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

JANUARY 2022 UPDATE

"For I know the plans I have for you,' declares the Lord, 'plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you a hope and a future.'" Jeremiah 29:11

GOD KNOWS THE PLANS HE HAS FOR US!

The New Year brings us hope as we trust in God's plan for our future and our hopes to return to Yap! Since the island still does not have any covid cases, they are only allowing certain citizens to return to the island. We must go through an application process, and a special task force, that is responsible for allowing residents to return to the island, will decided on when we can return. We have filled out the necessary paperwork and are now waiting to hear back from them about the possibility of returning in either February or March. As stated in our last update, we continue to "keep a firm confidence in His purposes, His plans and His perfect timing" as we move forward.

DIANE'S HEALTH ... Plans of hope and a future!

Diane was able to finish her chemo treatments in September and completed radiation treatments in November. She handled the treatments well and her doctors told her that her treatments are complete, and she may return to her island! Her oncologist would like to see her again this coming summer, and her plastic surgeon agreed that she can have her final surgery at that time as well. The extended Zimmer family will be having a family reunion in July, so we plan to return for a couple months to attend the reunion and complete Diane's final surgery. We are praising the Lord that He has seen fit to bring her back to full health!

GOD'S PLAN CONTINUES IN YAP

Through the years we have prayed that God would show the believers in Yap how to step up and serve and give back to the ministry as servant leaders. It is great to see each one fulfilling God's plan for them. During our absence we have seen many church members joining in to help Pastor Truly and Lency.



While they have been waiting for a part to fix one of the church vans, Flamar helped Truly make a covering for the back of the truck. They added benches and it made for a nice way to pick up people for church.



Steven & Allysha return from college to help in the ministry



Joy & Susan share plants to decorate the new building



Ciano, accompanied by Bobby, help pick up people for church...kids enjoy an open-air ride



Filipino ladies help decorate the church for Christmas

GOD'S PLAN FOR OUR FAMILY

It has been a busy yet exciting time for our family the past few months. We helped our two oldest sons move into their homes and did major renovations on our son Joe's house and improvements to our son John's rental home. On November 20 our son Joe married Karalyn Barker, and it was a beautiful and memorable day for our whole family. It was a mountain-top experience at the end of a difficult year.



Joe & Karalyn



Cherith, Caleb, Levi, & John



Joe with his groomsmen



the proud parents

GOD'S PLAN CONTINUES ON THE OUTER ISLANDS OF YAP

Patwin Hafelichog continues to pastor Fais Baptist Church while his brother, Rollence and his family have been in the states for a couple of years now visiting Chelyn's family. Chelyn's father passed away, and they were also unable to return because of the borders closing. Please pray as they are planning to return to Fais this summer.

GOD BROUGHT BACK HARVEST GRADUATES TO SERVE

Steven & Allysha (also pictured at the top of pg 1)



helped direct the Christmas program



Children sing for the Christmas program

One of the first efforts of Yap to begin opening their borders has been to bring back students who have been stranded off island. We are thankful that 2 of our Harvest graduates, Allysha and Steven, were allowed to return to Yap. They have been a huge help and encouragement to Truly and Lency as they have jumped right in to help with ministry.

James and Masency Layomai continue to serve the Lord faithfully on the island of Falalop, Ulithi. Read below an update about their ministry and please commit to pray for them during this coming new year.



James and Masency Layomai with Truly and Lency Erra; James, far right, also serves as a teacher and as the assistant principal of the middle school

Dear Praying friends

Greeting from the beautiful islands of Ulithi Yap. In our seven years here our family and bible study prays for the spread of the gospel. These people says that they know God but their lives tells us a totally different story. There are times that it crosses my mind to question if they will ever turn from their ways and turn to God or if the doors on this island will even open but then who am I to question God. To start out with this overwhelming heart I want to praise God because last summer the youth on this island have a youth summit and one of the topic that they discuss is bible study. They have decided to ask my wife and I to do bible study with the kids ages 3- 12. We start helping them with this and already talking to them about VBS and it seems that they agree for us to do it. ~ Rom 10:14 How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? ~

We are hoping and praying for VBS this coming summer either last week of June or beginning of July. Praying friends; could you please pray with us about this? We see, witness, and experience the power of God in answering our prayer.

Ministry update: This year we started our Wednesday prayer meeting along with our ongoing Sunday service and twice a month Men's bible study. God has enable my wife to be able to share bible verses with the ladies when we divided up into our prayer group and this has been encouraging both to the ladies and my wife.

We are very grateful for three students (Noland, Carl and Leeann) who are interested to enroll at Harvest Baptist Bible College next school year SY22-23. They are now helping out with teaching Sunday school and playing guitar during our worship time.

Family fun time: God has bless us with two fishing poles so this has allows more well spent family time. Our son Matthew is a big now because he can start fishing on his own and quiet literally he has been crushing it. Jamie on the other hand just enjoys the beauty of the ocean.

We thank you for your prayers.

Prayer Request	Praises
-VBS	-Wednesday prayer time
-Students who are applying for HBBC	-Open door

In Christ,

James, Masency, Matthew and Jamie Layomai

Joshua 24:15

GOD'S PLAN FOR A SAVIOR IS CELEBRATED AROUND THE WORLD

The believers in Yap enjoy getting together for a Christmas celebration each year with their fellow brothers and sisters in Christ. This year they had a similar problem as previous years: they ran out of chairs! Pastor Truly said that people still enjoyed the program sitting in the koyeng and along the sidewalks that we installed before we left. We are thankful that we have 200 new chairs ordered and ready to take back to Yap! Pastor Truly shared several pictures of different groups of people at the Christmas service in Yap, and we thought you might enjoy seeing some of their smiling faces. Perhaps one of these faces will make an impression on your heart. Would you commit to pray for them through this next year?



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%
- **Plans to Return/Packing a Container:** We have begun purchasing and storing items to take back to Yap. Please pray that we can get our container soon and packed by the end of January.
- **Faithful Helpers:** Continue to pray for Pastor Truly and Lency as they lead the church. We are grateful for the help of Steven and Allysha and for the church people who have stepped up to help in the ministry.
- **Personal Praises and Prayer Needs:** We are grateful for the ways God has answered prayers in relation to Diane's health and other family issues. Please continue to pray for wisdom as we face the coming months.
- **Ministry Needs:**
 - a new church sign
 - wall-mount monitor

God's plan for the new year is not yet known because life is so full of uncertainties, so we walk by faith and not by sight! Thank you for walking beside us in prayer and support!

Happy New Year!
Mark, Diane & Family

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If you would be interested in receiving our updates through e-mail, you may contact us at

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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.