

# THE JOEL FAMILY NEWSLETTER

World Wide New Testament Baptist Missions—Field Address: PO Box 2153-Pohnpei  
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October-November

**Greetings** in the most Wonderful, Precious, and Lovely Name of Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. We trust that all is well with you. We are all doing just fine, Praise His Name. My wife Lihner is handling her diabetes quite well. I have problem with my SEA FOOD DIET, when I see food, I eat (ha! ha! ha!). Seriously, pray that I will be consistent in my exercise. Our children, I mean the young ladies are doing alright. Terisa is adjusting quite well in her teaching career. When we were leaving the campus the other day, her eighth grade girls were chanting her name loudly. Sherrie Ann has taken over my laptop. She has so many e-mail pals, it took her nearly an hour to read them. I gave her restriction on air-time and the use of calling cards helps a whole lot, too.

**A few weeks ago**, we went to the funeral of one of our national pastor's mom. At his invitation, we packed quite a few Pohnpeian tracts. We were late and missed our chance of preaching in the house and the coffin had already been taken to the gravesite. After the burial service, there were many people lingering at the gravesite. I took out some tracts and started handing them out. There were hands from all over the place, reaching for the tracts as though I was giving out free food. Come to think of it, yes, I was handing out the Bread and Water of Life according to the words of Isaiah 55:1-2 "*Ho, everyone that thirsted, come ye to the waters... Wherefore do ye spend money for that which is not bread...? eat ye that which is good, and let your soul delight itself in fatness....*" Between the Songleader, Senior Pastor and I, a great number of tracts were passed out. Please pray for Pastor Alfonso and his ministry in Mand, Pohnlangas.

**I wrote to some** of you about our Fall Revival with Evangelist Jim Cook at Ambassador Baptist Church in U and the scores of people walking the "Sand-dust" trail every evening. The men from our churches worked all week, building a big tent. They framed it with mangrove wood and lined it with coconut leaves then covered the whole edifice with tarpaulins. It has a seating capacity of 500. We are seeing good results of the revival as people are being baptized in our churches. Again, PRAY that these new converts will take a bold stand as they faced persecution from their lost families and friends. One of the converts who is a high government official, went home and threw all his betelnut chew into the river and his co-workers were amazed at his new life.

**One great event** that took place here at Calvary Baptist Church for the first time ever was a military funeral. A young soldier who died in Irag, put our Pastor's name on his paper as his pastor and contact person in case of emergency. When the US Ambassador showed up at our school and asked the pastor to get in her vehicle, she told him that a young Pohnpeian had died in Irag, the pastor nearly stopped breathing, thinking it was his son, but composed himself and let her finished her sentence. She wanted him to go and see the dead soldier's family since he was his contact. The next day a an army funeral detail of seven soldiers showed up at our church and started practicing for the funeral. When the body arrived, other army personnel accompanied, including two brigadier generals.

**The full military funeral was done with dignity and reverence. The church auditorium was packed out. Our choir sang and the Lord gave me a message to preach to the big crowd with all the military brass and the US Embassy personnel, including the US Ambassador, Mrs Hale, who attends our English service whenever she can. Our Pastor preached the grave site service with the gun salute and the medal and flag ceremonies. Seemed like the whole town was there. Pray for the lost who heard the gospel twice. One little coincident of the memorable event was that one of the soldiers happened to be one of my nephews from the Marshall Islands. I hunted him down at the Hotel and took him to my house for a feast. He was amazed to see so many relatives.**

**Thank you again for your faithful prayers and support. May the Lord bless you and Have a wonderful Thanksgiving Holiday.**

**IN HIS SERVICE,**

**The JOEL FAMILY IN MICRONESIA**