

JIM AND EMI CIVALE — YOUR MISSIONARIES TO SAMOA

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

PRAYER LETTER ~ AUGUST 1, 2016

Dear Friends,

We were blessed to host a fine young man who shared his talent with our students in our Christian school and who helped very much in our family with some construction projects. Caleb Thrun is the son of our dear friends in American Samoa, missionaries Terry and Linda Thrun. He was particularly interested in learning the Samoan language in our more remote setting. He did a real good job and was fast to pick up concepts and words. You can see Caleb with the different art supplies he brought over for his classes to the right. Unfortunately, Caleb's time with us was interrupted when Emi and I received news from the U.S. that my father was critically ill.



On Friday evening, July 22, my father had a massive stroke that left him unconscious. He passed away on Sunday at about noon. My parents were away at a bridge tournament and a visit to my sister outside of Washington, D.C. when Dad had the stroke. Immediately upon receiving the news, Emi and I flew up to the U.S., traveling from Samoa to Fiji to Los Angeles to Newark, NJ. A viewing and a family service were held on Thursday evening, July 28, and a second viewing and Dad's final mass on Friday, July 29. Dad will be laid to rest on August 2 at the Veteran's Memorial cemetery. I had an opportunity to preach and give a eulogy on Thursday evening and to give a eulogy again on Friday morning before the Catholic mass. I must say that it was surreal going back to my childhood church. It seemed so very familiar and so very foreign to me at the same time. I am especially thankful to have had the opportunity to give the gospel to our family and friends and that God gave me amazing strength and composure at those times when I spoke. I was deeply comforted by the presence of my field director who flew up from Tennessee, my pastor who drove four-and-a-half hours from Pennsylvania, my sister's pastor (also one of our supporting pastors), who came from over three hours away, and seven other supporting pastors from NJ.

We left Samoa on Sunday morning just after the service. I had received the call just hours before (Friday night in the US but Saturday night in Samoa). Although I was in shock and was frantically getting everything in place for our departure, I still preached. God was so good to bless the message, fill the altar during the invitation, and allow Emi to lead a young lady, probably in her late twenties, to the Lord!!!

2017 FURLOUGH

Our next furlough will be from March to December of 2017.

Please let us know if you would like to have us in for a missions conference or meeting.

We would love to see you!

civalejim@yahoo.com

Please pray for my Mom and family in New Jersey. Please also pray for my son and daughter-in-law who stayed back in Samoa to help cover our responsibilities. Finally, please keep missionary Jenn Scarfi and our preachers-in-training in prayer as they have extra responsibilities at this time, too.

Your friends,

Jim & Emi Civale

Our phone # in the U.S. until August 29th is (609) 331-4734

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