



Church Planting in
MADAGASCAR

February 2023

Dear Praying Friends,

We pray that each of you has had a great start to a new year! We are excited about what God has been and will do in and through us here in Madagascar!

Richard has continued to fly out to Maintirano at least once per month to preach in the church there and pay peoples' salaries. Preaching in the Malagasy language again has been a stretching experience as he continues to get back into speaking Malagasy and having language lessons. The Burdetts are planning to return in March, so Richard will make one more trip out to Maintirano this month. We are helping plan and organize a special time for the couples there in celebration of Valentine's day. Rebekah and I were able to go with Richard to Maintirano last month. Grace did great on her first airplane ride and had her first time at the beach. Grace was quite popular with the ladies at church; everyone waited their turn to hold her for a picture. It is not every day that they get to see a little white baby.

Grace continues to grow. We praise God that she has been sleeping through the night for the past month and a half (it is such a blessing to sleep at night!). During the baby dedication service at the church here, we dedicated Grace to God to use as He desires. It is our prayer that God would use each of our children for His glory!

I resumed Malagasy language classes in January. I was worried that I had forgotten a lot, but I was pleasantly surprised and encouraged by how much I remembered! I have been understanding a lot more of conversations and preaching. The first step to knowing a language is understanding. I pray that the next step of talking more will come soon. I was able to give a very short testimony mostly in Malagasy in the church when we visited Maintirano. Classes are going well for everyone. In a normal week, we have someone in Malagasy class every day of the week except Wednesday, Saturday, and Sunday (and those days we get at least an hour of Malagasy when we go on visitation and to church).

The kids persevere in their school. We are so blessed to be entrusted with kids who (generally speaking) want to do what is right and have a good attitude about schoolwork, Malagasy classes (these take at least 2.5 hours on class days), chores, living in Madagascar, helping with the babies, studying the Bible, going to church, and life. People often recognize the hardships for adults, but it can be hard for kids too to move to a new country, learn a new language, do homeschool, and try to make new friends. Thank you so much for praying for our kids! We continue to be SO blessed by having Rebekah here helping us! I can't say how wonderful it is to have her!



Our Contact Info:

richard.jertberg@gmail.com
jertberg@mad4christ.org
+261.32.036.61.01

Sending Church:

North Point Baptist Ch.
4980 University Pkwy.
Winston-Salem, NC 27106
(336) 767-8297

Mission Board:

Baptist Missions to
Forgotten Peoples, Inc.
P.O. Box 37043
Jacksonville, FL 32236
(904) 783-4007



Richard and Matthew are both taking classes from Ambassador Baptist College. Richard is taking an on-line master's class and Matthew is taking a dual-enrollment class as part of their step-ahead program. Though sometimes it is challenging to find time to study, both Matthew and Richard are enjoying their classes.



We have continued to delight in the various opportunities to get involved in the church here. Rebekah and Sarah were able to play the piano in the Christmas program. We have been able to sing special music and go on tract distributions. Also, this past week, Richard worked every day at the church putting in the plumbing for the bathrooms. Richard has been glad to be able to help with the building project.



After doing some research on different places in Madagascar and the need for churches in these areas, we are planning to go on a survey trip to Nosy Be, an island off the north-west coast of Madagascar. This island is about 120 square miles large and has a population somewhere between 85,000 and 118,000 people (depending on what statistics you read and when they were taken). Regardless which it is, there are a GREAT number of people here who need the gospel! During our survey, we hope to visit the different villages and towns on this island and get a better understanding of if there are any good gospel preaching churches or believers and if so where. Please pray for this trip that God would open doors of opportunity for us and show us His will about this island. Please be praying as we take this survey trip and possibly others. Where we go is one of those big decisions in life! God is not trying to hide His will from us. We are praying that He will lead and guide us each step of the way!

Thank you so much for all that you do for us and for praying for us!!

In the Service of the King,

Richard and Ruth Jertberg, Matthew, Sarah, Nathaniel, Abigail, Kezia, Hadassah, Moriah, and Grace



Just some sights around Madagascar.

