

The Mark Zimmer Family

Serving in Yap, Micronesia



April 2026 Update

"Be still, and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth." Psalm 46:10

What a great reminder and promise this verse is during times of uncertainty and discouragement. Our aim in mission work is to see people trust Christ and follow the Lord, but many times they reject Christ instead of accepting Him. Even after trusting Christ, they don't always choose to follow Him in their lives, and they fall back in to sin. In recent years, we have seen many of our church members leave the island which is heart breaking and discouraging. But God is faithful to His promise that **He will be exalted** among the nations. He calls us to be faithful to him in our service and continue to glorify Him through any circumstances. Please pray for our ministry and for more Yapese to come to know Christ and faithfully follow Him.

God is Being Exalted through Serving Others

We received our new sawmill this month! God is already using it as a tool to reach into our own village. One of the village elders, Norman, asked us to mill some lumber for an addition on his house. Although I have seen Norman in the village many times, I've never had a chance to talk to him about eternity until we worked together. After working with Norman for a few days, he said to our local pastor Francis, "Most guys your age don't want to serve the Lord." Francis told him how he didn't always want to follow the Lord, but God changed his heart. We are praying that the Bridge tract that we shared with him will open his eyes to the truth and that he and others may come to know Christ.

A few weeks ago I was walking with my boys and the chief called me to his koyeng and asked me if I would be willing to make boards for the village project. The next day he delivered about 20 logs which we turned into 2x6, 2x4, and 5/4 board for flooring. Serving the village in this way has opened more doors of communication and friendship with the men of the village. Please pray that they will also be willing to repent in their hearts and choose to follow Christ.

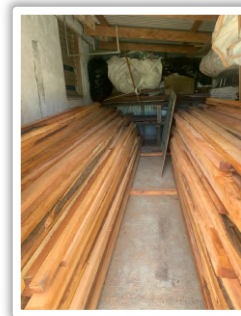
God is giving me opportunities to rub shoulders with the men I am discipling and also teach them life skills. Here is a video of Pastor



New Lucas Sawmill



Only the branches from trees to be milled



Our half of the lumber that we made stacked and drying preparing to be used for ministry in Yap and on the outer islands

Francis learning to run the Woodmizer bandsaw which made all of the lumber for the village project. <https://vimeo.com/1187137790>

The Lord has been giving Diane opportunities to serve and minister to the ladies around her. In February Chelyn Lug came back from the states for her husband Rollence's anniversary of his home going to heaven. Chelyn was able to be an encouragement to the church on Fais island as well as to Pastor Patwin's wife, Juanita. Diane has invested much time in these ladies' lives through the years and now they are faithfully serving their families and their people.



L to R: Juanita, Chelyn, Diane;
Margie and Debra

Margie, a faithful member of our church for many years, had a stroke and is no longer able to come to Bible study or church. Even her daughter Debra is not able to attend because of having to take care of her mom. So, Diane has been taking the Bible study to them in their home. Diane enjoys this personal one on one time with ladies.

God is Being Exalted in Believers Following Him and Worshiping Him



Pastor Francis joined Mark in baptizing his own people,
a group of new believers

On Resurrection Sunday our church met for a baptismal service at the beach in our village. 10 chose to follow Christ in believers' baptism. Diane has been teaching the older kids' class and she has been thrilled to have several in her class accept Christ as their Savior and choose to follow Him in baptism. Some teens were saved during teen camp and are taking this first step of obedience.

As we sang and the gospel was preached in our village, I thought about how God was being exalted in the same place where evil has existed for years. God will be exalted among the heathen!

God is being exalted in our Youth Group

We are thankful that our youth are taking steps in following the Lord. Pastor Francis and Pastor Steven are working hard to provide opportunities for them to serve and grow. They also are doing split session Bible studies with them where Steven and Francis teach the boys, and Allysha (Steven's wife) and Abi Thompson teach the girls. Abi, who also teaches Algebra 2, has started a Bible study at Yap High School during lunch. We are thankful for her testimony at school as well as the help she has been in our ministry.



Pastor Francis is an example of the joy of the Lord as he
preaches on Resurrection Sunday in the village



The teens sang a special song for the baptismal service on the beach.



L: Henry was saved in a Bible study and was excited to
show the world that he wants to follow Christ



R: Pastor Francis had the joy of baptizing Jacob, one of
the teens, whom he led to the Lord.



L: Allysha, Abi, and Christina help teach in our teen girls' Bible studies and kids' classes



R: The teens enjoy playing games at their Friday night teen meeting. They also have a Bible study designed for their age group on this night.

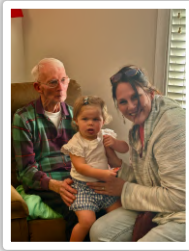


Family with Cherith at her EMT pinning

Diane returned to the states to minister to her family

In late March, it became evident to us that Diane needed to return to the states to be an encouragement to her family. Diane's dad has taken a severe decline in his Parkinson's disease, and it seems he is nearing the end of his earthly life. The kids in her older kids' class made cards for Mr. Seeley, and he enjoyed looking through them and was encouraged by their sweet words.

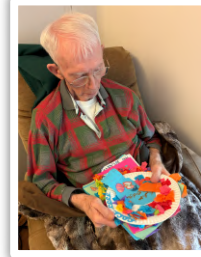
Diane was also able to be at the pinning for our daughter as she became an EMT for Greenville county. Diane also enjoyed seeing her granddaughter Hollzi and will be there to welcome another grandson any day. She will return to Yap on May 17th.



Diane with her dad & our granddaughter Hollzi



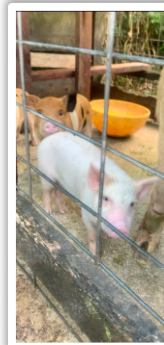
Older kids' class made cards for Diane's dad. and he enjoyed them so much!



Adapting to Island Life

Most families in Yap have one or more pigs that they raise. We feed them coconuts, green leaves, and scraps so they are fairly easy to take care of. Pork is also a good source of food!

Most local men go spear fishing to provide for their families. The boys and I have learned to love spear fishing as well. The boys' favorite style is to spear fish during the day where they free dive with a spear gun. The boys also love to "catch and cook" which has been very helpful with Diane away.



Our pig Fiona had piglets! We plan to keep these two piglets, Peaches and Freckles, but will sell the other 3 piglets

Caleb and Levi enjoy spear fishing and are getting pretty good at it!

Additional Prayer and Praises

- **Pray for our Summer Activities coming soon!** We will have VBS and Teen Camp the 3rd and 5th weeks of July. We would love if you could send us candy, prizes or used summer clothing for our "store." Packages can be sent to: PO Box 459 Yap, FM 96943. Ideas can be found on our Amazon wish list: [VBS/Teen Camp Prizes Owner Shared](#)
- **Pray for a church team** coming to help run our VBS this summer, July 13-17.
- **Pray for the Outer Island ministries:** Pray for Pastor Patwin on Fais and Pastor James on Ulithi.
- **Pray for a summer project** we have scheduled for the end of the summer to put on an addition to James Layomai's house and porch for his Bible study in Ulithi. We will be using the wood we milled.
- **Pray as we make tables** from the recently milled wood for Faith Christian Academy, my brother's school in the northern part of Yap.
- **Pray for continued faithfulness** of the ministry team and YBC church family.
- **Pray for HBBC students** to remain faithful and not get discouraged.
- **Praise the Lord that our daughter Cherith is now an EMT!** Please pray for her as she begins this new career.
- **Pray for Diane's dad** as his health continues to decline. He is ready to go to heaven, and we are praying that the Lord would be merciful to him so that he would not have to suffer anymore

Thank you for upholding us in prayer and for your continuing investments in God's ministries on these islands. We are grateful for your help.

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
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