of facemasks and fears.

International travel was interrupted to a great extent until today and thousands of people – including many missionaries – could not return to the place they call home. During my furlough in Germany, I myself realized in March of 2020 that there would be no way to return to my ministry island of Pohnpei for a long time. For some weeks I felt stuck and had little perspective of what was to be done, until I realized that this would be the status quo for an indefinite period of time. Thanks to the internet, I was always able to communicate with my friends in Pohnpei, Yap and Guam and I was grateful that we did not lose touch. But how was I to occupy myself in Germany while waiting?

When I turned to the Lord for guidance, He reminded me of my life's motto "Bloom where you are planted". There is never a lost day that the Lord cannot use me in His ministry of reaching out to people wherever I am. I started praying for opportunities and little by little they came trickling in. I went on regular bike rides with a memory-challenged friend of my parents who was still very agile. Her daughter was so encouraged by my support that she asked for regular get-togethers over coffee and good conversation. She works for a newspaper and connected me with her editor who interviewed me about PMA's ministry. This special Christmas edition of their paper, had a circulation of over 200,000 in our county. What a special treat from the Lord!

After a sweet Skype talk with Elizabeth Kalau on the occasion of her 89th birthday, the Lord connected us for daily conversations over Skype. I could entertain Mom Elizabeth with German church songs, read the Bible to her in German and listened to her stories of times long past. What a sweet ministry that was until her passing in December. I treasure those hours.

Shortly after Elizabeth went to heaven, I received a WhatsApp message from my longest time friend, Ina, who had terminal cancer. She asked me to come to her side and assist her in her illness. I had 7 precious weeks with her before she passed. Through my assistance, she was able to stay in her own house and die peacefully in her own living room in the midst of her family. That spared her from the horrible lonely hours alone in a hospital room during Covid

times when so many precious people had to die alone. Those weeks of caring for my friend were very exhausting but since the Lord had assigned me, He also helped me. Many days I felt like He strengthened me and gave me an extra portion of energy.

Ina had a Mexican background and a lot of Latina friends here in Germany. They were all so supporting to me. I got to meet with most of them and could have meaningful conversations about the Gospel especially after Ina had passed away. I learned a lot about coping with bereavement (everyone grieves differently) and how to support the mourners.

I have learned to expect great ministry opportunities from the Lord TODAY and not to worry where I will be tomorrow or in May or in July. Yes, I miss my island of Pohnpei and my ministry opportunities with the Islanders, but I am a servant to the Lord Most High and He is the one to send my assignments. Jesus says in Luke 4:2 "the harvest is great, but the workers are few. So pray to the Lord who is in charge of the harvest; ..." He sent me where I initially did not want to be to give me great opportunities and peace in such a time as this. Praise to His name!



**We thank God for a German newspaper whose editor interviewed Sabine and she was able to share about the ministry of PMA in the Pacific. Here is a picture of that newspaper with a circulation of approximately 200,000 on their special Christmas edition.**







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**Pacific Mission Aviation**  
**P.O. Box 3209**  
**Hagatna, Guam 96932**

**[guamhq@pmapacific.org](mailto:guamhq@pmapacific.org)**  
**[www.pmapacific.org](http://www.pmapacific.org)**



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