

# The Joel Family Newsletter

Worldwide New Testament Baptist Missions

P.O. Box 725, Kings Mountain, NC 28086

April-May

Greetings again from Pohnpei, the Capital Island of Micronesia. The highlight of this month is the election of the Legislature and Congress. One of the interesting candidates is Dr. Merlina Abello Alphonso. She is half Filipino and owner of Genesis Hospital, a state of the art hospital within close proximity of the Pohnpei Government Hospital. This election is the third one in a row that she ran. Being a CEO of her hospital, her campaigns were very liberal. She would give out bags of rice, flour, and basic necessities to all the villages throughout the island. She never gave up running for the Legislature and she was successful this time. The incumbent president, who ran for Congress lost, but not before forcing half of his cabinet to resign over insubordination.

Please Pray for our youngest preacher boy, Koden Lebehn. He and his wife have a beautiful one-year old daughter and shortly after her first birthday feast, Mrs. Lebehn was very heavy with their second child. Nine months into her pregnancy, she went for checkup and the doctor told her to return the next day. Just as the doctor suspected, there was an issue with the baby's forehead, it was swollen due to excessive fluid. The baby boy stopped breathing while they were doing the ultrasound. She was advised to go home and wait until she is ready to deliver. They gave her labor-inducing medicine and also recommended natural birth. Well, the following day she started experiencing pain and after examining her, the attending doctor decided to do C-Section since only the mother is doing all the labor, the baby being lifeless. The parents called me to do the funeral service. The coffin was three feet long and we buried her next to Missionary Dave Arthurs' grave at our radio station backyard. Brother Koden is the resident acting radio manager in lieu of Eiben Family's furlough

Pray for the salvation of one of our school parents, who have been bringing their boys (three boys) to church for a month now. Since majority of our school parents are non-Baptist, we thank the Lord for their sudden interest in our church youth activities on Friday nights. Half a dozen of the parents are sending their children to participate in our youth activities. Pray for these teens who are getting Bible Lessons in our academy classrooms, as well as the weekly church activities. Pray those who are unsaved to get saved and the saved to witness to their parents and families.

Thank you again for your prayers, financial support, and love for souls. *"And some have compassion, making a difference; And others save with fear, pulling them out of the fire..." (Jude 22-23). "The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to usward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to Repentance" (2 Pet. 3:9).*