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**Quarterly  
News**  
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The  
**Mark Zimmer**  
Family  
• • •  
YAP, MICRONESIA

**AUGUST 2021 UPDATE**

*"But God meant it unto good, to bring to pass, as it is this day, to save much people alive." Genesis 50:20*

**GOD MEANT IT FOR GOOD**

This past year was not what we would have planned or chosen, yet we are so thankful for all that the Lord has done in our lives as a result. Join us as we share how God has taken circumstances here and in Yap to work them for our good and His glory!

**DIANE'S HEALTH**

A message from Diane:

I am so blessed by all of the people who continue to pray for me and offer encouragement through verses, notes, gifts, and flowers! Thank you from the bottom of my heart!

It was one year ago at this time that I was diagnosed with triple negative breast cancer. The journey has been longer than I expected after 5 months of infusion chemotherapy, a bilateral mastectomy, and an additional 6 months of oral chemotherapy. But praise the Lord, I am nearing the end of chemo!! I have one more month of this oral chemo, Xeloda, which mostly attacks my feet and digestive system. The next step after chemo is daily radiation for 5 weeks. An additional reconstructive surgery will follow healing from radiation.



A friend sent me an article about "delays" which helped me to acknowledge that my ways are not always God's ways, yet His plan is always best. I am thankful for what God has taught me through this journey and the blessings of being near my family during this time. I have seen first hand how "divine detours have positioned me in the best place for God's plans to be served in my life." I have not always been compliant with His plans especially in my heart, but I'm thankful for his grace

and strength to help me realize that He means it for my good and His glory.

"The delays that frustrate you the most ... do not override the intentionality of God's purposes. Life's delays are often divine detours, positioning you in the best place for God's plans to be served in your life. We want to know more than He wants to reveal. He speaks to us progressively, on a need to know basis giving us just enough light for the next step. We trust Him until He moves us on. So instead of asking God to reveal His will for the next twenty years of our life, refocus your request. Ask Him to give you the courage to fully engage in what He has put before you today, as well as the faithfulness to stay on the path until He gives you different or new directions. Keep a firm confidence in His purposes, His plans and His perfect timing."

**GOD MEANT IT FOR GOOD IN YAP**

The borders to Yap continued to be closed through the summer, so none of our HBBC students were able to go back to the island to help Truly and Lency. God still gave them strength and endurance, and



**Kids' Summer activity**



**Summer Teen activity**



**Teen Service**



**James Layomai Family**

along with the help of church members, they were able to have some fun, summer activities for the church, kids, and teens. James and Masency Layomai, church planters on Yap's outer island of Falalop, Ulithi, came to Yap for a few weeks and were a great encouragement to Lency and Truly as they helped with youth activities and James preached.

To view a video of the Father's Day Feast at YBC go to <https://vimeo.com/595276714>.

**GOD MEANS IT FOR GOOD ... when we lose dear friends**

Yap Baptist Church lost a faithful servant of the Lord to pneumonia in July. Laarow was a blessing to our church family bringing flowers each week for the church and for Diane to put in our house and was always serving beside Diane through the last 10 years since she accepted Christ. Truly and Lency organized a memorial service for her and invited many of her family and friends. The service brought glory to her Savior, and it was a great opportunity to show love and compassion to her unsaved family members. Please pray for lasting fruit.



*The teens said good-bye to their faithful friend and mentor, Stevelyne, as she went to NC to be with Francis. They plan to return to Yap when we do.*



*We had the opportunity in July to visit the gravesite of Diane's friend, Rachelle, who was murdered in Yap almost two years ago. It was a blessing to be able to see Simon, Deesha, and the Bergeron family again.*

**NEW HARVEST BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE STUDENTS**

Two guys from our church, Trevor and Leonski, recently began their first year at HBBC. It's difficult to see their smiling faces since Guam has made masks mandatory again. We are excited to see how God uses these young men to serve Him!



**Leonski with his parents**



**Trevor & Leonski**

The HBBC students from our ministries sang a special song via video for Laarow's memorial service. Laarow's daughter, Allysha, pictured in the video in the last row, far right graduated in May and just returned to Yap on the first flight allowed into the island since March 2020. We are so thankful she will be back to minister to her family as well as help at YBC. To view the video of the HBBC students singing for the memorial service go to <https://vimeo.com/595280753>.

## ***GOD MEANT IT FOR GOOD ... so we could share special moments with our children***

This year has been especially impactful for our daughter Cherith. We are so grateful that she recently moved into the dorms at Bob Jones University to begin her freshman year in nursing. Please pray for her that the Lord would do a mighty work in her life this year.



Our son, Joe and his fiancé, Karalyn also bought a house this summer. Joe, our son John, and their cousin Jake currently live in the house, and Joe and I are remodeling the kitchen now. I'm thankful to be here to help him start his roofing business as well as help him with remodeling his house. Joe and Karalyn will be getting married November 20 at Calvary Baptist Church in Simpsonville, SC.



***New flat bed truck arrived in Yap! It transports a lot of people too!***

## **Additional Prayer and Praises**

- **Provision from the Lord:**
  - Sound equipment, projector screen, and chairs for new church building
  - Shipping expenses for the container
  - Flatbed truck and minivan for the ministry in Yap
  - Epoxy floor materials
  - Video projector is in the works!
  - Medical costs have been covered 100%
- **Yap Borders Reopening/Plans to Return:** Yap let in its first flight of passengers this past Sunday. Hopefully, flights will continue to stay open in the coming months. We plan to begin purchasing items and packing a container to send to Yap if the borders remain open. We will most likely try to return to Yap with the container sometime after Christmas since Diane will have treatments most likely through the end of November.
- **Faithful Helpers:** Please be in prayer for our faithful servants, Pastor Truly and Lency as they have more responsibility after others have left the island. Pray that the people will remain faithful to the Lord during this time and continue to step up to help in the ministry.
- **Personal Prayer Needs:** Continue to pray for our family that we will continue to trust the Lord no matter what happens. Pray that we can be patient for His timing and will for our lives.

- **Ministry Needs:**
  - a new church sign
  - wall-mount monitor

From the world's perspective, our circumstances may seem unfavorable, but as Joseph said to his brothers, "You meant it for evil, but God meant it for good!" As a family, we find ourselves thanking God for taking difficult circumstances and turning them into a good thing. Thank you for praying for us as we navigate this season of our lives.

***Mark, Diane & Family***

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For more pictures, look for us on Facebook under MarkandDiane Zimmer or Diane's Cancer Journey. You may also wish to follow our page: Yap Baptist Church.