



Phil & Vala Long

Taking Life to the forgotten people of Madagascar

Mad 4 Life Ministries

"I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly." John 10:10

www.Mad4Life.org

December 23, 2021

Dear Pastors and Prayer Partners,



Salama and Tratry Krismasy from the Big Red Island of Madagascar!

Yes, that is right, we made it back to Madagascar. If you remember our last update, we had to get back to the U.S. to take care of some things that could not be handled from Madagascar. Everything was going great, drivers' licenses were renewed, Deacon took his ACT, he was able to see his doctor for his diabetes, and his numbers were great. We even got to report to two of our supporting churches, one of which our daughter and son-in-law presented in as they are on deputation to go and work with displaced people (i.e. refugees) in Germany. Then, we received an e-mail that our tickets had been canceled because the borders of Madagascar had not opened yet. Obviously, we were a little irritated because the word was they would be open by the time we were supposed to get home. Then, just a few days later, it was announced that the borders were back open and we were able to get our tickets back home just ten days later than what we had planned. Thank you all for praying for and with us about getting to the States and back into Madagascar!

One of the things I like to do in December is to look back at what has been accomplished over the last year. The truth is, the ministry has grown and lives are being changed by the Gospel, and only the Lord can receive the credit. We have gone through two lockdowns in 2021. One of these could have had major negative consequences on the church because it was a weekend only lockdown, but the church has actually grown and, more importantly, people in the church have grown spiritually. We have seen several people saved, baptized, and people have gone through or are going through discipleship. Foundry Student Ministry on Wednesday nights has taken off and, for the last several weeks, we have had 100 or more kids come on Sunday mornings. The truth is, it has been an awesome year here in Madagascar despite all of the challenges, so thank you for praying.

Let me just add one more thing before I finish. As many of you know, Deacon will be finishing high school this coming spring. It will be 5 years since we finished deputation, and 4 years in Madagascar, so when we take him back to the US for university, we are going to take about 6 months to report to our supporters, beginning in June. We are looking forward sharing with you all what God has done in Madagascar, as well as what our vision is when we return to the island for our second term. If you would like us to come and report, please let us know so we can get you on our calendar. Thank you so much for your prayers and support this last year and remember, we are also praying for you.

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