

Greetings!

First, I need to apologize for this prayer letter being late. Please allow me to explain what's been going on.

Last October, I started teaching a conversation English class in order to help out our NGO, which allows us to maintain our visas in order to stay here. I had several commitments with that which tied up my time until June 9<sup>th</sup> along with my commitments for teaching, preaching for several services in Malagasy, and a quick visit from our Director. We were busy packing up our belongings and selling things that we no longer needed. Since we believe that the Lord is leading us to the Island of Saint Marie to plant churches when we return from furlough, we needed to get rid of our house before we leave. Our goal was to be out of our house by the first of June so we could take an extended survey trip to Saint Marie with the whole family before we return on furlough.

In April, we welcomed Dan and Rachael Brown along with their three daughters. They are fellow Missionaries with BIMBI here on their first term. At the end of that month, Bro. Eric Bohman, our BIMBI Director for Africa, visited for 5 days which was a blessing to us.

At the end of May, we also took our last trip to village of Ambohimahatsinjo where we have been working for the last three years. This was our last trip with the whole family, and we were able to be part of a Graduation and Ordination services. The two men that we had been working with finally were able to receive their diploma from the Bible institute. One of our supporting churches generously gave us some money with which we were able to buy new Bibles for the graduates and their wives. We were also able to start a "Library" by giving the church a Malagasy edition of "Pilgrims Progress" and a children's Bible. It is often difficult to find literature printed in Malagasy and it can be very expensive for them to buy. The average daily wage in this village is 2,000AR or 66 cents.

On June 12<sup>th</sup> we left our house and traveled to the island of Saint Marie which is an island of Madagascar just off the east coast of the main island. We will be headed back to Antananarivo on July 13<sup>th</sup>. We have been able to identify a house and property that is available for a good price, but it will need a lot of work to make it suitable for living in. We have been able to hand out some tracts. People here are very "religious", but they are entirely lost. There are no Baptist churches on the island. The people really need the Gospel preached to them. Additionally, we have been able to learn some of what life will be like here, what things we will need, and what things we can do without.

On July 31<sup>st</sup> we will be returning to the US for a furlough, and we ask that you pray for our transition. We have had several answers to prayer already. First, we found a missions house to live in during furlough. Second, we were able to find a van to buy that is in good condition for all of the traveling we will be doing.

We still need to sell our vehicle in Madagascar, so please pray about that and for safety on our flights back to the US. The cost of living is more expensive in Saint Marie, and we came to Madagascar with 75% of our support, so while we are back we need to raise the remainder of our support. Please be in prayer for this need.

Thank you for your support in prayers and funds.

In Christ,

Paul, Laura, James, Andrea, Javan, Evely, Ingrid, Jowan and Joram Hostetler