

# THE JOEL FAMILY NEWSLETTER

WORLDWIDE NEW TESTAMENT BAPTIST MISSIONS

PO BOX 725 KINGS MOUNTAIN, NC

JAN-FEB '08

Someone said, "Expect the unexpected and you will lower your blood pressure and lessen your anxiety attacks." Four of our young people left the island for "greener pastures" in the Mainland USA. For the past ten years, we have had scores of young adults leaving the islands for jobs in the US. The "free association" political status of our island government with the USA made migrating to the mainland much easier for our people. Please pray for the "ministry voids" created by the departure of these young people. Even our government is alarmed at the apparent "brain drain", especially into the US Military service.

Our church choir was asked by the town mayor to sing at his inauguration. He asked us to provide three numbers. When we got there, they have added more numbers in the program for us to sing. We had the privilege of entertaining our new government leaders and their families with hymns and spiritual songs. Pray for this open door of witness.

One of our faithful local pastors, Brother Luther Cornelius, went to be with Lord after a long battle with heart and respiratory problem. He was also well-advanced in age. His oldest son, who was not favorable toward his dad's Baptist denomination, and would have nothing to do with us, found out that three of us have flown over there right after hearing of his father's demise. The man's attitude toward us was completely changed, he invited Pastor Welles, myself, and our choir director to his house and made arrangement for us to have service every night during our four-day stay on Kosrae island. Please pray for his salvation. Although, the burial was over with when we arrived, there was a huge crowd every night. Pray for the many "religious but lost" folks in the crowd. We sang and preached our hearts out and they stuffed our bellies with their "best island dishes" in return. Missionary Dave Fetters and the folks at Calvary Baptist on Kosrae also invited us to preach revival for them next year.

Pray for witnessing opportunities for my wife at the Public Health Clinic where she works. Our daughter Terisa is teaching secondary History, English, and Math at our Christian school and doing Bible Club at our church. I am presently serving as interim pastor, since our senior pastor is having medical problems. We have also lost our high school principal and I have been nominated for the post. Please pray for a good measure of wisdom, knowledge, and understanding, so that I may be able to glorify the Lord in all that I do.

Pray for me and my wife as we travel to Guam in March for the annual missionary conference at the Harvest Baptist Church (March 6-16). They invited us and one of our faithful couples who helps out in our Youth Ministry. Pray that we will be a blessing to Pastor Herron and the good folks at Harvest. **Thank You again for being a faithful prayer partner and supporter of our ministry in the Lord's Tropical Vineyard.** May the Lord bless and prosper each of you, your family, and ministry.

## ADDITIONAL PRAYER REQUESTS:

- **Camp Rejoice fund**
- More Christians to have a vision for the lost and be a witness
- A Holy Ghost revival in our churches

**Praise Items**—We led a man, his wife, and his teenage daughter to the Lord at the hospital

**\*\*Our daughter Terisa's college tuition is finally paid in full, AMEN!!!**