



SEPTEMBER 2015

Dear Praying Friends and Faithful Partners,

**“When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you.” Isaiah 43:2a**

**As I followed the voyage of M/V Sea Haven, checking daily weather and relaying this to her Captain, Nob Kalau on their journey from Pohnpei through the Chuuk outer-islands and ultimately, Guam; these verses enabled me to trust that the Lord will guide them safely to their destinations. With two typhoons in our area – and thus affecting the swells and currents in their vicinity, Nob confirmed that it was indeed rough sailing for them for the first 18 hours to Puluwat. These were sleepless nights for him, when every two hours he had to check the engines 24/7 and be on the bridge to stand watch. The Lord enabled them to arrive at the precise time at which they could go into Puluwat’s channel. Had they been delayed a few minutes, they would not have made it – and therefore would have delayed their tour! The Sea Haven travelled 1,090 nautical miles and was able to deliver 3 – 40 ft. container full of school furniture to island Elementary, Junior High and High schools, through the generous donation of IRN – delivered to us on containers through the generosity of Matson Shipping. We also delivered pallets of school materials donated through Ayuda Foundation. Indeed the work of the Lord is not the work of just one man or one organization. And we thank God for our partners!**

**PHILIPPINES.** Praise God, the PMF church building in Catmon has now a roof, solid flooring, and new pews and church furniture made of hard wood. Even if the church is not yet finished, this has not stopped the congregation, led by their Pastor Cesar – to meet every Sunday for Worship and for week day activities such as Bible study and prayer. Please continue to pray for strength for both Cesar and his father in law, Polo – as they plan to complete construction by end of September.

**BAHAY KALINGA ORPHANAGE, NAUJAN, MINDORO, PHILIPPINES.** We rejoice that once again, Bahay Kalinga has been awarded its Certificate of Accreditation having satisfactorily complied with the standards in the implementation of residential-based programs and services for children. With it, we were also given the Registration Certificate and License to Operate for satisfactorily complying with the requirements to operate a social welfare and development agency implementing Residential Care Program for abandoned, neglected and orphaned children. Both certificates were issued by the Philippines’ Department of Social Welfare and Development, and both certificates are valid until 2018!

**PALAU.** “Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding, in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight.” (Proverbs 3:5-6). This was the theme verse for the 19<sup>th</sup> church anniversary of PMF Palau. As a church family, we have experienced many challenges, and these were encouraging words indeed!

God's presence was experienced by each one that Sunday morning. We began with worship songs that radiated the awesomeness of a dependable God who saves. Praises and prayers were lifted to God and an especially encouraging message was given by one of our elders. The sermon reminded the congregation that we are just like sheep, feeble, vulnerable, and frail. But the good news is that we have a great Shepherd! This Shepherd protects the sheep, and saves them from the attacks of the enemy. The sheep could always and should always trust the Shepherd. The stage background was designed by our talented volunteers with the words, "In God We Trust". T-shirts worn by many that morning showed the same theme design. A pot-bless lunch after the worship service was enjoyed by church members and visitors as we fellowshiped together.

Truly, we can proclaim that our God is great! For 19 years, He has been our Great Shepherd and we can be confident, He will continue to be so until He comes in glory!" By: CJ Misajon

**YAP, MICRONESIA.** "Excuse me, is there going to be VBS again this summer?" is a question that many of us at the PMF church get asked nowadays by Outer Island kids excited to attend. For the past three years, our church has strived to reach out to these kids and their families by holding an evangelistic Vacation Bible School program in their outer island language. And each year as the word spreads, more and more children and their parents are responding favorably to it. This summer we had our highest turnout so far, with 120 children attending! The theme was "The Fruit of the Spirit", and the kids enthusiastically memorized the key verse, Galatians 5:22 "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control." The PMF team was made up of our pastor Petrus' family, and many adult and youth volunteers, who all worked incredibly hard to make this VBS memorable for the kids. They also learned a lot about exhibiting the fruit of the Spirit (namely patience!) while taking care of so many children! On the closing day of VBS, the parents were invited to see for themselves what their children had learned during the week. Big events like this take a lot of planning, a lot of willing volunteers, a lot of sweating in the tropical heat, and a lot of love for those we want to reach. We usually end the week totally exhausted, but happy because it was all worth it. We pray for these precious children that they will understand their Heavenly Father's great love for them, and that the fruit of the Spirit will be shown in their lives. By: Heidi Collins

**POHNPEI, MICRONESIA.** Sea Haven is safely in Guam and out of the water for dry-dock. There are always so many things to do here in Pohnpei before the Sea Haven sets off for a voyage: Food preparation, shopping for supplies, ship repairs, clearance from government agencies, loading of relief items. As the ship sails we keep in contact by HF radio twice a day. I was so happy that our 21-year-old son, Alex, arranged his summer internships to include the voyage on the Sea Haven. He was in Pohnpei to help with all of the loading of school supplies and donated furniture for the outer islands. And now he is in Guam to help with the first 2 weeks of dry docking. Another volunteer, 16-year-old Jonah, the son of one of PMA's board members, joined the crew for his first sea-going adventure. Being in a small ship in the middle of the Pacific has a way of teaching you to trust God ...that He is in control, He is your captain, He rules over the weather and the seas. From: Sylvia Kalau

**"Trust God!"- is indeed our theme for all time. We have tasted and experienced the goodness and faithfulness of the Lord! We are so very thankful to all of you who have prayed for us faithfully, as I provided updates for the Sea Haven, and for those who pray, and support us and our missionaries with your gifts – the Lord indeed richly repay you! Your partnership is a great blessing and encouragement to us all! God bless you more!**

**In Him we live and move and have our being,**

**Melinda R. Espinosa, CFO/Administrator**

