

OTHER NEWS...

Our co-workers, the Jerterbergs, are settling in to their recently found home in Georgia.

Charity commutes to Winship Cancer Institute for chemo treatments every three weeks. We praise the Lord that already the tumors are showing signs of shrinking. This process will be long and require so much endurance and stretching of their faith. We miss them over here! *Please pray for God to continue to guide, provide and give healing in His mercy.*

The capital has declared a state of emergency.

Drought has brought hunger and death in the southern part of the island. Once the rains came, it was too late for the crops. Now there is flooding. Over 35000 are living in patched together tents as their rice fields and homes have turned into lakes. 24 people have died. Food prices have doubled as crops have been ruined. *Pray that God would give us wisdom as to where and how to help.*

Let them give glory unto the Lord, and declare his praise in the islands.
Isaiah 42:12

Dear friends and family,

We are happy to be back in our adopted country and quite enjoying the warmer island weather! We thought we would 'hit the ground running,' arriving in our town just days after landing in the capital. A tropical depression delayed our flight to Maintirano. While waiting for weather to clear we found out the time life on one of the parts on the airplane had expired. The plane is grounded until we receive these batteries, Lord-willing, tomorrow. Our longer than expected time in the capital has allowed us to recover from jet lag and prepare our hearts and minds for what awaits us in Maintirano.

One the plane ride from South Africa, I began to worry because I couldn't quite understand words spoken by a group of Malagasy traveling with us. It was a dialect. Whew! Our Malagasy ability is coming back to us bit by bit. While waiting at a store, I was able to speak with a book seller about the lies we are deceived by and how the Bible is the only truth to be trusted. Bobby was able to preach at a sister church here in the capital yesterday encouraging them not to fear because God is with us in our trials. *Please ask the Lord to continue to give us further ability in this language and courage in speaking His truth.*

The church Bobby spoke at is pastored by our missionary friend Ben Anglea. His wife, Ashley, was due to give birth in April to their fourth child and first boy. Because of complications she was medivaced to South Africa and waited for her Cesarean date, March 20th. Doctors wanted the baby to grow more and for his lungs to develop better before delivery. This past weekend we received news little Robert Samuel had passed away. His heart just stopped beating. Already scheduled to leave for furlough in May, the Angleas would like to fly straight to the US from South Africa, Lord-willing taking Baby Robert with them for burial. On the mission field, fellow missionaries become like family. Our hearts are grieving this loss with them right now. Many of you know what this loss feels like. *Please pray for them as you wanted people to pray for you.*

"We may safely account that what we lack and lose and suffer are our most prized facilities for bringing home to the hearts of this people the glorious Gospel of the grace of God." ~Hudson Taylor

Let it be so.

Trusting Always in Him,
Bobby and Joanna Burdett



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