THE WAGARS

To Chuuk, Micronesia

Praises

-
- 1) Church Growth
- 2) Health is good

Requests

- 1) Wisdom and favor with new building
- 2) Continued guidance in the ministry

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Dear Friends,

I'm sitting here at my desk on a rainy February morning and I am extra grateful for the rain today; it has been far too long since we have had significant rain. Because the water sources were drying up, people were beginning to lack water. God is graciously opening His heavens to poor down showers of blessings.

Even though 2022 has started off physically dry, we are grateful for all that God is doing here spiritually. Now that Pastor Mike has returned, we are able to catch our breath a little bit and come into the new year with a renewed energy and excitement to see what God will do. Part of that energy has been devoted to a new prison ministry that Pastor Mike and I conduct each Monday afternoon. During our annual Christmas prison service, it was mentioned that a regular jail service would be appreciated. Since then, we have been able to start a weekly service in which we sing, pray, preach, and spend a little time talking with the inmates. We are starting off with the basics of the Bible and the Gospel and are praying for fruit. In fact this past Monday we saw six men profess Christ as their Savior! We will continue to follow up and make sure the message and the professions were truly understood. Our goal, which we have told them, is not rehabilitation, but rather transformation from the Gospel so that when they are released they live completely different lives by the grace of God.

We also thank God for the growth that we have been seeing in the church. The name of our church is Grace International Baptist Church and lately we have been able to live up to the "International" part of the name! We have Chuukese, American, Filipino (a growing number), a Fijian, an African, and at times, various other ethnicities. Many of these are becoming faithful attendees and our prayer is that they will soon become members.



We recently took part in a very delayed Christmas service at Living Hope Baptist Church, a predominantly Filipino church that I preach at once a month. During Pastor Mike's absence I was not able to regularly be with them due to other responsibilities that I had to take care of. For other reasons as well their Christmas service had been delayed. So on the last Sunday of January we were able to go down and celebrate Christmas with them. It was good to be back in their fellowship and to preach to such receptive hearts. Never is it a burden to have a fun time of games and enjoy Filipino food!

The Lord seems to have some big plans for 2022 for which we are excited to be a part. One of those areas that we are exploring is the possibility that our church will be able to purchase or rent the building next to our current building. The small property that we currently meet on is hemmed in by a road in front and back and buildings on either sides; in short, we have no room for expansion and growth. One of the buildings that hems in our property is a large abandoned and dilapidated gas station that is owned by the same family that owns our current building. Pastor and I have been trying to set up a meeting with the owner in order to discuss our possible use of this additional building. Please be praying alongside of us that the Lord's will would be done in this. We deeply desire the new building so that the ministries and areas of outreach that we offer would be able to physically expand from our current small church building. We trust the Lord to do as He sees fit.



On a personal level, we are all doing quite well. Milena is just a couple of months out from finishing her Kindergarten year of school. I think she's excited for summer already! Sarah and I are also both doing well. I continue with my regular responsibilities of preaching, teaching, coaching, Bible study, and everything else that goes on around here and Sarah is also much occupied with homeschooling Milena, teaching Sunday Kinder, and taking care of the home.

As always, we are deeply grateful to each of you for the role you fulfill in the ministry here. Though many of you will never be able to physically come to Chuuk, the impact that your support and prayer are having out here is felt. Though the work is small and though it goes slowly, the Kingdom is nevertheless expanding here in Chuuk.

Thank you for your part in that - we are grateful. Blessings to you as you continue what you are doing wherever you may be!

Until the Islands Know Him, Josh, Sarah, and Milena Wagar Romans 15:21