

Mark Zimmer Family

Serving in Yap, Micronesia

May 2006

" . . . O God of our salvation; who is the confidence of all the ends of the earth,
and of them that are afar off upon the sea . . . " Psalm 65:5

April Events . . . Visitors, Workers and Returning Friends

The beginning of April a team of 15 men and one lady came from Harvest in Guam to help do some concentrated work on Bob and Polly Whitmore's home. The team was able to mill some lumber, finish the majority of the sheetrock in the house, pour the floor and block up the walls for the cistern. The Whitmores returned the end of April after a one year furlough, and they are currently renting a house while theirs is being finished.

We enjoyed having Michael and Rebecca Saunders stay with us while the team was here and Rebecca was a huge help in keeping the men fed and their clothes washed. They were a huge encouragement to us, and if you know them, you know they kept us greatly entertained! Since Michael is the youth pastor at Harvest, he helped us lead a teen rally with big balls, huge inner tubes and teens running with trash cans on their heads! One of the Harvest students preached and many decisions were made.

Puppy Saga

Since we moved to Yap, we have owned 6 dogs. Although they appear to be healthy, at about 3 months old they have all died. Thus was the story with "Coke" and "Pepsi." A vet from the states was on island at the time of their deaths and was able to tell us that he believed that they had Parvo which he believed is probably in the soil around our house. He vaccinated Roland's puppy, but 3 weeks later, "Sinbad" also died. We decided to turn down anymore puppies that are offered to us for the good of the dogs!

Solar Power

As we mentioned in our last prayer letter, we were hoping to get some solar panels shipped to Yap to help decrease our electric bill. God used Paul's electronic engineering major in college and a knowledgeable friend from Guam to get us powered up at the church! After installing the panels at Paul's house, Paul came over and helped me get the panels in at the church and we are now partly on solar power. We are praying for the finances to put solar at our house since the power rates have gone up so much. This past month between our house and church the bill was over \$1,100!!

May Events

House Fire!

One of our teen girls, Lucy, has a brother that lives right down the road from us. His name is "Rabu" and he is married to "Chuey". They have two daughters that come to our church and a little one year old son. Their house was tragically burned to the ground about 2 weeks ago and they lost everything. No one was injured but the loss was devastating. Our church learned of the fire and the people took an offering as well as brought items such as rice, canned meat, clothing, and other items for the needy family. My wife and I delivered these gifts to the family along with a Bible and some gospel tracts. We are praying for other opportunities to minister to this family.

Bible studies

We have had an ongoing Bible Study on Friday evenings for those who want to be baptized to help them understand the significance of baptism. One of the hardest things for these people to understand is that baptism does not save them; it is a testimony to others that they want to be a follower of Jesus. We have had several people indicate that they want to be baptized and the date is set for June 11. We will go to the beach in our village for the service.

The ladies Bible study is coming close to ending in the next couple of weeks. Diane has been so encouraged by the growth and response of the ladies through this study. We are seriously considering an adult Bible Study when the ladies finish to continue to encourage the adults in the church here.

Crab hunters

Every year in May and June the land crabs come out in full force. They crawl all over the road and it is impossible to drive on the road without squashing many of them. The crabs have big claws and are one of the favorite things to eat here in Yap. We were invited to go crab hunting last weekend and then when we got back we had a crab feast with rice. The kids enjoyed catching them too!!

Upcoming June Events

Baptismal Service (June 11)
Vacation Bible School (June 19-23)
Teen Camp (June 26-30)
Praises!

Diane's parents are coming for a visit May 31-June 25!

Zimmer Homeschool has completed another year!

We celebrated our 11th wedding anniversary on May 8th.

New Christians desire to follow the Lord in Baptism

Praise the Lord for several gifts toward the solar power project.

Sherry's mom became very ill this past month and Sherry flew back to the states to be an encouragement to her family. She has safely returned and her mom is recovering well.

Prayer Requests

Pray for several of our teens who are planning on attending Harvest Baptist Bible Institute in Guam in the fall. There are two guys and possibly two girls who are making plans to go.

Harvest has asked Diane and I to come back as speakers in their teen camps this summer. The camps will be held for 2 weeks this year during July. We are considering this an open door for ministry and looking forward to the welcomed break for our family. Pray for us as we prepare our messages for these teens and also pray for Pastor Roland as he will take on the full responsibility for the work here.

Please pray with us about the next step of building a small classroom building next to the church which will also be used for our teen meeting as well. We are trusting the Lord for His provision for this project.

Continue to pray for our health and safety for our family.

Yours for Yap,

Mark and Diane
Joseph, JohnMark, Cherith, and Caleb