

WATER MILL
CHURCH OF CHRIST
3020 NORTH BARNES
SPRINGFIELD, MO
65803
(417) 866-0915

pmcowden@gmail.com

GOAL OF THE WORK

- Evangelizing Tinian and Rota, and continue evangelizing Saipan
- Edifying the saints and future converts
- Equipping the saints to teach, lead, and evangelize
- Encouraging the saints to be self-governing and supporting

*“Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look at the fields, for they are already white for harvest!”
John 4:35b*

Taking the Gospel to the Northern Mariana Islands

Overseen by the elders of the Water Mill church of Christ, Springfield, Missouri

WWW.SAIPANMISSION.ORG

JANUARY 2009

2009 Off to a Good Start

We are so blessed to be able to be bringing God’s saving message to the people of the CNMI. The month on January has been very promising for the spread of the gospel. We have started new studies with 11 people in the last six weeks. In addition to this, we have continued the studies we have been having for a while with several groups and individuals.

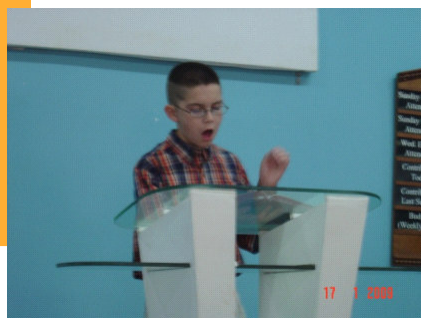
We have received the first edition of the House to House/Heart to Heart newsletters. We are very excited about these and plan on getting them into the hands of the people of Tinian in early February. The first day we got the newsletters from the Post Office, I gave out copies to three people we had been

studying with and they loved them! That evening Boyet and I went to visit a couple he has known for about 12 years. The couple expressed the desire to find the right church and we gave them one of these newsletters. They were very impressed and started asking questions about the church of Christ. Before we left, we ended up having about an hour long study with them. They indicated that they would come to services this Sunday. Please pray for them; their names are Acca and Lena. I have known for years that HtH/HtH is a wonderful evangelistic tool, today that was proven on the first day we used them on the island of Saipan. Please pray for us as we use this tool to evangelize the islands of the CNMI.



I was able to travel to Tinian 3 times this month, I spoke with several people about setting up Bible studies but nothing was set up yet. We are praying fervently that when the people of Tinian see the high quality publication we are sending to their P.O. Boxes they will want to learn more about the church that belongs to Christ.

One of the young men who was baptized this summer, Ruel, has returned from the Philippines. We were thankful for his safe travel and are encouraged daily by his enthusiasm and desire to put God first in his life. Please pray for his zeal, and pray for all of us, especially Sarah at this time.



One of the things I have been wanting to do is to acknowledge the congregations that are helping us financially with our mission work. Without their support, we could not be doing the work we are here to do. They include our sponsoring congregation in Springfield, MO, the Water Mill church of Christ. Without their oversight we would not be in the field today, we are so blessed to have these godly elders watching over us.

Cross Plains, TX
Emporia Avenue, KS
Gainesville, MO
Fordland, MO
Grimsley, TN
Adamsville, AL
Forest Park, GA
Farmington, AR

Godley, TX
Jane (White Rock), MO
Strafford, MO
Seymour, MO
Stephens Gap, TN
Roebuck Parkway, AL
Warm Springs, AR
Cave Springs, AR

Sallisaw, OK
Aurora, MO
Marshfield, MO
Meigs Avenue, IN
Eastland, TN
Henderson, NC
Green Forest, AR
Bella Vista, AR

Rose Hill, KS
Bolivar, MO
Conway, MO
Jamestown, TN
Mastin Lake, AL
Sanford, NC
Baldwin, AR

In addition to these congregations, there are many other individuals who are sacrificing to enable us to be in the mission field. I will not attempt to name them here, the Lord knows who they are, and He is the One whose recognition truly matters. We, with heartfelt gratitude, wish to thank all of you for your continued support. I also want to thank David Hersey in Granby, MO who designed and maintains our website at: www.saipanmission.org.



*Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time, casting all your care upon Him, for he cares for you.
I Peter 5:6-7*

Dear Friends,

As some of you know, this month has held some difficulties for us. We have been watching Sarah's scoliosis since she was eight years old. She has been wearing a brace for three-and-a-half years. She has had a big growth spurt since we've moved here, and the curves in her back have gotten much worse.

She will be having surgery at the Shriner's hospital in Honolulu. We have not been given a date yet, but we request prayers for her. We know all of God's promises are true, and he tells us that the fervent prayer of the righteous avails much. We ask all Christians to help us in this way. Please pray for the best outcome possible for Sarah.

Saipan is the most amazing place for rainbows - which are such a beautiful reminder of God's faithfulness. We see them often and love them every time. After a fervent night of prayer, I have twice risen to find one coming from the valley behind our house. I am always thankful for the reminder that I can calmly rely on our Master to care for us.

In His Service,
Maria