

# News from The Mark Zimmer Family

Yap, Micronesia

## September 2016

#### Dear Friends:

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless His holy name! In our last update, we requested prayer for the opportunity to make new relationships this summer! Here are some ways your prayers have been answered!

## **HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES**

More than 10 seniors from our church graduated from the local high school, many of them with honors. Three of these seniors were accepted at Harvest Baptist Bible College in Guam. We are so thankful for their testimonies and the potential to be future leaders here in Yap! We held a special graduation service and feast on Father's Day and invited the parents of any graduates. It was a blessing to have some family members come for the first time. Please pray for the new students attending HBBC this year: Debbie, Lounicia, and Steven and returning students, Klinton, Jackson, Joaquinne, Francis, Phil, and Jaylynne. *(see students and families at right)* 

#### **SERVING TOGETHER**

HBBC students returned this summer to help in the ministry! They were involved in teaching, preaching, youth and kids meetings, prison ministry, milling lumber, and, of course, a little fishing to help feed everyone! (photos on reverse)

#### VBS ~ "Growing to Glorify God"

It was a huge blessing to have Francis and Joaquinne teaching classes since they were both kids in our very first VBS here at Yap Baptist Church! *(photos on reverse)* 

## YAP CHRISTIAN CAMP ~ "Fire vs Ice"

It was a huge help and blessing to have 10 college age young people and Aaron Engelhart come from Guam to help with our teen camp as well as preach and share testimonies throughout the week. Making snacks and meals and serving them is a big part of camp and VBS. Diane was so thankful for the ladies in the church who helped make and bring food as well as all those that served all week. (photos on reverse and in FB album "Teen Camp 2016")

#### **SOULS SAVED**

Throughout the summer, several young people accepted Christ after hearing Gospel messages! One young man prayed, "Lord help me! I need your forgiveness for all the wrong things I have done. I believe that you died for me on the cross." Later he shared his experience with Diane as she was driving the bus route. Jesus saves!

## **OUTER ISLAND CHURCH MINISTRIES**

<u>Fais</u>: After returning in May from working on the church roof system in Fais, we were blessed to have people give so that we could buy the needed supplies to finish parts of the building. Roland returned to Yap periodically throughout the summer to help with milling lumber and shipping supplies. *(photos on reverse)* <u>Ulithi</u>: James Layomai also spent some time in Yap this summer, helping me with milling, projects, and preaching while he was going to workshops >> >



Maxine's family



Steven's family



Lounicia's family



HBBC new students



Guys helping at VBS

Jodie teaching 3-6 year olds

Francis teaching 10-12 year olds Joaquinne teaching 7-9 year olds







Camp team from Guam

Teen small group

Team girls with snacks

Joaquinne and Lucy - dinner



Fais: first service in new church Pastor Rollence Lug & family Ulithi: James & family

Klinton and Lucy



Mark's birthday celebration Teen camp group photo

for his teaching position in the school on Ulithi. Their house, which was built by IOM with typhoon relief funds, is now complete and they will soon move in. (photos above)

## ENGAGED!

We are praising the Lord that Klinton asked Lucy to marry him this summer and she said, "Yes!" Klinton will finish his senior year at HBBC this coming year and they plan to marry in June of 2017 here in Yap. We are so thankful for their faithfulness as they have served here, and we look forward to how God will use them as they serve the Lord together in the future! (photo above)

## MILLING

- In July we milled many big mohagany trees in Gagil, the northern part of the island, with the help of Klinton, Jack, Francis, Patwin, and James Layomai. James and I took turns pushing the mill as it was extremely hot and very easy to become dehydrated. These young guys worked very hard and it was a great testimony to the villagers who were watching us serve together. We shared the gospel with several Yapese and prayed with them every day before we started the work. Many seeds were planted as we worked and sweated in the jungle together!
- A local contractor asked me to mill approximately 40 logs for him. This huge project has given me the opportunity to work with 5 to 6 Yapese men from our village. Please pray as we continue to build these relationships. >>>

#### **Additional Praises and Prayer**

- New believers: Praise the Lord for those who accepted Christ this summer. Please pray for them and others as they grow in their Christian lives and face the temptations around them.
- Joseph: Our oldest son Joe spent the summer in Greenville, SC staying with his grandparents and working several jobs to earn money for college. He has now started at BJU and is studying Cell Biology. Thank you for praying for him! We miss him so much but we are thankful for God's leading in his life.
- Homeschooling: Homeschooling has begun again, and Diane is staying busy with JohnMark in 11th grade, Cherith in 9th, Caleb in 6th, and Levi in 1st.
- Diane: Please continue to pray for financial needs regarding Diane's hospital bills from Guam and the US.
- Heartbreaking news: Diane experienced some heart-breaking news that her cousin, only 3 years older than Diane, passed away after a long battle with cancer. It is during times like these that it is very difficult to be so far away, but we are so thankful that we will see Daneen again someday in heaven!
- New Bible study: We have been praying for some time about helping some of the couples at Yap Baptist take another step in their Christian growth by helping them build and strengthen their marriages on Biblical principles. In a couple of Sundays, we will be starting a Marriage Bible Study. We have invited some new people, so please pray that they will come and that all those who attend would have open hearts receptive to change.
- **Church roof**: We were not able to do the church roof this summer because of a lack of funds. Pray that we can sell the local lumber to help pay for the roofing materials.

#### See FACEBOOK for additional photos: MarkandDianeZimmer

If you would prefer to receive an electronic letter rather than this letter write: markanddiane@zimmerfamily.org

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