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Steadfast Moments

Quarterly Newsletter for the Young Family, missionaries for the Church of the Nazarene making Christlike Disciples in the country of Timor-Leste, on the Sealands Field of the Asia-Pacific Region.

Spring 2019

LOCAL PICTURE

We Have Arrived in Timor-Leste

by Joe Young

After a great deal of prayer, traveling, hard work, and support from countless ministry partners, we are pleased to announce that the Young Family has officially arrived in Timor-Leste in June.

We were greeted at the airport by our Timorese Nazarenes, who presented us with gifts of traditional fabric called "tais". Tais hold great meaning for the Timorese. Like a family crest in Western cultures, each tais has a unique pattern, mix of colors, and text that represent family names and identity. In fact, tais are exchanged at wedding ceremonies as a symbol of the families of the bride and groom becoming united by marriage.

We were honored to receive tais from our Timorese Nazarenes, but also honored by other heartfelt ways they welcomed our family. One example was when Pastor Uly, wife of Pastor Sam, surprised Jonathan with a

birthday cake she had made for his 18th birthday.

It is not always easy to celebrate milestone birthdays overseas, away from extended family. This simple gesture was a wonderful way to make our son's big day even more special. There are no cake mixes here, and cakes like this one are made from scratch. There was a lot of love baked into this special cake.

Pray for us, as we adjust to new life and ministry in Timor-Leste. While close (geographically) to other countries where we have served, different weather, culture, currency, and rhythm of life are just some examples of the adjustments we will have to make.

By the way, what can you do to help new members of your community feel welcome?



Welcome Party

Pastor Ebby was among those who welcomed us to Timor-Leste.



Jonathan's 18th Birthday

Pastor Uly and family made Jonathan a birthday

Off and Running!

by Cheryl Young

Every missionary wants to make a difference in the country and culture where they minister. They want to “get their hands dirty” serving others. When missionaries enter a new country or culture, they can often feel listless as much of their early time is absorbed in learning a new language, culture, and rhythm of life. Imagine our surprise to “hit the ground running” almost as soon as we arrived.

On our second weekend in Timor-Leste, Joe helped Pastor Sam and Uly baptize 7 new believers at a local beach. Not long after that, Joe preached for the first time, and has preached a dozen times since. This list does not include teaching in our Ephesus leadership development program, two more baptism services (7 more baptized), performing a wedding (in the local language!), hosting Regional NCM Meetings, and multiple visits to our Nazarene churches in districts and villages several hours from the capital city of Dili, where we live.



One special highlight has been our daughter Hannah, who has volunteered to join the children’s ministry teacher rotation at our Dili Church of the Nazarene. She studies, plans, and practices hard, so that she can present lessons in the local language, lessons that include a puppet show and bible lesson.

What’s next? A full schedule of ministry activities and endeavors, including opening the Nazarene Course of Study program to train ministerial candidates.

Pray for our family as we, different than usual, immerse ourselves in ministry while also learning a new language and culture.

God is on the move here! We are so thankful to be an active part of making Christlike disciples in Timor-Leste.

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Batar Da’an With Steamed Rice

by Joe Young

- 1 lb. corn (fresh or frozen)
- ½ lb. dried mung beans
- 2 lbs. pumpkin, peeled, diced
- 4 cups water
- 2 onions, diced
- 8 cloves garlic, minced
- 3 tbsps. olive oil
- Salt to taste
- Pepper to taste

Soak the mung beans in water for at least 10 hours.

Drain the mung beans. Boil them for 10 to 15 minutes in a large amount of water.

Meanwhile, sauté onion and garlic in olive oil over medium heat for 6-8 minutes in a separate pan.

Add water, squash, beans and corn to the onion and garlic.

Increase heat to high and bring to boil. Reduce heat to medium and cook, stirring occasionally, until squash is tender, about 15 to 20 minutes, until the liquid is reduced to a minimum.

Season with salt and pepper to taste.

Serve with rice.



DEPUTATION INFORMATION PAGE



DEPUTATION 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 \$1,300 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 term will be \$28,800, which include expenses for plane tickets, visa fees, freight, language study, etc.

DEPUTATION PROGRESS

\$1,874 Committed

140% of \$1,330

MONTHLY PLEDGES

\$27,000 Raised

94% of \$28,800

ONE-TIME GIVING

FOR MORE INFORMATION

You can give a one-time gift or become a monthly partner by signing for a reoccurring contribution. Below is the link for our giving portal.

give.nazarene.org/fund/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, Timor-Leste



HOME ASSIGNMENT 2018

by Joe Young

Home Assignment Results

Home assignment is always a busy time, but this home assignment was one for the record books for the Young Family. Maybe a statistical summary of our ministry in the USA, mid-February through mid-June of 2018, will help paint the picture?

This Home Assignment we shared about the work of the Church of the Nazarene in Timor-Leste in 42 services, in 9 different states (Ohio, Michigan, New Hampshire, Louisiana, New Mexico, Kentucky, Indiana, Tennessee, and Florida). 4 of these services were Faith Promise services, special services that challenge people to make a sustaining faith commitment to support missions in the Church of the Nazarene financially. 5 of these services were zone rallies, a gathering together of Nazarene churches from different areas for one large missions service. In total, around 60 Nazarene churches participated in these 42 services. We drove around 14,000 miles, through 22 states and a small piece of Canada, to connect with the Nazarene church family that we love.

Thank you to everyone who invited us, loved and spoiled us along the way, and became financial partners with us. We are deeply grateful for our Nazarene family.

About Our Commissioning

When we returned from Home Assignment, we were underfunded. Then the unexpected happened. We were commissioned as Global Missionaries in the Church of the Nazarene in February 2019.

Commissioning is a recognition and affirmation by the Church of the Nazarene of your call and fitness to serve for the entirety of your career as a Global Missionary with the Church of the Nazarene. A commissioning is not given lightly, and required that we passed a series of interviews, including interviews by the General Board and General Board of Superintendents of the Church of the Nazarene.

Changes in Our Funding

Commissioning changes how a missionary is funded in the Church of the Nazarene. Before commissioning, we were classified as Specialized Assignment Missionaries, and because of that responsible for raising the

majority of our financial support. As Commissioned Global Missionaries, the majority of our support will now be provided by the World Evangelism Fund. The World Evangelism Fund does not cover 100% of the expenses of any Commissioned Global Missionary, as is commonly believed. However, the amount we are responsible to raise has been reduced greatly.

Should We Keep Giving?

This is most common question we have received since our commissioning. If we are commissioned, do our Steadfast Partners need to continue giving? The short answer to this question is yes. Commissioning means that, at the very least, our base salary, health insurance, and retirement are now

covered by the World Evangelism fund. Many other expenses, however, will not be. We will still be responsible for raising some of the funds that we need to serve. The best way to explain this is say that our funding platform has been migrated over or converted to a more traditional deputation model.

A Deputation Model

For many years the World Evangelism Fund has funded the majority of a missionary's support. Expenses that were not funded by the WEF, were raised by that missionaries at deputation services while on Home Assignment or Furlough. Our commissioning brought us under this more traditional umbrella. Our expenses that our not provided by WEF will still be funded out of our

deputation fund. You can see our new support goals in the left column of this article.

Why Are You Raising So Much?

Some may wonder why we are will raising so much. The biggest reason is that Timor-Leste is a developing country with a high cost-of-living. Some expenses (e.g. airfare and visa maintenance) are higher than other missionaries might experience or expect, depending on their assignment. What you can expect is that your financial partnership will always be stewarded wisely.

Want to know more? For more information, please read the special letter attached to this newsletter.

Join Our Facebook Group: STDFSTPILGRIMS

by Cheryl Young

We are pleased to announce our Facebook group STDFSTPILGRIMS. It is quickly becoming one of our primary means of giving news, prayer requests, updates, reports, and sharing stories about what is happening in Timor-Leste.

We would love for you to join our growing Facebook community of over

100 members, if you have not already. It is a closed group due to some security considerations, but open at any time to those who request membership. You can find our group by searching in the Facebook search bar for "stdfstpilgrims" or by typing the following web address into your browser of choice: facebook.com/groups/stdfstpilgrims.

We have other social accounts as well, such as Instagram and Twitter. Our website steadfastpilgrims.com has been newly and simplified. Mastering social media and online communication is a growing point for us, and we would love your feedback on ways to improve. If you have

suggestions on how we communicate more effectively, don't hesitate to email or message us through social media.



VISIT US ON THE WEB

Facebook Group Name: **stdfstpilgrims**

Instagram: **@stdfstpilgrims**

Twitter: **@stdfstpilgrims**

Our Website: **steadfastpilgrims.com**

Email: **info@steadfastpilgrims.com**

Regional NCM Conference

by Joe Young

Last October, we experienced another unexpected blessing. We were asked if our Nazarenes in Timor-Leste would host an Asia Pacific Region meeting of Nazarene Compassionate Ministries leaders. The Super 8, as it is called, is a week-long event for field NCM leaders across the Region. During these meetings, the NCM leaders give reports, receive vital training, and participate in service projects in the host country.

Our leadership was excited to host this event for several reasons. First, as a developing country, Timor-Leste has many needs. Not many people are aware of those needs, and we were glad to expose our greater Nazarene family to challenges and needs that the Timorese face.

Second, the NCM as an organization sees its mission as equipping the local church for compassion rather than just respond to the immediate needs that fall under the category of "compassionate ministry." Our pastors were excited about the possibility of our local churches and leaders being trained, developed, and equipped to respond in compassion in their local context.

I am excited to report that both our hopes were realized during this NCM event. First, different than usual, our pastors and key lay leaders were invited to be a part of the some of the meetings and training. The focus of the training was Child Holistic Development, specifically understanding the challenges and vulnerabilities that children face in the 21st century. Our leaders were challenged to think about the challenges and vulnerabilities that children in Timor-Leste face, and how they can respond to help shape

families and communities that are healthy for children, environments that reduce these risks.

This was an emotional and eye-opening time for our Timorese Nazarenes as they shared tragic stories about how children are at risk in Timor, but also their hopes and dreams of how that reality can change.

Later in the week, we took the NCM team to the remote district of Atabae, where we have a church plant and the beginnings of a child holistic development ministry. Pastor Merlando and the church leaders were excited to receive the team, and it was a blessing to see the team interact with and minister to the children. The day was a blessing for all, I believe, and even a flat tire did not dampen our spirits. The NCM team worked together to change the tire, and were headed back to Dili soon after

We closed the week with a special time of communion and farewells, as our Timorese Nazarenes showered the NCM team with special "tais", with patterns and colors picked out special for each person.

Thank you Super 8 for blessings us, and for (hopefully) allowing us the opportunity to bless you. Our hearts are full, and our understanding has been expanded. May God equip us to be compassionate Nazarenes in Timor-Leste, and show us practical ways to help the people, families, communities, and the country of Timor-Leste become healthy, holistically.

PHOTOS FROM THE NCM MEETINGS



Child Development Training

Pastor Sam, Brother Floriano, Pastor Uly, and Sister Maria presenting about the risk children face in Timor-Leste.



Service Project

One member of the Super 8 taking a photo with the children from our children's Ministry in the district of Atabae.



Saying Farewells

Saying farewell after the completion of the Super 8 NCM meetings.

Visiting the Tarrant Family in El Paso

How can you say thanks enough for the people who care, pastor, and shape your kids?

During Home Assignment we got the opportunity to visit the Tarrant family in El Paso, Texas. The Tarrants are Nazarene missionaries who serve in two very important roles. First, they serve with the Nazarene Border Initiative, helping resource and develop Nazarene churches on each side of America's southern border. With the current climate that Nazarene's and communities face on each side of the border, it is good to know that Nazarene's are at work being a Christlike help and witness.

Second, they serve as directors of member care for Nazarene missionary kids around the world, with a special focus on helping high school age M.K.s transition successfully from the field to college. To us, they are like pastors to our children and a great blessing to our family. They have made a huge impact on our kids.

While on our way to speak in Albuquerque, New Mexico we got to stop by and visit the Tarrants. It was a great day of talking, sharing, and eating authentic Mexican food, as well as Andrew's tremendous pancakes!



Thanks Andrew, Hayley, Samuel, and Rees for your hospitality and for caring so much for our kids.

For more information about the Tarrant family, visit their website at <http://tarrantfamily.com>.

Steadfast
Moments

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Middletown, OH 45044

