

Welcome Back to Palau!!

Our flight arrived in the middle of the night with 12 suitcases, 4 kids and us! Customs was, thankfully, easy to get through and we were greeted by members of Palau Baptist Church. With my dad and mom (Terry and Gloria McClure) on medical leave, we have access to their house and cars, for now.

Since my parents were unable to return back to Palau since Covid and health has prevented them, maintenance on the house and cars has not been kept up. The tires on the cars were rotted, the spark plugs dead, the windshield wipers were worn and the a/c compressor broken. Oh, and it is the rainy season. Every day...two or three hours a day it rains, monsoon rains...gully washers!

The house has its own problems with no stove, a broken fridge, and everything packed in boxes. Thankfully, the church members had the beds ready for us for the first night. So, the first week begins! Fixing cars, finding a stove, a fridge and a washing machine. Did I mention it is the rainy season? Lots of rain! The ditches around the house were also not maintained. Digging ditches was a priority to keep the water at bay! Termites (always a problem in Palau!) were discovered in dad's bookcases. Another task to be addressed.

Church was an exciting time of renewal and fellowship! We left Palau as a couple and returned as a family of six. Everyone was thrilled to meet our family and welcome us back.

The ditches at the church also needed dug out again to prevent water flowing in front of the church door. (Did I mention it is rainy season and there is a ton of rain right now?) While assessing the church property and what needed to be done there, we discovered a secret garden had been planted on a hill behind the church. The marijuana was taller than me. We want to do right regardless of the consequences, so we called the police. Pray there are no repercussions to our church from whoever planted it, but if there are, we will still do right!

Culture shock still exists even if you've been raised on the mission field; or maybe I should say, sticker shock! A quart of milk sells for \$11.50; a dozen eggs is \$9. We will adjust, it just takes time. Meanwhile, we will be more creative with breakfast for us all!

The kids are loving it here, even the rain which creates lots of mud and lots of dirty clothes. We are thankful for all of your prayers and support as we embark on the ministry the Lord has for us here in Palau.

Carrying the Light to the islands

Your missionaries,

The McClures

Andrew, Vanj, Jonathan, Andrea, Abigail and Elijah



Digging ditches



Police taking Marijuana

