

THE JOEL FAMILY NEWSLETTER

WORLD WIDE NEW TESTAMENT BAPTIST MISSIONS

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Greetings from Pohnpei, the home of the capital of Micronesia. I would like to take this time to express our gratitude to the Lord for His mercy, grace, and healing power. My wife and I left for the Philippines Heart Center on April 28 for my post-operation follow-up. I was given all kinds of physical tests, much like what happened three years ago when the doctors found three blocked arteries and did the triple bypass. Well, after three days of testing, my doctor came to my room and told me that I have “a clean bill of health” (Praise the Lord!). **THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR PRAYERS.** On our way back to Pohnpei, we stopped in Guam for a couple of days, and were just in time for the HBBC (Harvest Baptist Bible College) Senior Banquet. We were able to fellowship with many of our friends at Harvest, as well as the students. I also had the privilege of speaking at Guahan Baptist Church of Talofof, pastored by one of our friends, Mr. Don Eckert.

We trust you are all doing well and enjoying your summer or getting ready for it. We just had our K-5 Graduation in our church auditorium and the place was packed out with parents and relatives. Next week will be our high school baccalaureate and graduation. Pray that our graduates will make the right choice of college and work. Some have expressed the desire to go to Christian colleges.

When we were at the Heart Center in the Philippines, we were able to visit and pray with some of the patients. Please pray for their physical health and especially their salvation. Pray for a brother-in-law who also went and was advised to get a pacemaker for his heart, but refused. He is in his late sixties and professes to be saved, but has some serious spiritual problems. Pray for the family of one of our young people who took her own life. She had shared with her born-again auntie her desire to attend HBBC, but when her divorced mom heard about it, she flatly opposed it. There are many stories why she committed suicide; however, the most believable one is that she had an issue with her mom that she felt could never be solved. The fact that she was a part of our church youth didn't mean that she was a genuinely born-again Christian. Then again, only the Lord knows her heart. I believe that this is a wake up call to our church youth and all of us leaders, to know the state of our flock.

Pray for the youth of Micronesia. Teen suicide in Micronesia rates among the highest in the world. Although the governor has set up a Teen Suicide Taskforce, the numbers seem to increase every year. I believe the Summer Camp ministry is one of the most effective means of reaching our youth. Please pray for Camp Rejoice ongoing construction. As soon as we have completed plastering the inside and outside of the big rain catchment, we will put up another dorm-like sleeping quarter, another bathroom-toilet combo, a more permanent cookhouse, and then clear and cover the playground with sand.

**THANKS AGAIN FOR HOLDING THE ROPE TO OUR MINISTRY IN YOUR FAITHFUL
PRAYERS AND SUPPORT**