



# The Mark Zimmer Family

*Serving in Yap, Micronesia*

**March/April 2009**

**"Be careful for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known unto God." Philippians 4:6**

**Caleb-Mark-Diane  
JohnMark-Cherith**

Dear Friends,

As we approach our furlough, we have mixed feelings about leaving our friends and the place we have called home for the last few years. We are also excited to return and see our loved ones and our homeland. The last 2 months have been a whirlwind of activity as we are finishing our obligations and trying to assist Pastor Roland in the transition of leadership. We are learning that we do not need to worry about what might happen while we are gone, but instead pray and trust the Lord.

### Projects



In March we were able to finish the milling project for the chief of our village. The local wood was milled into useable lumber and stacked for drying. Lord willing, it will be used in the future to build Pastor Roland's house on Fais Island.

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Diane prepared meals each day we were working and the guys provided the fish. We fished at night and worked during the day! This is the local way of eating fish . . . heads and all!



With the local lumber, we made flooring and trim for the church platform. We stained and varnished the wood and completed the project last week. We are now painting Roland's house with a fresh coat of paint and doing some minor repairs in an effort to have it looking nice for James and Masency.

### Church Activities

Easter Sunday was a wonderful day for our church as we focused on our risen Lord and celebrated his resurrection. Our service included many songs from the people and an Easter message from Pastor Roland.



The children's classes memorized verses and songs and the teen choir, organized by Romeo Moon, recited the resurrection story and sang as well. We are praising the Lord for how He is working in the lives of several of our teens.



Youth night is a highlight for many of our kids and teens! The church and Christian friends can be a refuge from the world for many of these youth. It also gives them the opportunity to invite their unsaved friends. Please pray for these young people to see their need for the Savior, and for those who have accepted Christ to remain faithful and grow in their relationship with the Lord.



Diane continues to teach the ladies during our Sunday School hour and it is exciting to watch the ladies learn and grow. Pray for Roland's wife, Chelyn, as she finishes up the last couple of lessons after we leave. It will be a great opportunity for her to grow in this area as well. This coming Sunday the ladies will have a mother/daughter fellowship. Pray for some unsaved ladies to attend and that it will be a good outreach for our ladies.

#### Fun times!

Missionaries do have fun!!!!



The beginning of April, Polly Whitmore's brother Jeff Gard came from Iowa for a visit. We had a fun time walking out into the ocean during low tide! It feels like walking in a swamp. This is the time that we find beautiful shells and other treasures! The boys like to spear eels and other fish lying in the sea grass or under rocks. We also like to stand at the edge of the "blue hole" (where it drops off) and cast for all types of fish. Even sharks come to visit at times!



Angel turns 3! JT is from Kosrea (another island in Micronesia) and he is the boys' friend who lives next door to us. Caleb will miss going out on our front porch and getting a banana whenever he wants a snack!



May 8th marks our 14th wedding anniversary! Not many men's wives ask to go deep sea fishing for a special date! Finally after 4 1/2 years in Yap, I took Diane out to experience the wide open ocean! We hit some rough seas on the south tip and had to turn back, but she didn't get sick! We had a nice catch of yellow fin tuna and wahoo! Maybe I'll have to take her more often!

### **Special Prayer and Praises**

- Our departure date is Sunday, May 24th at 4:00AM. We will spend one week in Guam and arrive in Greenville, SC on Sunday, May 31st at 2:00pm. Pray for us as we change gears to a different type of ministry; that the Lord will use us in a mighty way when we are in the states.
- James Layomal and his fiancée Masency will be married at Harvest in Guam on May 26th. After a visit to Masency's island, Chuuk, they plan to return to Yap to assist Roland in the church here on June 11th. Please pray for finances for their plane tickets to Yap. If anyone would like to help with this, you may contact us by e-mail. Their tickets can even be purchased with extra miles someone may have with Continental Airlines.
- Lucy Nam and James will be graduating from Harvest on May 24th. Pray for the Harvest students as they near final exams. Pray for Lucy's flight plans to come back to Yap as well. She will be helping in the children's and ladies ministries.
- Praise the Lord for the steps some of our teens are taking in standing strong for the Lord. They need your constant prayers as do teens around the world.
- Continue to pray for Roland and Chelyn as they step up and take the leadership in the church. Pray for wisdom and strength and that Satan would not discourage them.
- Pray for church members to remain faithful in attending church and Bible studies.

Thank you again for your faithfulness in praying and giving to our ministry.

Praising the Lord,

Mark and Diane  
Joseph, JohnMark, Cherith, and Caleb