## the EIBEN FAMILY

Missionaries to Pohnpei, Micronesia

Gabriel • Susan • Benjamin

Broadcasting the Good News in the regions beyond

"Hear the word of the LORD, O ye nations, and declare it in the isles afar off..." - Jeremiah 31:10



The Children's Church kids practicing for the Calvary Christmas presentation!

## **PRAYER**

- Children's Church turnout has been down since the holidays. Please pray we'd see better attendance as many still need salvation.
- For preaching at coming missions revival meetings at both the Good News & Wone Baptist Churches.
- For ongoing repairs and renovations at the station.
- That the Covid vaccine would **not** be mandatory.



Revival preaching at the Calvary Christian Academy

## **PRAISE**

- We thank God that the first case of coronavirus has been quarantined on a ship out in the lagoon.
- For continued health and strength to serve Him!

## January - 2021

Dear Family and Friends,

We hope and pray that your New Year is off to a great start. The last couple of months have been busy with many blessings, and we look forward to what God has in store for the coming year. Before I go any further, on behalf of the Eiben family, please allow me to express our gratitude to all those who sent special gifts and greetings of encouragement this Christmas season. Your thoughtfulness and generosity were a tremendous blessing. Thank You so much!

Our winter season began with a sad note. On November 28th, I was scheduled to close out the missions revival month at the Ambassador Baptist Church with Pastor Rickson Kihleng. Earlier that day (Nov 27th in the US), we learned that veteran missionary Ruth Ann Arthurs had gone home to be with the Lord. Back in the mid 80's, after serving many years with Trans-World-Radio, the Arthurs came to Micronesia and were instrumental in helping the Calvary Baptist Church to establish the Calvary Baptist Radio here on Pohnpei. Ruth Ann was a kind and courageous servant of the Lord who will be sorely missed. During the missions meeting, the tone was set as we reflected on the life and legacy of this humble servant of the Savior. We count it a great honor to continue the radio ministry that the Arthurs pioneered so many years ago.

As Christmas approached, Susan and I began working with our Children's Church kids to present the Christmas Story through Scripture and song. The children were so excited; they wanted to practice nearly every day! Each practice, more and more would come. On December 20th, almost 3 dozen kids mounted the platform. Benjamin played his violin while accompanying Brother Koden who played the guitar as the youngsters sang their hearts out and shared the Christmas story in verse. Afterwards, I had the privilege of preaching the Gospel to the congregation. What a blessing to work with these great kids and to share the true reason for the Christmas season.

With the New Year in full swing, many of the Baptist Churches here are focused on revival. Last week I had the privilege to preach to the high schoolers at the Calvary Christian Academy, closing out the Spring Revival. While we did not see any decisions for Christ, many asked prayer for various issues facing them. This Sunday I am scheduled to preach a missions revival message at the Good News Baptist Church in Kitti, and at the Wone Baptist Church the following Sunday. Please pray for these upcoming meetings; that God would move in a very definite way with souls trusting Christ and believers surrendering their hearts to serve Him.

Even with the borders still closed, the New Year has brought with it Micronesia's first case of Covid-19. Thankfully, the patient was on board an inbound ship out in the Pohnpei lagoon and has been quarantined there. Please pray that the virus would not make its way to the shore. Though the Moderna vaccine has arrived, rollout has been slow and an outbreak would quickly overwhelm the limited medical capacity here. Many are fearful, even to the point of proposing laws to make the vaccine mandatory. In a recent congressional public hearing, I had the opportunity to ask questions and to encourage Senators to keep the vaccine voluntary, but a final decision has yet to be reached. Currently, the FSM President is committed to vetoing any measure that would mandate the vaccine. Please pray! Sensitivity to vaccines prohibits us from receiving it, so a law forcing citizens and residents to receive it could be very problematic.

We thank you again for your fervent prayers and faithful support. Your fellow servants in Christ,

Gabe, Susan, and Benjamin