



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

December 2013

Dear Friends & Family,

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from the Zimmers (on furlough)! We hope you are having a wonderful Christmas season with your families and friends as we all celebrate the birth of the Savior together!

Here is a little update on each member of our family with some of our furlough experiences throughout:

Joseph is a sophomore in high school and is attending Bob Jones Academy and staying with his Poppy and Grammy while we travel to churches. He has been doing well in school and loves playing ukelele and guitar. He loves to read and enjoys spending time with his grandparents. He will be traveling with us to my parents house in Traverse City, Michigan, where he will enjoy some snow activities like snowmobiling, sledding, and maybe some skiing!



Perhaps you have seen this family singing "Kamagar Somol" in your church

John Mark is in the 8th grade and is home schooling with our other children. When he has free time, he loves riding his "ripstick" and shooting his bow and arrows at targets. He also plays guitar for our family while we sing in churches.

Cherith is in the 6th grade and enjoys helping her mom and playing with her little brother. She has been a blessing to all of us as she helps Diane with cleaning, cooking, and laundry. She enjoys babysitting her niece and nephew and keeping in touch with her friends from Yap.

Caleb is in the 3rd grade and loves playing outside and riding bikes and scooters. He is also musically talented and loves playing ukelele and his keyboard. He smiles a lot and is a blessing to his family.

Levi is 3 years old and had a hard time waiting for Christmas!! He enjoyed seeing snow for the first time in October, but can't wait to see lots of snow up in Michigan in just a few days! He enjoys watching cartoons and eating goldfish crackers and snuggling up in his car seat to sleep away a long trip!



Travel time in the Zimmer minivan . . . just a couple hours down the road all is quiet!

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Diane spends much of her time packing, home-travel-schooling the kids, packing, cooking, packing, cleaning, packing, and keeping everything operating smoothly in our home. I am thankful for her long hours spent keeping up with all her obligations. She enjoys spending time with her children and has sent many Christmas boxes to our friends in Yap. She enjoyed seeing many of our dear friends at our sending church in Chetek, Wisconsin, and likes to tell kids in churches about the Yapese children and let them dress up in local Yapese attire.

I have enjoyed spending time with my brothers here in the States and seeing family and friends we have missed while we were gone. I was blessed to go bow hunting with my 2 brothers, Dave and John, and also went duck hunting with friends in Chetek, WI.



Sending church friends at Faith Baptist in Chetek, Wisconsin



Me, friend, Pete Mitchell, brothers, Dave and John



Hunting crew in Wisconsin

Additional Prayer and Praises

- Praise the Lord we have had safe travels. Our time in January will be spent traveling up north in Michigan and Illinois.
- **So far our minivan has traveled 18,500 miles. That is further than a round trip to Yap and back! We do tend to carry more than 50 lbs of luggage! One of the added benefits of being a missionary is the opportunity to travel across America seeing friends and family who have faithfully supported us!**
- We enjoyed the opportunity to see Joe and Carolyn Cannon, former missionaries at Yap Baptist Church. We shared fond memories of our friends and ministry in Yap.
- It is always good to hear from home, and it is no different when we hear from our home in Yap! We have been able to Skype with Pastor James throughout our time here. It has been encouraging and allows us to keep up with the church and our friends.
- The church people in Yap will celebrate Christmas with a feast and song service. They have purchased a pig, and James and Patwin will be uming part of it (roasting it in a rock pit) and barbecuing the rest. They will also be grilling chicken and sharing local foods as a church family. The girls have been busy making Christmas cookies to share with the church family.
- Continue to pray for the ongoing Bible studies and ministries of Yap Baptist Church.
- Praise the Lord for providing 2 new boat motors for "Old Glory"!!
- We have our return tickets to Yap scheduled for April 7th. Joseph will be flying back after he finishes school in May.
- Praising our Saviour for the greatest gift ever given, the greatest life ever lived, the greatest sacrifice ever made! All for sinners like you and I.



Joe and Carolyn Cannon

Merry Christmas from the Zimmers!!