



To give light to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace. -Luke 1:79

January 2013

Dear friends,

Today I went to the hospital to sit and pray with one of my friends, Christopher Yug. This morning as he was pulling down a big bunch of coconuts from a tree, one fell and when he ducked to avoid it, he was struck on the back of his neck. It has paralyzed him from the neck down. I read John 3:16 and explained that Jesus loves him so much that he died for him on the cross. He wept as I read and I prayed with him. Perhaps God will use this event in his life to bring him to salvation. He leaves for the Phillipines on Tuesday. Pray that God will restore his motor skills and revive his heart.



Trully and Lency Erra leave Yap to go to Chuuk

After serving here at Yap Baptist for a little over 2 years, in November Trully and Lency left to go back home to Chuuk on the outer island of Fefan to fulfill God's calling in their lives. They have been greatly missed, but we are so thankful for their continued service to the Lord. Trully has reported back to us to tell us that he is beginning to build an island style church building. Here in Yap, we call it a "koyeng" (see below). He has started a kids meeting on Thursdays and has had teen meetings on Fridays. His Sunday services are going well with several regular attenders. Please pray for Trully and Lency as they carry the good news of Christ's power to save lost sinners. Lency is coming back next week to pick up a newborn baby boy that they will adopt, and then she will return to Chuuk when they get the paperwork finalized on the adoption process.

New Koyeng built for SS classrooms and Bible Studies

Several of the men from the church and the teen boys have helped to build a new koyeng on the church property. We have completed building the structure and are planning to pour the floor next week. The ladies helped weave the thatch roofing and the men installed it. We would like to be finished with it by the end of February. The project has brought together many of our church people, and it has been a blessing to see them get involved in finishing the task.



Younger Kid's Class



Older Kid's Class

Christmas Service in Yap

Our Christmas service was especially unique this year. We had a blessed time celebrating the birth of Jesus together again. The people of the church sang with all their hearts, and then we had a huge feast. No one left hungry and Christmas joy was in the air!!

Sending Church:

Faith Baptist Church
 Pastor Bruce Schmidt
 1475 Railroad Avenue
 Chetek, WI 54728
 Phone 715-924-3980
 E-mail: fbaptist@chibardun.net

Field Address:

P.O. Box 459
 Yap, FM 96943
 Phone: 011-1-691-350-2533
 E-mail: markanddiane@zimmerfamily.org

Mission Agency:

World Wide
 New Testament Baptist Missions
 P.O. Box 725
 Kings Mtn., NC 28086
 Phone 704-730-1440
 Website: www.wvntbm.com



Ladies Group



Carving a roasted pig--enough to feed the 200+ people!

"Winter" Teen Retreat in Yap

We decided to have a 2 day retreat for the teens between Christmas and New Years Day as a way of encouraging the teens during this especially tempting time of the year. It was a Thursday and Friday event. On Thursday, the young people went to O'Keefe's island for a day of water sports. We took the "missile" tube to be pulled behind the boat. Thumbs up meant go faster and thumbs down meant slow down! Needless to say, with teens, it was mostly thumbs up! We ate lunch on the island, had one Bible study session, and then returned to the church for a spaghetti dinner and an evening service. On Friday, we spent the day at Malay beach park in Nimgil, the southern part of Yap. Diane and I did a split session with the teens and it was an overall wonderful time of encouragement and challenge to live for the Lord.



God blessed with excellent weather and plenty of smiles and good times!

Andy and Mary, whom we mentioned in our last prayer letter, helped us with the retreat. Here Andy and Pastor James are enjoying the spaghetti meal!

Our kids invited some of their friends over for a New Year's celebration. Levi enjoyed his sparklers with Francis, a friend of Joseph's and a great leader in our youth group. Francis is the one leading the teen Bible study at the high school. Please continue to pray for the youth as they have had some "ups an downs" in the past couple of months. John Mark got a new pellet gun for Christmas and we have enjoyed shooting birds and fruit bats.



"Hello!!!"



Thanksgiving Feast

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Masency, Pastor James' wife, is due to have a baby the end of March.
- We are leaving Yap for a furlough in May.

PRAYER AND PRAISES

- We are so thankful for several men and their wives that came from **Harvest in Guam to work on our cars and equipment**. They changed the timing belt on our car, fixed the muffler on the truck, fixed a cement mixer, replaced the selenoid on the band saw, and much more.
- Praise the Lord that **Typhoon Bopha** wasn't as damaging to the island of Palau as experts predicted. God intervened and the storm moved south of the island. Paul and I were able to make a quick trip to help John and assist some people in cleaning up after the terrible storm.
- Please pray that God will provide a **van for us to use while we are on our furlough**. We will need it from the end of May 2013 until March of 2014.
- Pray for **Pastor James as he is going to Guam to speak at Harvest Bible College** for a conference. He will be replacing me as the pastor of Yap Baptist while we are on furlough.

May the Lord bless each of you in the coming new year! We are thankful for your investment in the ministry here in Yap and we look forward to seeing many of you again soon!

Mark, Diane and Family