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

### **AUGUST 2022 UPDATE**

*"I will make darkness light before them and crooked things straight." Isaiah 45:2*

#### **PLANS TO RETURN TO YAP**

God answers prayer! We are thankful that the Lord allowed Diane's surgery to be successful and brought her back to full health making it possible for us to return to Yap. It has been two years since we left our island home, and although there have been paths we wouldn't have chosen, God has shown Himself faithful, sufficient, and sovereign as He has walked along beside us.

We are scheduled to leave Greenville on September 20, passing through Guam for a few days to visit our students and friends at Harvest Baptist Bible College, and then arriving in Yap on September 28. The borders have opened to Yap now, and hopefully there will only be a home quarantine required at that time.

#### **CONTAINER ON ITS WAY**

On July 6, the container shipped to Los Angeles, and it recently cleared US customs and is on its way across the ocean to Guam. Please pray that it will arrive in Yap safely.



*Yap Baptist Church Easter Service*

#### **FAITHFUL SERVANTS**

We are so grateful for the faithfulness of Pastor Truly and Lency through these past two years. We are excited to get back to ministering with them and also Harvest graduates, Steven, Allysha, and Debbie. Debbie and Allysha will be teaching at local schools in Yap and helping with the children's ministries at church. We look forward to Steven joining our pastoral team, helping with the youth and preaching. It's an exciting time to think about the new opportunities that the Lord has in store for Yap!

#### **1<sup>ST</sup> VBS ON FALALOP, ULITHI**

Pastor James and Masency organized and directed the first VBS on Falalop, Ulithi! Their theme for the week was God's love and they had close to 50 children attend each day. The local elementary school on the island allowed them to use their buildings for lessons and activities. Snack time at VBS on Ulithi includes "local disposable plates" and colored papaya pickles in donated Culver's cups from a dear friend in Iowa. Masency makes fresh bread, coconut biscuits, and even pizza in her local oven. They made a store with prizes for the kids to win by memorizing verses, bringing their Bibles, and inviting visitors. Pastor James leads the kids in reciting John 3:16 in this video:

<https://vimeo.com/739486835>



*Pastor James & Masency*



*VBS Falalop, Ulithi*



*Snack Time!*



*Prizes!*

## **FAMILY BLESSINGS**

One of the many blessings of the past two years has been time spent with our children. We have seen God's hand in our being here for this time in their lives. We will be returning to Yap with our youngest sons, Caleb (almost 18) and Levi (12). Although we will greatly miss our older children, we are thankful that the Lord has guided them to independence at this time of their lives, and we rest in the fact that He will continue to hold them in His hand when we will not be able to hold them in our arms.



Diane and I celebrated our 27<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. Our oldest son Joe's roofing business is going well, and Karalyn began her 3<sup>rd</sup> year of teaching high school English at a public school.



My boys, Levi, John Mark, Caleb and I enjoyed ocean surf fishing. Diane loved spending time with our daughter, Cherith, as they drove back to South Carolina from Iowa where Cherith had been working since February.



We had a great time at the Zimmer family reunion in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan.

## **Mark, Diane & Family**

Even when we are in Yap, you may continue to contact or text us on our US cell phone numbers:

Mark: (864) 351-9037

Diane: (864) 518-2970

## **Additional Prayer and Praises**

- **Praising the Lord** for the arrival of the video projector that we were able to pick up on our return from the family reunion. It didn't arrive in time to put it on the container, but we will be sending a crate before we leave.
- **Yap Borders Opened:** In August Micronesia opened the borders after being closed for 2 1/2 year due to covid. The islands of Pohnpei and Kosrea already have covid cases, but so far, the virus has not made it into the general public in Yap.
- **Faithful Helpers:** Thankful for Truly, Lency, Steven, Debbie, and Allysha who carry on the work in Yap as well as James and Patwin on the outer islands.
- **Church Members Health:** We are sad to report that **Jovita**, whom we mentioned in our last letter, passed away from leukemia. We are hoping to have a memorial service for her when we return to Yap to be a testimony of God's love to her family and friends as she was to so many in our church and on our island. Please also pray for **Susan**, another church member who recently had surgery for cancer that returned. Her husband, Joy, and their family have been a great help and blessing to YBC over the years, and they need your fervent prayers.
- **Ministry Needs:** Additional shipping costs and customs fees.

*Please pray for us as we transition back to our island home. Thank you for your prayers and support over the past two years. We are grateful that you stood beside us!*

If you would be interested in receiving our updates through e-mail, you may contact us at [markanddiane@zimmerfamily.org](mailto:markanddiane@zimmerfamily.org).

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.