# 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 ve nations, and declare it in the isles afar off..." - Jeremiah 31:10

Susan answering many questions about Pohnpei!

# Fall - 2021

Dear Family and Friends,

With Thanksgiving right around the corner, we are reminded of the admonition of **Psalm 105:1**, "O give thanks unto the LORD; call upon his name: make known his deeds among the people." As we reflect on the previous months and all that God has done, we recognize the mighty and merciful hand of the Lord and the wonderful way in which He has answered your prayers for us. We thank you for your faithfulness to pray and we thank God for the wonderful way in which He meets our every need.

Back in August, I flew to Michigan to say good bye to my Aunt Pat who had been placed on life support following heart failure. Our family gathered by her bed, shared cherished memories of her life, sang songs of comfort, cited verses of Scripture, and expressed our final words of love as we all said our good-byes. Later that afternoon, with her hand in mine, I watched helplessly as my dear Aunt took her last breath here on earth. How surreal it is to watch someone you love so dearly slip from this temporal world into the eternal. So much goes through your mind in those moments, such a flood of emotion; happiness for blessed memories, and regret over missed opportunity and wasted time. Though my efforts to lead her to Christ in previous years had been unfruitful, I am thankful to the Lord that, months before, my Mother had the opportunity to lead my aunt to Christ. Later, the family asked me to speak at the memorial service to which I gladly obliged. There, I had the privilege of sharing the Gospel with extended family, some of whom I had never met before. Please pray that the seed sewn would take root in hearts and that the lost would come to faith in Jesus Christ.

In September, we were finally able to get U.S. medical insurance for our family. This allowed us to begin further testing for Susan with the regional doctors. We are thankful to report that the doctors have ruled out colon cancer as the source of her anemia and that changes in diet and medication have brought her levels back into the bottom of the normal range. We now await one final test, tentatively set for the beginning of next year. Please pray that the CT angiogram of Susan's heart would go well and that it would fully reveal any issues that might be adversely affecting the normal function of her heart.

October brought with it occasions to share what God has been doing in Micronesia with a couple of churches including our sending church, Maranatha Baptist of Shelby, North Carolina. Thank God for the blessing of sharing the fruits of the ministry with those who have been praying so fervently and giving so faithfully. We thank the Lord for all of you who pray for us regularly and give so generously, allowing us to continue His work as your Ambassadors to the Micronesian people, even here in America. Just the other day, while standing in line at a department store, we noticed a family that appeared to be from Pohnpei. As the lady approached, I said to her, "Kaselehlie..." which is the common greeting there. Her eyes grew wide and she exclaimed with amazement, "How do you know my language!" Thank God for the opportunity to share with this Micronesian family the love of God! Please know that the lives that have been touched and the souls that have been saved through the years are a direct result of your faithfulness and are eternal fruit that abounds to your account.

On a final note, we had recently asked folks to pray for our lodging through the end of the year. The Lord has answered in an unusual way, but we give Him thanks for His abundant provision. Early in November, we packed as much of our belongings as we could fit into our SUV and made the 700+mile trek from North Carolina to Michigan, where we will be staying in my late Aunt's home. We have already been greeted by our first snow and some very cold weather. Needless to say, this is quite a change from the 6 plus years of constant summer we had on Pohnpei! God is so good, meeting our every need. With family so close, Benjamin hopes to spend Thanksgiving and Christmas with his Mimi and Papa Eiben for the first time ever! We thank God for all He has done and for the opportunity to "make known His deeds" with all our amazing prayer partners. Happy Thanksgiving!

Your Fellow Servants in Christ,

Gabe, Susan, and Benjamin

## **PRAYER**

- Please pray for Susan's upcoming heart CT angiogram set for the beginning of 2022.
- After preaching my Aunt Pat's memorial service, pray the seed of the Gospel would take root in hearts unto salvation.
- For safety of travel and fruit in upcoming furlough meetings.



Benjamin enjoying his first snow in seven years!

### **PRAISE**

- For Susan's blood levels normalizing with changes in diet and medication.
- Praise the Lord for answered prayer in providing us with lodging for the rest of 2021.
- For the blessing of sharing our burden in missions meetings.

Please note our new contact #: 808-333-7337