

Church Planting in
MADAGASCAR



January 2022

Dear Praying Friends,

We hope that each of you had a blessed Christmas as we remember our Savior's birth on earth. How wonderful that God would choose to become a person so that He could die on the cross and pay for our sins! I pray that you would have a wonderful new year! Even if the year does not go the way that we would hope, we can still love God and draw closer to Him this year!

Today (January 20th) is exactly 3 weeks from the day that we are scheduled to fly out of Washington DC heading to Madagascar!! We leave, Lord willing, on February 10th. We are excited. We are a little sad. We are a little stressed. We are happy! We have been praying for this for a long time! We are glad that God has answered our prayers and that we are so close to getting there to be able to work!

We praise God that we have a house over in Madagascar waiting for us in the capitol where we will be doing our language training.

We are busy sorting, packing, sorting, and packing! We were able to get humanitarian fare tickets (which means that we can take 3 pieces of luggage per person. This is a huge help in our move as we do not plan to ship a container right now. We can take 25 pieces of luggage at 50lbs a piece.

As we are trying to sort and pack, we are also trying to say good-bye to family, friends, and loved ones. Richard has lived and worked in Madagascar before, but it is all new to me (and the kids too). We are not "going home" but going to a new place with many unknowns. We are excited and looking forward to this new adventure, but also must get ready emotionally. Aside from the physical aspects of leaving, there are the emotion aspects of leaving (the thought of not seeing loved ones and friends for years, saying good-bye, the unknowns of moving to and living in a new culture and country, and trying to enjoy the time that we have with people). Sometimes it is hard to balance the physical and emotional aspects of leaving. Sometimes it is hard to "get ready to go" emotionally... how do you say good-bye? How do you "enjoy time" with people? Sometimes my heart hurts and I just want to cry. The thing that we can all hold to in this transitional time is God... He never changes. He always loves us. He will give the strength for what He has called us to do. He will give peace. When I am overwhelmed, I must turn to Him and focus on Him. When I focus on circumstances, I might feel great stress and pressure. When I look at Him, I can have peace in the storms that life brings! God has blessed us SO much! There is SO much to be thankful for!

Thank you for your love and friendship! We love you! Even if we do not get to see you as much as we would like, we want you to know that you are still special to us! May God bless you and keep you this next year and may we all remember to thank God more for His abundant blessings!

In the Service of the King,

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



If you would our new family picture, it can be downloaded from our website.
www.mad4christ.org



Our continual packing

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