



steadfastpilgrims.com | info@steadfastpilgrims.com | web.nazarene.org/goto/steadfastpilgrims

# Young Family Newsletter

*Partner-funded Global Servants making Disciples, Preaching, Training Leaders, Planting Churches, and Developing Healthy Communities in Timor Leste, on the Sealands Field of the Asia-Pacific Region.*

## Winter 2017

### LOCAL PICTURES

## A New Assignment to Timor Leste

by Joe Young

It has been too long since our last newsletter. Please forgive us for the lull in communication, but we have a good reason. Earlier this summer, we were asked to consider a new assignment to the country of Timor Leste. We accepted the assignment, but it required a few months of planning and preparation before we could make an official announcement. We would like to officially announce that our family will be moving to Timore Leste in June 2018.

Timor Leste is a relatively new Island nation in South-East Asian, just north of Australia, formed in 2002 after finally securing its independence from colonial rule, after a decades long conflict. With just over 1.3 million inhabitants, it is a small nation, but one that faces great need. Poverty is high, educational opportunity is low, access to competent healthcare is sparse, the economy is still young and

untested, and the Protestant church is in its infancy.

The people of Timor Leste, however are resilient, light-hearted, and kind. Their optimism is contagious, and it is a pleasure to serve alongside them.

Our family will be overseeing the work of the Church of the Nazarene there. With one organized church and three fellowship groups, there is much to do. We are excited to help Nazarenes and the Church of the Nazarene in Timor Leste reach their full potential.

Will you commit to partner with us in prayer? Pray that the transition and move to Timor Leste is smooth. Pray that our Home Assignment in March, April, and May 2018 will be successful, as we begin sharing about and raising support for this new ministry. Visit our website, [steadfastpilgrims.com](http://steadfastpilgrims.com), for more details and look for new features to be added in the future.



### Cheryl and Rev. Uli

Cheryl with Rev. Uli, an ordained minister and pastor's wife in Dili, Timor Leste.



### Pastor's Gathering & Training

Joe and Cheryl with our pastors and spouses in Timor Leste, after completing a leadership training class.

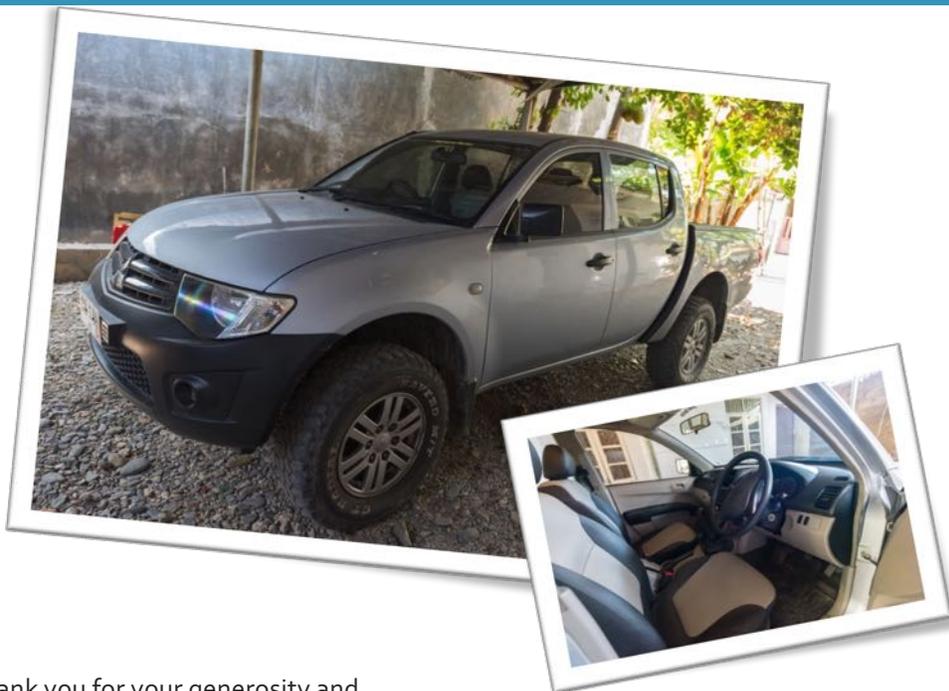
## Our New Vehicle!

by Cheryl Young

Praise the Lord! With your generous support, we have raised and exceeded our goal of \$7,500 toward a new vehicle. Even better, we were able to purchase our vehicle in the country of our new assignment Timor Leste, where we will relocate in June 2018.

Through your generosity, we were able to purchase a 2013 Mitsubishi Triton, a sturdy diesel, quad-cab pickup truck that is just the right size for our family. It has just over 30,000 miles and is in good condition.

Timor Leste has a rapidly developing road system. Though the newer roads are decent, most existing roads are in need of repair. 4-wheel drive is a must, especially to reach our remote, developing fellowships. This truck is a 4X4 and adequate for the varying road conditions.



Thank you for your generosity and patience as we shopped for just the right vehicle. This vehicle is a blessing and the fruit of your partnership. Thank you for investing in our ministry, a blessing now extending to our new assignment in Timor Leste.

We are grateful and pray that God will bless you abundantly for your generosity and sacrifice.

### WAYS TO VISIT US ON THE WEB

OUR WEBSITE:  
[www.steadfastpilgrims.com](http://www.steadfastpilgrims.com)

OUR GIVING PORTAL:  
[web.nazarene.org/goto/steadfastpilgrims](http://web.nazarene.org/goto/steadfastpilgrims)

OUR EMAIL:  
[info@steadfastpilgrims.com](mailto:info@steadfastpilgrims.com)

## Kang Kong Stir-Fry

by Joe Young



- \*Kang-Kong (you can substitute any leafy greens)
- 1 tablespoon sesame oil
- 1/2 onion
- 4 cloves garlic
- 1 piece ginger
- 1 chili
- 2 tablespoons water
- 1 tablespoon sweet soy sauce
- sesame seed
- basil leaves, fresh

Wash, trim and drain kang kong. In a wok or skillet, heat a tablespoon sesame oil over medium-high heat.

Add chopped onion, chopped garlic cloves and a peeled and minced ginger. Stir-fry for a minute or so until the onion begins to turn translucent.

Add the kang kong, finely chopped chili pepper, water and soy sauce. Continue to stir-fry just until the kang kong wilts, about another minute.

Plate with a garnish of toasted sesame seeds or ripped Thai basil leaves.

*\*Also know in English as water spinach, water morning glory, or water convolvulus.*

PARTNERSHIP INFORMATION PAGE



### Support Goals

To serve effectively on the field, we have reoccurring monthly and one-time expenses. We anticipate that our monthly expenses for this term will be \$3,620 per month. Monthly expenses include food, clothing, housing, vehicle maintenance, children's education and other necessary living and ministry expenses. Our one-time expenses for this year will be \$27,100, which include expenses for plane tickets, visa fees, freight, language study, etc.

SUPPORT GOAL PROGRESS SO FAR



HOW TO BECOME A PARTNER

You can give a one-time gift or become a monthly partner by signing up at our online giving portal for a reoccurring contribution:

[web.nazarene.org/goto/steadfastpilgrims](http://web.nazarene.org/goto/steadfastpilgrims)

You can also give a one-time donation at our giving portal or by mailing it to this address:

**Church of the Nazarene International**  
 PO Box 843116  
 Kansas City, MO 64184  
 Memo: Joe Young, Asia-Pacific



On Home Assignment

## Home Assignment 2018

by Joe Young

We are pleased to announce our next Home Assignment beginning Spring 2018. March, April, and May we will be touring the US, sharing about our new assignment in Timor Leste and seeking people, churches, and organizations willing to partner with us financially in this important work.

### Schedule Us

Interested in scheduling us? Please visit our website for more information about open dates and how to schedule the Young family to share at your church or event. You can also email us at [info@steadfastpilgrims.com](mailto:info@steadfastpilgrims.com) for scheduling information. We would love the opportunity to share about our work and invite your partnership.

### Our Financial Goals

As partner-funded missionaries with the Church of the Nazarene, we depend on your generous financial partnership to sustain ministry and daily living. You have been so faithful in the past, and we will would like to ask you to continue to partner with us in this new endeavor. If you have not partnered with us financially before, we would like to invite you to do so.

Our estimated expenses for ministry and daily living in Timor Leste are higher than our previous assignment, due to the economic environment of Timor Leste and the fact they use US dollars as their currency. Our new goals are:

Monthly Expenses:  
 \$3,620

One-Time Expenses:  
 \$27,100

### A Word of Thanks

How can we say thanks enough for your partnership with us this past term? 47 Individuals and 5 churches financially partnered with us monthly, supplying an average of \$1,600 in monthly income for a two year total of \$40,000. Hundreds of one-time donors and churches partnered with us contributing over \$30,000 toward one-time expenses, including \$8,500 toward the purchase of our new vehicle.

This is fruit of your partnership and we are truly grateful that you are part of our ministry. Your support helps make our ministry possible and effective.



## Seminar About the Occult

by Joe Young

Cheryl and I took a survey trip in September to Timor Leste to meet the pastors, leaders, and Nazarenes there, and to get acquainted with the country and ministry. During that time, the Sealands Field Church of the Nazarene hosted a seminar on the Occult. This is especially relevant for Timorese culture, and helpful for our participants.

While the Protestant church entered Timor Leste some time ago, and there is a growing group of faithful Christians and churches, the occult and animism still have a significant impact on the Timorese. Like many islands nations and cultures in South-East Asia, the Timorese were raised believing that the world is a dark and dangerous place, filled with dark or powerful spiritual forces that influence (even control) daily life, health, and the future. It is not uncommon for the Timorese to attribute natural disasters to having angered the "spirits" in some way. It is also common for the Timorese offer gifts and perform rituals they hope will appease the spirits.

Johnny, a participant at the seminar, told me that, before knowing Christ, he would pray to crocodiles for help with major decisions. While praying at the river, if a crocodile surfaced he knew the crocodile would help him, but if the crocodile retreated, he knew it would not. The "power" of the crocodile holds such sway in Timorese culture that some believe the island of Timor was formed by a giant crocodile rescuing Timorese people from the sea.

In this occult seminar, participants learned about the deceptive powers of darkness and of Satan. They learned how Christ death and resurrection defeats and breaks the power of fear and darkness. The future, their future, is in God's powerful hands. They can trust Christ and reject superstition and animism. We are glad participants could return to their villages equipped with a new perspective and renewed courage.



Pray the participants will be bold witnessed about the power and light of Jesus.

### WANT TO READ MORE STORIES?

Do you want to read more about what is happening in the life and ministry of the Young family? Visit the blog on our webpage. Navigate to the address below and click the "NEWS" link in the top menu.

<http://steadfastpilgrims.com>

# Timor Leste Survey Trip

by Cheryl Young

When we were asked about accepting a reassignment to Timor Leste, we were also invited to take a survey trip there. During this trip, we spent a week in Timor Leste, meetings with the pastors, leaders, and Nazarene there, exploring the area, making plans for our relocation.

First, we attended the Occultism Seminar mentioned in the previous news story. Then, we traveled to some of our remote preaching points or fellowship groups, to check on our pastors there and get updates about the work they are doing and the progress they are making.

First, we visited pastor Merlando and his family in Atabae. Merlando and Lina have begun outreach into the community through a school tutoring program that operates out of a hut on their property. They have begun a small fellowship group through the contacts they have made, and hope to plant a church from this growing fellowship. Pray that they will continue to build effective bridges into the village of Atabae that lead to a healthy and strong church.

Next, we visited pastor Ebi and his family in Liquica. Ebi and Lita have rented a house in the village there and have begun making contacts with young people in the community, who they invite over for fellowship, games, and tutoring. Pray we can find a sustainable solution for providing water to Laquica, which is situated in an area that suffers from water shortages due to dry ground and a deep water table.

Finally, we visited our one organized church in Timor Leste, the Dili Church of the Nazarene. Sam and his wife Uli having been leading the Dili church for just over 5 years, which now runs around 60 people. Joe was asked to preach, and he enjoyed sharing an encouraging word with our Dili Nazarenes about how God gives us strength, especially when

wear, to live like Christ and accomplish God's will.

On the campus of our Dili church is a temporary high-school dormitory, set up after the loss of our lease of another property. Students that live in the village of Timor Leste typically do not have access to a high-school education. They move into the city of Dili to complete their education. The Church of the Nazarene provides a dormitory for these students, providing a safe and godly environment for them to live. The dormitory has proved a successful discipleship tool as well. Did you know that pastors Sam and Marlando are the product or fruit of our dorm ministry? Both came to Dili seeking an education, also finding Jesus and discovering a call to ministry.

Pray for us as we oversee the construction of a permanent and adequate dorm on the Dili church campus. We hope to begin construction in the late summer of 2018.

Our survey trip was a success and we are thankful that we could visit Timor Leste before beginning our Home Assignment this Spring.

## PRAYER REQUESTS:

- Visas: Please pray for us as we apply for a year-long visa in Timor Leste.
- Home Schooling: Pray that homeschooling will not suffer while traveling on Home Assignment this spring.
- House in Timor Leste: Pray that God will guide us to the right house to purchase.
- Added Partners: Please pray that we will add enough new partners to meet our monthly support goal.

## SOME PHOTOS FROM OUR TRIP



### Tutoring Ministry in Atabae

This is a photo of the hut where Merlando and Lina tutor children in their village.



### Lita and Her Daughter

This is a photo of pastor Eby's wife, Lita, and their daughter.



### Our Temporary Dorm

This is temporary dorm that we plan replace this fall.

# INTRODUCING THE NEW AND IMPROVED STEADFASTPILGRIMS.COM

We are pleased to announce our redesigned and improved website, **steadfastpilgrims.com**. We have worked very hard not only to make the website attractive and more user-friendly, but to also add new features.

Visit our Marketplace with handcrafted items for sale that support our work. Visit our projects page for information on special projects. Enjoy, as always, our News page.

Most of all, let us know how our website can serve you better. Write to us at [info@steadfastpilgrims.com](mailto:info@steadfastpilgrims.com)



Young Family  
Newsletter

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