

## The Kihleng Family Missionaries to Micronesia

### Field Address

PO Box 2072  
Pohnpei, FM 96941  
(691) 320-5114

[rkihleng@hotmail.com](mailto:rkihleng@hotmail.com)

[www.kihlengfamily.blogspot.com](http://www.kihlengfamily.blogspot.com)

### Mission Board

Global Vision Ministries  
7800 Northside Dr.  
N. Charleston, SC 29420



### Kaselehlie! Greetings from Pohnpei!

Lots happening on our side of the world! It's hard to know where to begin. So I'll start with the predictable Covid-19 update. Our borders here in Micronesia have remained closed from February of last year until this month. On May 13 and 14, however, the US Coast Guard provided two humanitarian flights to repatriate 43 FSM citizens, along with US and Australian diplomats and a CDC doctor. This has been an extremely long process to get to this point and as you can imagine, emotions and differing opinions run high. As of the writing of this letter though, the operation has been successful! Those that arrived have all gone through quarantine and tested negative for Covid-19 upon their release. We're excited that this is one step closer to borders reopening. A flight from the Marshall Islands is planned for May 31 and from there, the government will determine when the borders can actually be open again for commercial flights. The US Ambassador, along with her husband and daughter, arrived on the first of these flights, and we were able to enjoy a nice evening of food and fellowship with them and several other families once they were released from quarantine. As you can imagine, transitioning from a busy city life in the US to this little island is a huge transition for their daughter and it was a fun-filled evening for her to get to know some of the young people here on the island. Our kids have now had the unique opportunity of developing friendships with the Chinese Ambassador's daughter and now the US Ambassador's daughter.

Ministry life continues as usual. We're continuing to meet in the outdoor structure for church services and as I mentioned in my last letter, we most likely will not return to our indoor building due to the size of the congregation. Over the next year we will need to look more into converting the outdoor structure into an enclosed church building as the humidity and heat is not good for our sound system, electronics, and church supplies. We are having Sunday school classes meet in the former church building and have plans to divide it into classrooms soon. We have not yet restarted our Wednesday Bible Club but plan to over the summer. Both the Bible Institute and the Jail ministries still remain on hold. The jail though has let us know that we may be able to begin services there again soon but will only be allowed three people to come at a time from the church.

### Summer Ministries

Our youth group is now back to our previous schedule and we are proceeding with plans for summer Youth Camp. We understand that plans could change at any time but for now we are planning for camp the week of June 14. The young people are excited and looking forward to a great week, especially since last year's camp was cancelled. We are praying the camp can go forward as planned and that we will see many lives impacted for the Lord during that week. Our young people are suffering as I'm sure many are around the world. The isolation and changes due to Covid has affected them in so many ways and we are praying God will truly use this week of camp in their lives.

We're also planning to go forward with Vacation Bible School this summer. Our current plans are to hold it in July, but of course, as with everything right now, we know that is subject to change due to the ever-changing

Covid restrictions. Our kids though are already making plans for that week, selecting skits and planning decorations. Now that most of our children are older and can be involved with the planning and carrying out of these activities, VBS has become very much a family ministry project and something we look forward to every summer. We ask that you please sincerely pray for these two summer ministries to be used greatly of God to reach the young people of Pohnpei.

### ***Milestones and House Project***

Over the past several months we have passed some interesting milestones in our ministry and family life. In February we celebrated 20 years now on Pohnpei. It really is hard to believe it's been that long already since God brought me back here with Susan and little Kaleo. Another milestone was in March when our church celebrated it's 18th anniversary. We held the first service of Ambassador Baptist Church in U, Pohnpei on March 16, 2003. Our church celebrated 18 years with a special service, a meal together, and then a praise and testimony service. We are so thankful for all God has done with this ministry these last 18 years.

March 17th marked three years since the mudslide that damaged our home. It's been a long and slow process to recover our home but we are starting to see the light at the end of the tunnel. Right now we're working on the kitchen. Our kitchen cabinets and supplies arrived in April, and we've been working to install the cabinets and create countertops. It's been a challenge to work on a project like this while still having all our ministry responsibilities and continuing with homeschooling the kids and so things have moved slowly. We're heading into week six of no usable kitchen - we're back to an outdoor sink and the kids have commented that it reminds them of life after the mudslide again. But Lord willing, we will be able to finish this project up in the next week. We are truly thankful to all of you that have given financially to this project and prayed for us through all of this. Once we finish the inside projects we're working on, then we will finish up the last portion of the wall. It has been a long process and at times a bit stressful, but God has shown Himself faithful through it all, and we have learned so much through these difficulties.

### ***Family Life***

We are finishing up another year of homeschool. It has been a challenge to maintain a normal schedule with all the projects we've had going on with the house, but we are nearing the end of the year. Kestra will be finishing her junior year, Kyler his sophomore year, Katy is graduating from eighth grade, and Kaylinn will be heading into fifth grade. Kestra has been working to develop her photography skills and enjoys studying the Korean language and culture. She is hoping to major in East Asian Language studies in college and minor in Photography. Kyler enjoys all things ocean related and goes SCUBA diving every chance he gets. He's considering staying on the island after finishing high school and studying Marine Science at the College of Micronesia. We're praying God will direct these two young people as they finish up their high school years and seek His will for their future. Katy continues to develop her art and music skills. She is studying music via video calls with a teacher in Australia and also spends all her spare time drawing and painting. Kaylinn is all about having fun at this stage of her life, though sometimes Katy is able to convince her to play ukulele with her. Kaleo is still in New York City and is working at a YMCA there teaching swimming. He looks forward to when he can finally come back to Pohnpei, but for now is enjoying his job there.

Of course furlough plans for us are still on hold with the border closure. The plane tickets we had purchased before are still good through March of next year and we are praying the borders reopen by then and we can make furlough plans again. Meanwhile, if any pastor would like to talk with me and just hear firsthand about how things are going here, I am always available to schedule a call. We have a US number through Skype so there are no international fees. Feel free to email me at [rkihleng@hotmail.com](mailto:rkihleng@hotmail.com) and we can schedule a time to call.

We thank you all for your continued prayers and financial support. We pray that someday soon we can see you all again in person.

Because of Calvary,  
Rickson & Susan, Kaleo, Kestra, Kyler, Katrianne, & Kaylinn