

1 I think Reverend Radigan tells us exactly why one of  
2 the best ways to reach the Micronesian population is  
3 through the faith based programs, in this situation  
4 we are talking about the church.

5 I don't have much time left, therefore,  
6 I am going to go ahead and move, I am going to move  
7 over to Father or Reverend Akendo Onamwar. He is  
8 from Chuuk. Reverend?

9 REVEREND ONAMWAR: (Speaks in a foreign  
10 language.) Good morning, everybody.

11 PASTOR LORIN: Morning.

12 REVEREND ONAMWAR: I purposely greeted  
13 you in that by saying that because this is to me a  
14 new day for the Micronesians in Hawaii, so I think  
15 the best way for me to start is to tell you my  
16 story. I graduated from HPU back in 1978. I feel  
17 ancient already sitting next to Radigan. I went  
18 back home, and I started working with my government,  
19 and I came out here in 1992 as a patient attendant,  
20 and that's when I saw the need for the few Chuukese  
21 that were here at that time, their need to start a  
22 church. So in 1994, that's when I came out because  
23 I went back, and I came out again in 1994, and I  
24 have stayed here since 1994.

25 And as Radigan stated, the first place

1 that the people go to is the church, that the  
2 pastors, the elders, the people that know the places  
3 already here. I am sorry to say that I was a pastor  
4 before I came out here, and when I was back home, I  
5 was a very respected man because they respect, you  
6 know, the people back home respect the pastors, the  
7 church pastors. And when I came out here, I thought  
8 I was going to be accorded the same, the same thing,  
9 and I found out that that's different. I have to  
10 adjust.

11 And it's true, you are not only the  
12 pastor, but you are the driver, you are the  
13 dishwasher, you are everything, and I think that's  
14 good, especially for the young men like Radigan.  
15 But that is a challenge that we are facing.

16 By the way, my church is fortunately to  
17 use -- fortunate to use the Church of the Crossroads  
18 down the road, 1212 University Avenue, and we have  
19 been very fortunate to have so many people that try  
20 to help with, help the church function, to help us  
21 carry out our responsibilities especially to our own  
22 people. I think I am going to cut off here and let  
23 my friend here, since the time is running out.

24 PASTOR LORIN: Thank you, Reverend  
25 Akendo.

1           I think I feel like interjecting right  
2 now before we move on. I just -- I feel like I have  
3 to say something. Which is basically true, you are  
4 going to listen to Steve Sigrah, and he is going to  
5 be saying almost about the same thing. I'm glad I  
6 said what exactly we are as reverend, because I am  
7 also happy that these guys also agree with me. I'm  
8 not lying to you when I said we are the driver, we  
9 are the father, we are the mother, we are the  
10 counselor. To this congregation, to the members of  
11 our congregation, that's exactly what we are.

12           I know we have been talking a lot about  
13 increasing, strengthening, empowering the  
14 Micronesian population in Hawaii to be able to be  
15 self-sufficient, don't have to rely on all the  
16 others, necessary things, but we are trying.  
17 Radigan said we are not doing enough. We are  
18 trying, we are trying, we are trying to help the  
19 Micronesian population over here.

20           In our tai-luck (phonetic) earlier today  
21 up in the Kamehameha room upstairs, we were talking  
22 about some of the ways that we could help increase  
23 or strengthening the communication between the  
24 government of Hawaii to the people of Micronesia or  
25 vice versa or between the agencies, whether you be a

1 private sector or a public office. There is a lot  
2 of things that we are talking about, and when we  
3 leave this place for the private sectors and the  
4 outreach programs, can you leave your phone number  
5 somewhere so a lot of us could access that? Because  
6 I think we could help each other out a lot by  
7 knowing just what we have right now.

8 I am going to move on and let Steve  
9 Sigrah talk about his program at this time. Steve?  
10 It's all yours.

11 LAY MINISTER SIGRAH: Thank you very  
12 much. (Speaks in a foreign language.) Thank you  
13 very much. I am up here on behalf of my reverend.  
14 Because of family matters, he has to go back home to  
15 take care of.

16 While representing the church, to  
17 highlight where we are here in Hawaii, I want to  
18 start by saying that in 1852 in the month of August,  
19 the first missionary that came to the island came  
20 from Hawaii. That was Reverends Snow and White.  
21 They came to Kosrae in that month of that year with  
22 another two couples from Hawaii. In 1947 on the  
23 schooner of Morning Star, the current Senator Akaka  
24 came to Kosrae with additional missionaries, and  
25 also ten years ago about he came to Kosrae to visit.