

**KOSRAE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**  
**Kosrae State**  
**Federated States of Micronesia 96944**

September 24, 2013

CPT Charles G. Lowman  
Squadron Chaplain  
1/11 ACR  
BLDG 255  
Fort Irwin, CA 92310

Dear Chaplain Lowman:

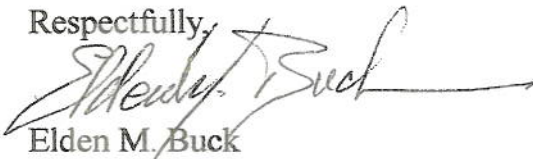
I am writing on behalf of Lipan Welly, Surleigh Tara and the Kosraean/Micronesian church group which currently meets in one of your Fort Irwin chapels Sundays at 3pm. I am writing as a minister-in-good-standing with the United Church of Christ, and as a former missionary in Micronesia. I am retired.

I lived for many years on the island of Kosrae, which is the home island of both Lipan Welly and Surleigh Tara, and I am still involved with the Kosrae Congregational Church as advisor and friend. Lipan Welly and Surleigh Tara grew up in this church which trusts and prays for them in their efforts to maintain a spiritual presence at Fort Irwin for Micronesians and other Pacific Islanders. I myself have visited this group, performed a wedding for them, and have observed first-hand the enthusiastic leadership of these two men.

Their home church, which has a strong emphasis on lay leadership, encourages and supports Lipan and Surleigh as Bible study leaders, teachers, preachers, and counselors. However, in our tradition, only ordained pastors are authorized to serve communion or to perform marriage ceremonies, therefore these roles are not available to them.

I am willing to answer questions you may have about Lipan Welly, Surleigh Tara, and their group at Fort Irwin, as well as questions about the sponsoring church in Micronesia. My telephone number is 909-625-4456. My email address is [srital@juno.com](mailto:srital@juno.com).

Respectfully,



Elden M. Buck  
733 Plymouth Road  
Claremont, CA 91711

xc: Lipan Welly ✓  
Kosrae Congregational Church