

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



Spring - 2022

Dear Family and Friends,

So much has taken place over the past quarter; it's hard to know where to begin. First off, let me say thank you to the many churches that sent gifts and encouraging words for the Christmas season. Your gestures of love came at a particularly challenging time for our family and encouraged us immeasurably. We pray that God would richly bless each of you for the blessing you have been to us.

December began with a wonderful meeting in Mansfield Ohio, but quickly turned sour as our family contracted Covid. Thankfully, Benjamin only suffered a few days with some fatigue and sniffles. Susan and I however, were hit particularly hard. It took me a full three weeks before I began to feel human again, but Susan's case was much worse. After battling the virus at home for over a week, she was hospitalized, diagnosed with double viral pneumonia and immediately placed on oxygen. While her O2 levels dropped considerably, we thank the Lord that she did not require intubation. On Christmas day, Benjamin and I made our way to the hospital with a few small gifts for Susan. Even though she had been isolated in the Covid ward for 11 days, hospital officials still would not allow us to visit her because of all the regulations and protocols. As Susan opened her Christmas presents, all we could do was cry over the phone; tears of sadness because of our separation and tears of gratitude that she was slowly recovering. We know that things could have ended up very different and we thank God for His merciful healing hand. We also thank God for all the family and friends who helped us through this and for all of you who prayed for our family during this very difficult time. Your prayers and encouraging words meant so much to us. Please continue to pray for Susan as she still has inflammation in her lungs along with fibrosis resulting from the virus. The Doctors say that it could take as much as a year for her to fully heal from the damage Covid has caused.

Near the end of December, Susan finally came home from the hospital. We then spent most of January just trying to regain our strength after our bout with Covid. In the midst of that, however, God granted us several meetings, along with two new supporting churches, amen! We especially want to thank God for the sweet folks of the Rochester Hills Baptist Church who welcomed us in and made us feel like family during our stay there in Michigan. We were so blessed by the meals brought during our sickness and by the many words of encouragement. What a privilege it was to present the radio ministry there and to have them partner with us to reach Pohnpei with the Gospel. We also praise the Lord for the opportunities He gave us to share what He has been doing in Micronesia with our other supporting churches in Michigan who have been so faithful through these many years.

Early in February, we packed up our belongings, said our good byes to family and friends, and made our way back to Shelby, North Carolina. Now that we are back in the south, God has paired us up with some very good Doctors who have helped us to better understand more about Susan's heart condition. A recent CT angiogram has revealed that Susan suffers from a narrowing of the arteries of her heart. Thankfully her situation is not immediately life threatening, but her condition will require regular observation and continuous management. Please pray as we await further testing and for us to determine the best regimen of treatment. Currently, the Federated States of Micronesia is Covid-free while the borders to the country remain officially closed through the end of May.

As we visit supporting churches and schedule meetings, one thing has become very clear. Due to the pandemic and its various restrictions, many churches have not been able to have missionaries visit for quite some time. Our calendar continues to fill with meetings and we would love the opportunity to come to your church and share what God has been doing in Micronesia. We want to thank all of you again for your fervent prayers and faithful support.

Your Fellow Servants in Christ,

Gabe, Susan, and Benjamin

Benjamin answering some great questions at the Fostoria Baptist Church!

PRAYER

- For the outcome of Susan's recent cardio ultrasound.
- Pray for Susan to fully recover from her bout with Covid.
- Pray for the financial needs that have arisen due to Covid along with other medical bills.



After 6 years in Pohnpei, the frigid cold of Michigan was a very big adjustment!

PRAISE

- Like many of you, our battle with Covid was extremely difficult. We praise the Lord for bringing us through one of the worst illnesses of our lives.
- Praise the Lord for supplying us with meetings and with two new supporting churches!
- We praise the Lord for all those who prayed, helped, and encouraged us during Covid.

Our Address: Baptist Radio, P.O. Box H, Pohnpei, FM 96941 **Skype:** 808-333-7337 **Email:** eibens2pohnpei@wwntbm.com
Sending Church: Maranatha Baptist Church, 900 MarK Rd., Shelby, NC 28152 (704) 284-0158
Mission Agency: WWNTBM, P.O. Box 725, Kings Mountain, NC 28086 (704) 730-1440