



JUNE 2016

Dear Praying Friends and Faithful Partners,

“Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus” Philippians 3:13-14

Half of the year is about to be over, how time flies! As we look back, we may have some regrets, or things we have left undone, but the apostle Paul urges us to forget what is behind and strive to reach the goals God has for us. In one of the *Our Daily Bread Devotions*, Bill Crowder shared about kangaroos and the emus. Both animals, because of how our Creator made them can move forward fast, but have difficulty in making backward movements. Both of these animals appear in Australia’s coat of arms as a symbol that the nation is ever moving forward and making progress. In like manner, Apostle Paul encourages us in our Christian walk *“to press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called us heavenward in Christ Jesus!”*

GUAM. We had many visitors come through Guam in May. Stephan Meier came through on his way to Pohnpei after joining Nob Kalau and I in a trip to the Philippines. My sister Lauren spent part of her vacation on Guam, assisting me in preparing Sunday school craft up to the month of October. The much-awaited missionary pastor for Palau, Michael and Nadia Hammond and their children: Diana, Lester and Scott stayed for a few days on their way to their mission station. Simon Hammerling came also for a few days to take his flight physical, which he passed with flying colors! Then Amore Lumawan (a former PMA missionary) came for a 2 ½ week ministry trip to help with Vacation Bible School and Sunday school. I praise God for the time spent with each one – what a great encouragement they were to me!

PHILIPPINES. Praise God for Vacation Bible School conducted in our PMF churches/stations: Jomalig, Amaga, Kilogan, Catmon, Calutcot and Visayan Village. Spearheaded by Mercy Sulad, Head Teacher of PMA’s Learning Center and an enthusiastic team from Patnanungan and Jomalig – the VBS reached not only children, but also young people and adults. We are so thankful for the Lord for its success and the resultant open doors for home Bible studies.

BAHAY KALINGA ORPHANAGE, NAUJAN, OR. MINDORO. “A newborn girl, wrapped in adult bloodied clothes was found by a tricycle driver in his tricycle early in the morning. He and his wife brought her to their village head where her birth was recorded and then she was brought to the Provincial hospital. The case was reported to the local Social Welfare and Development Office, who then referred the child to BK. We thank God for the opportunity to care for this child and pray that her documents can be taken cared of so we can begin the process of having her adopted. Please pray.” ~ Jeny Flores, BK Center Head

PALAU. We are all excited and encouraged by the arrival of the Hammond family in May. This moment was much anticipated by the PMF church family. Everyone is eager to get to know them. Last Sunday Pastor Mike Hammond shared his first sermon with us. His wife Nadia has already made the Youth Center (where we hold our worship services) more welcoming and homey - not only with her creativity and her yummy goodies, but also with her warm personality. Please pray for a good transition for Mike, Nadia and their three children: Diana, Lester and Scott as they learn and adjust to a new place and culture. ~ Prisca Klassen

YAP, MICRONESIA. We are thankful for Sebi Urschitz who has returned this summer to serve in Yap as aircraft mechanic. If you remember he also served with us in 2013 -2014 for 9 months as a short-term missionary. This time, he first visited Palau and also assisted in the aviation ministry. In Yap, not only is he helping in aviation but also in the PMF church outreach and activities. We thank God for him.

POHNPEI, MICRONESIA. Most of the problems that we encounter with those who come to us for counseling stem from substance abuse. The use of sakau or kava is rampant on our island and being sold every evening on corners and parking lots. Beetle nut hangs at the front of every corner mom & pop booth tempting those who pass by to “try me” and then keep coming back for more. It’s not uncommon for parents to go to a sakau bar together every night, while their children are left at home unattended. Hence the family breaks down, marriages are on the rocks, and finances are tight as the addiction rages on, affecting everyone in the family. The Bible has a lot to say about standing against anything that would become an idol in your life. It’s a challenge to give wise counsel and work with individuals that are addicted. It takes patience, guidance and prayer. There is no fast fix. Changing needs the power of God. Just now we are counseling a couple that come to our office after work at 5pm for prayer and accountability. Today I reminded them, “Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.” (Romans 8:37) Pray for us that we would always have the right words as we rely on the God’s power for help and healing. By: Sylvia Kalau

There are still many people we need to reach, help, encourage and share God’s Word. There are many projects that we need to accomplish and trust God for His provision. We need more people to help us in our work in various ministries, and most especially missionary pastors for our island churches. At times, it can become over-whelming, however, God’s Word encourages us to trust Him, to press on, and expect great things from Him as we attempt great things for Him. With Him, nothing is impossible!

Praise God and thank you dear partners and prayer warriors, you inspire, motivate and encourage us to move forward by His grace, strength and wisdom! God bless you more!

In Him we live and move and have our being,

**Melinda R. Espinosa
CFO/Administrator**