

January 12, 2018

Greetings,

Happy New Year! I trust you all had a wonderful Christmas and New Years celebration. We are grateful to have had the opportunity to spend some time with our families during the Thanksgiving and Christmas season. We wish to thank you for the cards and gifts that we received this year. It encourages us to know that so many are following our ministry and praying for us.

During our time in Madagascar, we worked with a national church where we met a young man named Rasolomahery Tina Hery. He is around 20 years of age and has a desire to be involved in ministry. I first met him at an English class that he was taking, and we met again at the church we attended in town. Frequently, he would sit by us to help us with portions of the service that we did not understand. Once we knew that we would be moving to St. Marie, I asked him if he would pray about working with us there. For a couple of months, I did not hear anything from him, even though I saw him at church. However, he had been praying about it, and shortly before we returned on furlough, he told me that he believed the Lord wanted him to join us in St. Marie.

Since then, I have had occasional contact with him via email, and the last email I received from him told me that he was eager to get to St. Marie, and that once he finished a short Bible course he would be moving there. This kind of initiative is a little uncommon in Madagascar, so I am very happy to hear of his efforts. He is using his own money to get there and will be working a job there in order to help provide for his young siblings. Please pray for Hery, that he will be faithful to the ministry that God has called him to, and that he will be able to find adequate work to support his siblings.

One thing we learned while we were still in Madagascar, was that we could get a missionary visa which is a five year visa. This would be a huge blessing that would save time and money going to the capitol every time we need to renew visas. There is a cost to this visa, but the added benefits of not having to leave Saint Marie and travel to the Capitol to renew every year or six months outweigh the cost. Also, the next time it would be renewed we would be able to get a ten year visa.

Our mission agency, BIMl, changed their mailing address about a year ago. The address is P.O. Box 9, Harrison, Tn 37341. Please also use our account number 1420 in the memo section when sending any support. Thank you for partnering with us to reach the people of Madagascar.

In Christ,

Paul, Laura, James, Andrea, Javan, Evelyn, Ingrid, Jowan & Joram Hostetler