

JACK & MELINDA



PEELER

ASSISTING WITH CHURCH PLANTING, FURLOUGH RELIEF AND MAINTENANCE



June 2020

Dear Partners in Ministry,

Many things have happened in the last month, and we want you to remain informed about what God is doing in our lives. On June 1, I had my 65th birthday. It is hard to believe I am that old now, but my body is beginning to let me know. On June 15, I did not feel well and stayed in bed a good part of the day. I had a severe headache and was nauseous. About 7:45 pm, I was in the bathroom because I was sick again and began to feel very weak. I couldn't stand, and my wife had to get me a chair. My body began to tingle, and my left side became numb. I just laid down on the bathroom floor. Fortunately, my wife recognized that I was having a stroke and called for help immediately. I was transported to the local hospital, where the doctor assessed me and began treating me for a stroke. They also did an EKG. I was admitted and spent from Monday evening to Saturday afternoon there.

I do not have any lasting paralysis, and my speech has returned to normal. I praise the Lord for His mercy. They did a CT scan, and it confirmed that I did have a stroke. The doctor here advised that I not return to Nukuoro because there is no medical care there at all. She said that even a mild stroke could have lasting effects or cause death. After talking with our pastor and with Brother John O'Malley from our missions agency, we have decided that we should return to the US. We have many things to wrap up here on Pohnpei, and we need to retrieve some personal items from our home in Nukuoro. There is also the travel ban here, and only one plane leaves a month. We are looking at returning to the US in September or October. I will need to convalesce here before we can travel, so this should give us time to do what is necessary.

We plan to continue helping ministries here on Pohnpei and Nukuoro by being a liaison for needed supplies. We would also like to return to our ministry of helps in an advisory capacity. I hope that God will allow me to present the islands of Micronesia to churches and college young people. There are many small islands with no gospel witness. The field truly is white unto harvest.

On a positive note, the young man I was discipling on Nukuoro has been working with Pastor Ray and wants to learn more about the Bible. He has taken leadership and is leading the Tuesday evening prayer time. He has also been helping with the preaching under Pastor Ray. He says he would like to come up to Pohnpei to study at Ambassador Baptist Church's Bible Institute. Pastor Rickson Kihleng is a graduate of Ambassador Baptist College in NC. He uses a curriculum from that school for the institute. A couple of ladies in Melinda's Bible study have been leading that while we have been away. Pastor Ray says they are doing a great job. We are very encouraged by these developments. We have been praying that God will do a work on Nukuoro for a very long time, and we are now beginning to see answers to those prayers. While here on Pohnpei, we have had Bible studies in our home for both men and women. We see fruit in these as well. We had to discontinue the Bible studies for a couple of weeks but hope that we will start again in early July. Pray that I will have strength.

Please keep us in prayer as we navigate these new waters. We desire God to use us as He sees fit. We know that His hand is surely with us and that His plan is best. Please feel free to contact us if you have any further questions about this ministry change. You may also contact Pastor David Stockard at Faith Baptist Church in Taylors, SC, or Brother John O'Malley with World Wide New Testament Baptist Missions. We are not quitting, just changing!

In His Service,
Jack & Melinda



June 26, 2020

To the Supporters of Jack and Melinda Peeler,

It has been our privilege to be the sending church of Jack and Melinda Peeler for many years and we have supported their efforts to establish a work on Micronesian island of Nukuoro. With God's help, the Peelers have been able to do that. They have trained nationals who are now leading the work in their absence. They have been serving the Lord on Pohnpei while waiting for a ship to transport them back, but with the coronavirus, they have been quarantined in Pohnpei for several months.

While in Pohnpei, both Jack and Melinda have been involved in ministry through teaching and assisting sister churches with many building projects. However, Jack recently suffered a stroke which now has limited his ability to continue working in Nukuoro. His doctor has advised them not to go back because of the lack of medical care on that small island. If Jack should go back and suffer another stroke, which is highly possible, he could die or be severely incapacitated. Due to this concern for his health, we and the Peelers, realize that the Lord has closed the door for them in Nukuoro. This realization has greatly saddened their hearts, but they know that the Lord is in control of all things and they are accepting this as His will. Their doctor advised Jack to return to the States as soon as possible to seek further specialized care.

They will be seeking to retrieve a few personal items from Nukuoro and selling the things they have in Pohnpei. Their goal is to return to the States hopefully within the next three months. Currently, travel is still severely restricted in that part of the world.

The Peeler's desire is to continue to serve the Lord when they return to the States. All that will be determined after Jack receives treatment and is restored to health. Faith Baptist Church and their mission board are in agreement with this approach.

We will continue to stand with the Peelers in this time of transition and we would ask you, as well, to continue to stand behind them with your support. As things develop, they will keep everyone informed.

Thank you for your continued prayers on behalf of these dear servants of the Lord. A great investment has been made by our church and all their supporters in getting them to Nukuoro to do the work God called them to do. Their labors have not been in vain!

If you should have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Confident in Him,

Dave Stockard
Missions Pastor



World Wide New Testament Baptist Missions

assisting churches since 1971

Dear Ministry Partner of Jack and Melinda Peeler,

On June 24, I spoke at length to Brother and Mrs. Peeler. The news they shared is serious. Brother Jack Peeler suffered a stroke.

Their home church recommended the Peelers to transition to a stateside ministry. We support their church's recommendation and the Peelers' decision to reposition themselves to a country more suitable for their health needs.

Jack and Melinda Peelers' heart for the ministry did not change with a stroke. Their spirits are brave, their passion is inextinguishable, and their calling is sure. We believe God will use the Peelers to be a voice to encourage more to go to Micronesia. Jack and Melinda will be linked to the believers in Nukuoro and will assist the believers, even from here in the US, through technology.

Many North American ministries need the Peelers' assistance. Churches, camps, and schools will ask the Peelers to advise them in ministry development projects. Other churches will use Jack and Melinda to challenge the next generation of missionaries to rise up and go.

When the Peelers came to World Wide New Testament Baptist Missions, they came to serve in a helps capacity. We stand with the Peelers and will assist them, and their sending church, as they take time for healing, transitioning to the USA, and serving in a new capacity.

The Peelers are a rare find in God's service. We are glad they are part of your church's missions program and our agency. We encourage you to continue supporting their missionary service to our Lord.

Yours for the harvest,
John O'Malley

To view a recent video update on the ministry in Nukuoro, please see our website at <https://wwntbm.com/connect/missionaries/jack-and-melinda-peeler/>