

Pacific Mission Aviation's
Quarterly Magazine

Issue #1 - 2023

ISLAND ECHOES

Serving Jesus Christ in the Islands of Micronesia and the Philippines



Celebrating the Faithfulness of God

 **PMA**
Bringing Hope, Changing Lives



ISLAND ECHOES

is a publication of Pacific Mission Aviation (PMA).

Issue

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On our Cover

Baby from our Orphanage, King Air, Happy Children who attended Samaritan's Purse The Greatest Journey

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Pacific Mission Aviation (PMA) is incorporated as a non-profit Christian mission organization by the Government of Guam, Territory of the United States. All donations are tax-deductible under section 501(c)(3). PMA is 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"

- Missionary Pastors/Missionaries/Youth Workers for PMF island churches in Micronesia
- Captain for Medical/Relief vessel
Sea Haven, Micronesia
- Mechanic for Medical/Relief vessel
Sea Haven, Micronesia
- Missionary Pilots/Mechanics for Micronesia/
Philippines
- Media Production Personnel (graphic design/
videographer), manage media platforms: Guam,
Micronesia
- Accountants for PMA flight office Palau/Yap
Micronesia
- Technical Missionaries: Agriculture, Water
Projects, Livelihood Programs, Philippines.
Construction, maintenance and repair/construction
projects Micronesia.

Please contact PMA Headquarters at
guamhq@pmapacific.org for job descriptions.

Infrastructure Needs

Orphanage, Philippines. Repair and painting of buildings. Perimeter wall, gates. Replacement of old furniture, converting one room into isolation room and repair of bathrooms.

PMF Church Patnanungan. Building of new typhoonproof church, construction of clinic with guest rooms. Repair/painting of multipurpose training center.

PMF Yap multipurpose center
Church & training facility.

PMF Palau multipurpose center/church
Church & training facility.

PMF Pohnpei multipurpose center
Church & training facility.



Nob Kalau

Dear Friends,

When people ask me to pray for them, I always try to do it immediately. That way, I don't forget.

Do you ever wonder why you are receiving the Island Echoes? Yes, we want you to know about the work that PMA is doing in the islands, but even more we want to invite you to pray for PMA and our missionaries. Without question, there's power in unified prayer. *"And we are confident that He hears us whenever we ask for anything that pleases Him. And since we know He hears us when we make our requests, we also know that He will give us what we ask for."* 1 John 5:14,15

How encouraging it is to know that Jesus is in Heaven interceding for us right now. The Bible tells us that Jesus Christ "is able, once and forever, to save those who come to God through him. He lives forever to intercede with God on their behalf" (Hebrews 7:25). Paul wrote, *"Who then will condemn us? No one—for Christ Jesus died for us and was raised to life for us, and he is sitting in the place of honor at God's right hand, pleading for us"* Romans 8:34.

Knowing that you are praying for us and Jesus is interceding for us, encourages us to trust God for all the challenges we face. A Scottish pastor once said, "If I could hear Christ praying for me in the next room, I would not fear a million enemies." Oh, the wonderful mysterious power of prayer! Jesus Christ prayed a lot when He walked among us. He was always praying to the Father. He was praying all night on a mountain, praying before He chose the 12 apostles, and praying in the Garden of Gethsemane as He contemplated the horrors of the cross. We also see Him praying from the cross. So if Jesus, being God, felt the necessity to pray, then how much more should we? With all of our shortcomings and weaknesses, how much more should we follow the example that Jesus set for us?

Have you ever felt an unexplained burden on your heart to pray for another person, for your community or the world at large? That is the Holy Spirit calling you to intercession. The Bible is filled with examples of men and women who lifted up others in prayer, and tells us to: pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. (Ephesians 6:18) With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people and for us here in the islands as we proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ which is the power of God unto salvation. In this issue we once again ask you to pray for your missionaries in Yap, Palau, Pohnpei, Guam and the Philippines. We are thankful for your prayers for PMA and encourage you to pray even more.

Nob Kalau

Fiscal Year-End Report 2022

by Melinda R. Espinosa, CFO/Administrator

*“For the LORD is good; His steadfast love endures forever
and His faithfulness to all generations.” Psalm 100:5*

As we continue to persevere in the work and ministry the Lord has given to us in the islands, we see His hand of mercy and grace. Indeed, as we trust in Him, His abundant blessings just keep on coming! Blessed be His Name!

We have indeed seen and experienced the goodness and provision of the Lord. Despite the past pandemic, God showed us that He is a Faithful God, a Great Provider and is in control over all things.

GUAM

Guam Headquarters continues to be the hub of financial and operations reporting; communicating and reporting to our partners and supporters; safeguarding PMA’s integrity as we report to government entities, ensuring that PMA continues to be fiscally accountable and transparent through internal and external audit and reviews. We thank God that PMA continues to be accredited with Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability (ECFA) since 1987.

MICRONESIA

We saw Him provide through Samaritan’s Purse (SP) 2 King Air aircraft which would have cost us \$2.8 M and the timing was right as we needed long-range aircraft to serve the island nations of the FSM. Not only were the aircraft provided for \$1.00 each, but the training of our pilots for the aircraft was covered as well. SP also provided for cost of the ferry flights of the aircraft and at least \$100,000 worth of aircraft parts. What a great blessing!

A huge growth was experienced from aviation charter user charges, especially from Yap. With closed borders in the FSM, and with the timely donation of the King Air, our Yap station was able to service flight needs within Micronesia: Yap, Pohnpei, Chuuk and Kosrae, which included flights to support the transport of medical staff and Covid vaccines, federal and local government officials, ambassadors and their staff, students and people that needed to go back to their home island.

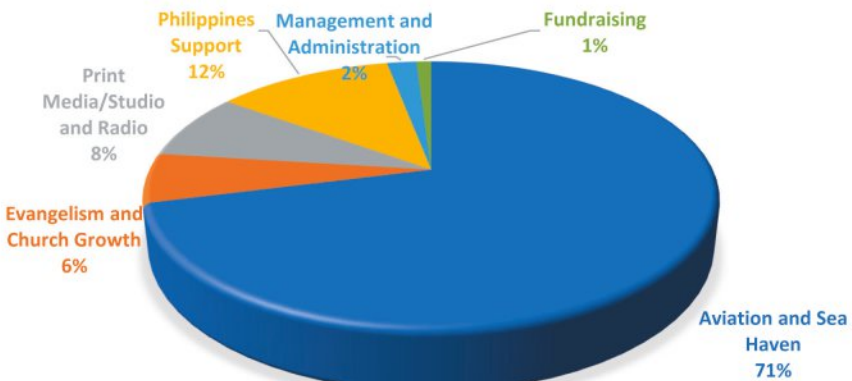
Pacific Mission Fellowship (PMF) Pohnpei has provided support to our ministry The Cross Radio and funding for the monthly stipend for Yap outer-island ministry leaders during this fiscal period. PMF Pohnpei has reverted to one worship service, as protocols for COVID were relaxed. Sunday school for children continues with many children attending. Youth ministry continues every Friday. The ladies meet weekly for Bible study and on Saturdays for prayer. The men also enjoy Bible study and prayer meetings on Saturday mornings.

PMF Palau continued to hold services in the function hall of West Plaza by the Sea Hotel. We are thankful that this function hall has been provided for free. The Lord provided a Pastor who came to serve for three months. This gave the elders respite from having to prepare messages for Sunday worship. What a blessing it is to have elders who have faithfully guided and shepherded the church and for all our PMA aviation mission staff who are all active in serving: leading the worship team, ladies/men Bible studies, prayer meetings, young adult, pre-teen and teen ministries, Sunday school, not to mention the Palau outer-island outreach to children and adults on Angaur. We are still praying for a full-time Pastor for Palau. The Palau government continued to use the Kalau Gym (where we had held our services) for COVID quarantine purposes.

PMF Yap with Pastor Petrus and wife Queen leading the ministry has pressed on despite challenges during COVID. A big project this year was the OCC (Operation Christmas Child) and The Greatest Journey with a Bible Lesson for the children to be shared before the distribution of the gifts; all through the courtesy of Samaritan's Purse (SP). This was participated by all evangelical churches in Yap with PMA as the point of contact. PMA set up a zoom meeting for all pastors involved in the program with SP for instructions on how to do the OCC. This went well with many children reached in Yap proper, the outer-islands of Fais, Ulithi and Woleai. We are thankful for Bruce and Noeleen, PMA staff who have now transferred to the island of Woleai and have begun a ministry there of discipling leaders, holding home Bible studies and worship services love and perseverance has won families to the Gospel and our Lord Jesus Christ.

Fiscal Period ending June 30, 2022

	Funds Used	%
Aviation and Sea Haven	1,682,137.00	71
Evangelism and Church Growth	152,597.00	6
Print Media/Studio and Radio	189,350.00	8
Philippines Support	287,205.00	12
Management and Administration	40,615.00	2
Fundraising	28,570.00	1
	2,380,474.00	100



The Cross Radio in Pohnpei has been on the air 24/7 since 2007. We are thankful that we have received a grant from Galcom to upgrade our equipment. This is long overdue. We have also received a grant to begin the Yap radio station. During COVID restrictions, the radio was essential to the island people to hear God's Word being taught and preached and to be able to listen to uplifting and encouraging music based on God's Word.

PHILIPPINES

We've completed construction of two churches in the Philippines which were destroyed by typhoons. Because the islands were on lock down, we had local carpenters, masons and workers complete the construction, thus helping toward the economic situation of families affected by the Pandemic as they could not leave the island during that time. What is more, construction workers were shared the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ and many of them are now part of our PMF churches, attending worship and Bible studies. With the lockdown, we saw hearts open to the Gospel and additional outreaches were made in near-by villages. Many are now meeting regularly as a church. Please pray for our pastors as they disciple and teach men, women and children to be faithful and growing believers. COVID did not hinder people from knowing the Lord. We had intraining for our PMF leaders and pastors led by our head pastor and OIC, Pastor Marty Lumigis, youth retreat, feeding programs and baptisms. God indeed never stops working!



*Our children are full of energy and still want to play...
but it is nap time at the Bahay Kalinga Orphanage.*

We have seen Him open doors for 6 children in our Bahay Kalinga Orphanage to be picked up by their adoptive parents; 3 from the Philippines and 3 from Spain, Sweden, and Italy. There were stringent protocols in entering the Philippines, but these parents from foreign lands were able to enter despite all the restrictions!

When the Lord opens the doors, no one can shut them! By the end of the fiscal period, we have served 267 children with 9 children in our care: 8 at Bahay Kalinga and 1 at a Special Care center. 93 of those children were processed for adoption. We have been awarded by the Department of Social Welfare as the Best Child Caring Agency that implemented the safe processing of a child for adoption during the COVID pandemic and consecutively awarded with the Best Child Caring Agency that has expeditiously processed children to be legally adopted.

We still held a graduation for our PMA Learning Academy and were able to do it face to face. Praise God for 23 graduates, bringing our graduates to date to 487. We thank God for our Partners and Prayer Warriors who never let go! Your support has been great encouragement to us all. May God bless you more! Our faithful partners: PMA Germany and Switzerland have been by our side all this time and we praise and thank God for them.

Most of all, we praise and thank God for the PMA family/team who work together to bring hope to those we serve and share Jesus Christ to them to change lives for eternity! Even if the islands were closed and in some areas, we could move around. It seemed that there was more to be done, relationships to be nurtured, and our staff persevered amidst challenges. Showing to one and all that it is not by power or by might, but by His Spirit that we press on!

A COMMITMENT TO INTEGRITY

In recognition of its compliance with
ECFA's Standards of Responsible Stewardship

Pacific Mission Aviation

is accredited by ECFA

For we are taking pains to do what is right, not only in the eyes of the Lord but also in the eyes of man.
2 Corinthians 8:21 (NIV)

2023



Wayne Robinson
Chairman of the Board

Michael Martin
ECFA President

Certificate of Accreditation from ECFA

Sowing God's Word

"...so shall My Word be that goes out from My mouth; it shall not return to Me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it." Isaiah 55:11

There truly is nothing impossible with the Lord! Imagine a great open door to distribute the Bible to children and young people by going to public schools in the outer-islands of Polillo! We are so thankful to the Gideons for partnering with us as they provided the New Testament Bibles for distribution.

Pastor Bryan Bantucan from PMF (Pacific Mission Fellowship church) Poblacion Patnanungan. What a great opportunity to share Jesus and encourage students from Grade 4 to 6 to read the Word of God daily. It was a great joy to be introduced in each class by the school's principal. The students were so excited to receive the Bibles and treated them as special gifts. One student asked me the meaning of "Tipan". "New Testament" in Tagalog is translated as "Bagong Tipan". He knew that "Bagong" meant "new". But the word "Tipan" was new to him. I explained that "it means covenant, a pledge, a promise or a guarantee". The New Testament completes or fulfills the promises God gave Israel in the Old Testament. I also shared that these are God's love letters to us, for us to read, understand and obey them so we can know Him better and grow in our faith. What a blessing it was to have the principal and faculty be so supportive and encouraged the students to read the Word daily.



Pastor Ezekiel Casumpa, PMF Guinayagan. Praise the Lord, we were welcomed at the Elementary School! I thank God for all the teachers who gave me time in each class to share the Word of God. There was so much joy as each child received their Bible. The teachers were thankful that we were able to share with the children.

Pastor Narciso Mandreza, PMF Jomalig Bayan. All glory goes to our God for this wonderful occasion to share the Bible with students in our public schools for the first time! We were able to distribute Bibles at the Jomalig and Apad High Schools, Talisay and Casuguran Elementary Schools! What a sight to behold, on the first day of distribution, we could see the students eagerly exploring the Bibles given to them. We are so thankful to the head teacher who encouraged the students to read God's Word as this would help them in living a good life with direction and purpose. Many of the teachers asked for Bibles and we are thankful we had enough for everyone! The joy in our hearts overflowed and we pray that His Word would truly accomplish salvation and growth in the lives of all we gave the Bible to.

We are still planning to distribute Bibles in other places where we minister. We are thankful for the spiritual seeds planted in the hearts of the students as they listened to God's Word shared by our Pastors and as they continue to read and study the Bible. Romans 10:17 says: *"So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing through the Word of God."* And so, we trust that the Lord will increase the faith of the students as they continue to read, study and hear the Word of God!

High School students from Jomalig proudly display their newly acquired New Testament Bible.



Let the Children Come to Me

by Sylvia Kalau, Missionary, Pohnpei

Our partnership with Samaritan's Purse has opened up special opportunities for ministry, in addition to the 2 donated aircraft we received for Yap. In December, we hosted the Operation Christmas Child (OCC). The shoebox of gifts was only the beginning. Each box was a tangible expression of God's amazing love. The gift box opened the door to invite children into a deeper relationship with Jesus through "The Greatest Journey" (TGJ).

In January and February we completed the discipleship course TGJ for those children who wanted to join the 12 lesson Saturday Bible Club. Our Sunday School teachers were eager to teach as they prepared for the kids to come. The children memorized 12 verses as they faithfully came to club each Saturday to learn about Jesus. At the end of the discipleship each child was recognized in the Church Service and received a certificate of attendance/completion as well as a Bible with beautiful illustrations.

Mary and Merchy, two of our Sunday School teachers, took the program to the elementary schools where they themselves work as teachers. They both received special permission from their school Principal to present the Gospel to the children during the school hours. Mary said, "I have always wanted to share Jesus with my students, now I have many opportunities to share with the materials that OCC has provided. I am able to share not only with my own class, but also other classes have asked me to come and share the story of Jesus with them." Merchy shared, "I have many opportunities to teach and want to use my gift for teaching children. I am so proud of the children who came to TGJ and made it through to the end." Anako and Mermey are taking the OCC programs to the other end of the island. They share: "The kids love the beautiful illustrations and are eager to meet in groups when we come to their village."



Thank you Samaritan's Purse for providing exceptional visuals and manuals for us all to teach from. Heavenly Father, thank You for providing people with strong faith to reach the hearts of children as they seek direction and purpose. May island children recognize Your power in their lives and choose to follow You like the first disciples did.

Jesus said, *“Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.”* Matthew 19:14

Sylvia Kalau leading the singing for the The Greatest Journey children's ministry.



More Than Conquerors

by Amos and Heidi Collins

“We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed.” 2 Corinthians 4:8-9

Have you ever experienced a season in life where you feel like you are getting hit from all directions with trials, challenges, discouragement, bad news and even death of loved ones, seemingly all in only a few short months? You look ahead and all you see is an uphill battle with daily hurdles to conquer. Here at PMA, it seems like we are in a season like this. One of our missionaries discovered cancer in its early stages and had to leave the field temporarily to deal with that, another missionary had to leave temporarily as her mother had a stroke and for a time was in hospice and finally, the Lord took her home. Four of our local staff here in Yap have family members with serious medical issues which has forced them to take leave and has left us shorthanded.

*PMA airplane
over Ulithi Island.*



We had our Islander aircraft making metal with a damaged camshaft, one of our King Air’s propellers was greased with the wrong grease and requires two new props. Our Queen Air Engine overhaul requires the crankshaft and crankcase to be replaced, which almost doubles the cost of the overhaul. Our Cessna 206 nose landing gear overhaul required an unexpected part which also doubled the cost of that overhaul. We had to bring in a technician from Nashville to recertify our planes and the bill was depressing. We lost one of our line pilots during a recurrent flight check in February, and until we get him retrained to proficiency, we are quite shorthanded. And then aside from the PMA ministry, our personal family member had a tragic death in a car accident, and a friend our age died from cancer just last week.

How do people who don’t know Jesus have any chance in times like these? We are so blessed as believers in Christ to be surrounded by all these uncertainties and have the HOPE in Christ knowing that our problems are not ours but HIS! 1 Peter 5:7 says, *“Give all your worries and cares to God, for He cares about you”*. I’m sure this is not the first time PMA has experienced disasters knocking down its doors. God has sustained PMA since 1974 and it was not without its challenges.

As I look at the place we are currently at, I know that God has definitely had His hand on us. God allowed PMA to complete a top-notch hangar facility in 2021 completely debt free, thanks to a lot of hard work and generous donors. Samaritan's Purse came alongside us 2 years ago as a big-brother-organization and gave us excellent upgraded equipment to help us succeed in this transition. Our President with a team of grant writers has been tirelessly writing grants which have awarded PMA with finances for much needed upgrades to our shop equipment and aircraft avionics.

Our missionaries and local staff over the years have worked so hard towards the cause of PMA: "Bringing Hope and Changing Lives!" I am so proud of this team. Everyone has stepped up to the plate and done more than their job description. But we cannot keep this pace up forever. We need more staff to help us meet the demand that these islands require of us. I am confident that the Lord has sustained PMA for all these years to continue to do great things in this region and it is exciting to see what is ahead. And we are trusting Him to bring the workers. We continue to pray that the Lord will impress on competent and committed believers the calling to come and serve in Guam, Micronesia, Palau, and the Philippines. People who will not get discouraged when everything around them seems to deteriorate, but keep their eyes up and trusting the Lord to carry them through day by day. People who roll up their sleeves and not only do whatever their job description calls for but also utilize any additional skills they may have – or even discover. The Lord will provide.

"In all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us!"
Romans 8:37



PMA transports Pastor Asael and wife back to their home island in Chuuk after faithfully serving in Yap for 34 years!

God's Promises

by Jun and Angel de Lina, PMA Palau

"Surely there is a future, and your hope will not be cut off."
Proverbs 23:18, memory verse chosen by Jun

"For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven."
Ecclesiastes 3:1, memory verse chosen by Angel

These verses were given to us in Pacific Mission Fellowship (PMF) Young Adults' Bible study and were the promises we held onto when we left our private companies in Palau in 2017. Jun went home to the Philippines to finally go to college after letting his younger sisters complete their education first. Because of financial restraints, he had wanted to help his family with the education of his siblings. Angel continued to pursue working and living with her parents.

It was in March 2019, when we were informed that PMA Palau was seeking additional members for the aviation team. The thought of going back to Palau and working for the Lord through PMA brought us so much joy. Jun being in his Associate Degree in Aircraft Maintenance and Angel working in Finance – we prayed earnestly to fill in the positions. We indicated our interest to serve and started the application process. However, it took some time for Jun to complete his Bachelor of Science degree and acquire his AMT license. We kept praying to be able to join PMA mission. Truly, the Lord has His own timing and allowed things to happen in our personal lives to wholly prepare us. Jun lost his Mom and Dad; Jun graduated and got his AMT License; we got married; Angel lost her Dad; COVID pandemic happened. October 2021 came and we were expecting that finally we can travel to Palau, but because of pandemic restrictions and changes in Palau government process, we were deferred. Our finances were exhausted after almost seven months of waiting. But it was during these months that we experienced a breakthrough. Though we didn't have a stable income, we conducted a buy-and-sell business of pastries, honey, essential oils, and Jun got into courier services. The Lord's hands were all over us in providing all the help we needed. Moreover, these months drew us closer to God as well as to each other. We didn't have any more reason not to spend time on daily devotions and Bible reading because we did not have work. It taught us to fully rely and surrender to Him for timely provisions. We learned how to be gracious and forgiving with one another. A time to have more intimate connection with our discipleship group, our neighbors and most especially our families, relationships we had unintentionally taken for granted because of the busyness of life. It was a reset for us to refocus our lives on what matters most. After all the waiting, we were back in Palau last May of 2022. The process period of 3 years seemed long but it was worth the wait.

We also received the biggest blessing of having a child after almost 3 years in marriage. Another promise from God that was fulfilled in His perfect time. Just as God takes care of the birds in the air, He took care of us all throughout this journey.

At present, Jun and Angel are faithfully serving through PMA Palau as mechanic (Jun) and finance/admin assistant (Angel). It is all through His love and grace that they are here and will continue to be here until the Lord wills. Glory to His name alone!





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