

JIM AND EMI CIVALE — YOUR MISSIONARIES TO SAMOA

Testifying... repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ. ACTS 20:21

PRAYER LETTER ~ JANUARY 1, 2017

Dear Friends,

Last month began with the funeral services for Emi's mother. It was the first funeral for Asau Baptist Church, but now the church is now having its second. Talking Chief Taomia Siliga passed away unexpectedly last week. Chief Taomia's wife and several of his children and grandchildren were saved, baptized, and added to the church in it's first year, but Chief Taomia delayed for four years before receiving Christ as Savior. Praise God Taomia did not wait too long to respond to God's grace. Please pray for his wife Selesa, his son Masimalo, his daughter Stella, and many other family members who are now in mourning.

While we are in the US and Canada for furlough, Brother Sopo Tanielu is serving as the Acting Pastor of Asau Baptist Church. Please pray for him and his wife, Kalala, as they labor to further the gospel in Samoa. Seeing Sopo grow in grace and knowledge and watching him progress in the Bible College over the last five years, I am confident that the Lord will do great things through him.

Our time in New Jersey since our early December arrival has brought both sadness and joy. We were saddened by the loss of my Aunt Giulietta just a few days after our arrival. She lived with my parents for many years and her passing away compounded the grief we have been experiencing over the loss of my father just a few months earlier. It was especially hard for my mother who found herself arranging another funeral and cleaning out another room just two doors down from my father's home office. It made for an especially difficult first Christmas without my dad and Emi's mom. The grief was outweighed, however, by the joy we felt to have all our children and their spouses together for Christmas, and especially by a great Christmas present that was delivered at 8:38 am on Christmas morning. Our daughter Carolyn gave birth to Ava Elisapeta Oxenham (6 lbs 7 oz and 19 inches), making Emi and me grandparents for the second time.

Thank you for praying for our family and ministries. Please pray for our furlough travels and for the works in Samoa .

Your grateful friends,

Jim & Emi Civale



Chief Taomia Siliga's October 2014 baptism



Grandmom Emi with baby Ava and baby Millie.

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