



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

April 17, 2018



Dear Pastors and Prayer Partners,

Salama et bonjour à tous! I love the spring! I love all four seasons of the year, but I get excited about the spring! I know exactly what you're thinking...Phil Long loves the flowers! Well, I do like the flowers and all, but that's not the reason I get excited about spring. What puts that extra "spring" in my step is baseball and turkey season! I love being out in the woods calling for big, beautiful toms (male turkeys) to come pose in full strut in front of my hen decoys. The only thing better than a ride home with a big tom in the back is riding home with a big tom in the back and a ball game playing on the car radio. Well, this year we still have baseball thanks to the internet, however France doesn't have turkey season. That's ok though because what this spring has in store for the Longs is more exciting than talking back and forth with a big bird while trying to lure him in nice and close. What could be better than that, you ask. It's Visa time! No, I am not talking about the billing cycle for our credit card. Even as I write this letter we are pulling together all of the paperwork needed to get our initial Visas and work permits for Madagascar! I believe it is a 2 step process; the first step is the initial visas we need to get into the country and then the next stage will be our permits to stay in Madagascar, which we will get after we are in Madagascar. In other words, we are almost there, as a matter of fact, we have already pulled the trigger on our plain tickets. That's' right...Gabe, Deacon and I leave France on May 28th for our permanent move to Madagascar. Vala will join us a few weeks later as she will return to the US to coordinate the packing of our container.

Most of what we need to set up our new home will be shipped on the container, but there are a few things that you can begin praying with us about. Because the US and Madagascar operate on different electrical currents, we will not take anything that uses electricity unless it is already dual voltage, like our computers. Here are a few things in order of importance that we will need. If you would like to help us purchase any of these things in May or June it would be a huge blessing to us as we settle into our new country: refrigerator (\$1450), washing machine and dryer (\$1300), stove (\$450), microwave (\$150). If we receive more than what is necessary for house set-up, we will set that money aside for the purchase of a vehicle.

Ministry in Madagascar is just right around the corner and we could not have made it this far without you. Thank you for all that you do for us, thank you for praying that the Lord would provide in our house set-up, and remember, we are also praying for you.

Phil & Vala Long

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Praises & Prayer Requests

- (Praise) Finished with our classes for French language school
- Smooth Visa application process and quick approval
- Household set-up expenses
- Safe travel to Madagascar and the U.S.
- Susan Long (Phil's mum) - healing