

Church Planting in
MADAGASCAR



March 2021

Dear Praying Friends,

We pray that you all have had a great start to a new year! No matter what the environmental, political, or physical circumstances in which we might find ourselves, God is never surprised, and He is always in control! When we look around, we are tempted to be overwhelmed; when we look within, we are prone to discouragement; when we look up, we are compelled to worship and adore our Father who loves us far beyond our imagination! We must not trust in the government or ourselves to “fix” our “problems.” The only One who is trustworthy and able is our all-powerful God! The return of Jesus Christ seems more imminent than ever; let us be diligent to look for opportunities to share the wonderful gospel and tell people about the amazing Savior!

We have enjoyed being involved as much as possible at Crossroad Baptist Church while we have been delayed in the States. Please pray for the church as Pastor Nathan Deatrick’s wife, Jenny, just recently was promoted to heaven after battling with cancer. God does put us right where He wants us at just the right time. Richard has had opportunities to preach. He was thrilled to have the privilege to baptize Abigail and watch her grow in her love for God.

The big news that we would like to share with you is that we are expecting another baby girl near the beginning of August. We praise God for this baby for whom we have prayed. We pray that this little one would grow and develop properly, for a smooth pregnancy and delivery, and for wisdom every step of the way! During the months of December and January, Ruth had some morning (or all day) sickness and fatigue; but we are thankful that that is starting to ease off; and she is feeling better. We are so blessed that God has chosen to entrust another life into our hands. We pray that we would be good stewards of all the children that God has entrusted to us!!

God has blessed us with good health through this winter season and we continue to plug away at school with the kids. We have enjoyed a few inches of snow but are glad that spring is on its way. Snow is pretty, but cold weather is not our favorite.

Though longer and more involved than we were anticipating, we got our mobile home in place, set up, and passed all the inspections. We are so blessed to have a place to call home for the short time left here in America!

Ruth’s sister is getting married in April; and her brother is getting married in June; and then there is the baby coming in August. We were hoping to be in Madagascar already, but the main airport remains unopen. Please pray with us for God’s leading on when we should go to Madagascar and that travel restrictions would be lifted. We are praying for wisdom if it would be good to have the baby in America before leaving or get over to Madagascar and then have the baby. Thank you SO much for your faithful prayers on our behalf! We pray God’s blessings on you!

In the Service of the King,

Richard and Ruth, Matthew, Sarah, Nate, Abby, Kezia, Hadassah Jertberg



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