

MAY 2023

ISAIAH 42:12 MISSIONS

TANNA ISLAND – VANUATU



TWIN CYCLONES

During the month of March, we experienced a first for us as well as a first for Vanuatu. We went through two tropical cyclones within a week. TC Judy was the first one and it made landfall on Tanna as a Cat4 storm damaging many homes and gardens. Two days later, TC Kevin passed on our NE side as a Cat4 but quickly went to Cat5 and it finished off what Judy had left behind. To say the damage was extensive would be quite the understatement.

God was faithful to protect us all as we sheltered in our house with most of our village. We had some damage to our water tank and lost our solar panels but praise HIM there was no loss of life.

All the gardens were demolished making food difficult to find for a couple months. However during the last two months of recovery, you all have so graciously helped us supply much needed relief food and supplies to 14 different villages. We were able to share 2 tons of rice, 1000 cans of tuna fish, 2000 breakfast crackers, and 3000 packages of noodles with devastated families around the island. Thank You!!



FAMILY

Crystal and Ryan continue to homeschool and it is going really well. Ryan is taller than his mama now and likes to make sure she knows it. 🤪

Crystal's health is great and we have all adjusted well back to healthy "island food."

Although we do miss a quick and easy Dominos pizza, particularly on Sunday nights. We're blessed to be able now to more reliably video chat with our families in the states as we were able to get some VSAT internet installed after the cyclones. We were without any sort of contact from home for about two weeks post storms. That was a bit unsettling. So, if you want to FaceTime just go ahead and reach out. We should be able to chat easier now. Just remember we are 16 hours ahead of the states. You can get us by text and iMessage if you'd like.

Clint: +678 544-3172

Crystal: +678 528-7323



THE WORK

God has been blessing in tremendous ways. We are seeing growth in our village church with new faces weekly. One of the young men in the church has stepped up and re-started the youth meeting/singing. It is a joy to hear them practicing every Wednesday and Saturday as they prepare to participate in worship on Sunday's. The LORD has recently opened doors for us to go into two different villages that are deeply influenced by custom pagan beliefs. We are praying that the light of God will shine brightly into dark places as HE continues to make His name famous here on Tanna.



We've been blessed to open a new church house in a village far south on the island. On the opening day, the house was full to capacity with overflow outside, What a blessed day! Easter was a full day with beautiful faces and wonderful worship and fellowship. The church house in our village was packed to the walls as we all met together to worship our Risen Savior. There are several village churches that we are working to rebuild after the two cyclones so plenty to do on that front. Just recently, we worked to repair a major water line break that had left us without water for a month. We managed to locate and repair the issue deep in the bush and now the entire SE side of the island has water running again. God is faithful in ALL things!!

PRAYER NEEDS

- We're still searching for a better equipped truck that will serve us better on the terrible roads we encounter from village to village.
- God will continue to open doors to dark places.
- Village church leaders to stand strong on truth.
- Ongoing recovery from the two cyclones.



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