

# What's Up With the Widups?

November 2009

## Coming Alongside

Last newsletter we showcased the Tangoa New Testament and our passion for seeing God's Word translated into the many heart languages of Vanuatu. Besides giving practical support to linguistic missionaries doing remote translation work—currently the Pikes in Santo Island interior and a new couple, the Smiths starting a work on Mota Lava Island to the north—there is another important facet to our ministry...

We try to encourage ni-Vanuatu to choose and maintain a personal relationship with Christ, by coming alongside them in ongoing friendship and showing them what it means to “walk the talk”. We also help them sharpen other important skills. Here are a few of the opportunities God has helped us to pursue in recent months. Pray for these special people!

- **Leadership Team**— comprised of five local ni-Van believers, Bill only advises while ni-Van teammate Tony Liliord heads the group in making culturally-appropriate recommendations for Up & Up's projects with ministry partners outside Vanuatu, such as Samaritan's Purse. The meetings have included prayer, worship, & sometimes a devotional time.
- **Jesse & Eneth**— as they both do work that assists our family & team in ministry, we do our best to not only *tell* but *show* them how being a Christian impacts us as individuals, spouses & parents. It's been neat to see God shaping each of them, as they learn more of His Word & as they reach out to help others, even though they have very little of this world's “riches.”
- **Bernadette**— she & Eneth enjoy a weekly Bible study with Christina, which often results in ongoing discussion during the week. Family difficulties have opened doors for further interaction, prayer and topical Scripture study.
- **Tomas & Anika**— this couple “adopted” us during our visit to their distant village in 2006. We've done our best to keep in contact, & God drew us closer together when they spent three weeks with Eneth's family & ours in September. ●



## Nabanga Kindi & TEAM Update

*Keep praying for the kindi/teacher training project. It is something we believe God wants us to do, but the process has tested our faith—and our patience! We can trust that God will make a way through every obstacle (slow-moving government officials, need for volunteer labor & more funds) in HIS time.*

Maxine Liliord, who will be heading up the teacher training and kindi programs, has another good reason for delay. She and Tony are expecting their first baby in February!

Pray for our teammates as they travel back to Maxine's home country of New Zealand just after Christmas (Tony is ni-Vanuatu.) Pray that Maxine is able to get in necessary medical appointments in preparation for baby's birth; pray for opportunities to share about their ministry vision & support needs, that bring new financial partners. ●

# Prayer Points

## FAMILY

» **Thank** God for protecting us from major illness or injury—we don't want to take it for granted here where medical care is limited. **Pray** for wisdom and resources to handle whatever arises

» **Praise** God that we can celebrate Thanksgiving & Christmas—and God's gift of His presence with us—not only "back home" but in Santo, Vanuatu! **Pray** for His comfort in these holiday months when it's hard to be so far from loved ones.

## MINISTRY

» **Praise** for the ni-Vanuatu leadership team who has guided the outreach & donations of partner organizations from Australia to Ambae Island. **Pray** for the student group, Bill, & team, to experience God's providence and equipping, & for lasting spiritual fruit among the people they engage on the island.

» **Praise** for answered prayer re: young Josephine's safe return to Jesse & Eneth after 3 years! **Pray** for healthy adjustment to her parents, siblings & school (she's resisting school).

» **Pray** for the Pikes & Smiths, bush missionaries involved in two Scripture translation projects; pray that God resolves frustrations with government process & community participation re: construction of the Christian kindi/teacher training facility

» **Praise** for opportunities to share truth & hope during Christina's hospital visits, & a growing bond with the nurses. **Pray** for wisdom, clear communication in the trade language, & changed lives.

## PARTNERSHIP

» **Praise** for visits from Christina's mom in Sept., Aussie mechanic & family in Oct. **Praise**, too, for those of you who can't visit—but who pray & give faithfully!

» **Pray** that God builds up our financial support team\* to meet our monthly need (approx. \$2000/month)

May you sense *His* peace & purpose in the holiday season,

*Bill & Christina Widap  
Marcus, Mikaela, Maxwell & Malachi †*



Christina's befriended Floro, at the hospital for 2 months with baby Manuel & girl Mari

Our kids & Eneth's kids having a play session with Maxine!



## They Just Keep On Growing!

Many of you have shown a loving interest not only in our ministry, but in our children. We appreciate that! Here's a bit about what each one of them is doing now:

**Malachi**—8 months old in November, he is a deliciously chubby baby with two teeth and a bubbly personality. He loves to swing or sit outside, or interact with his siblings.

**Maxwell**—2-1/2 years old, he is proud to be potty-trained and pacifier-free. He often runs errands with Dad during school-time, and loves to do "tricks" on the trampoline or run around outside with his best mate, JuJu.

**Mikaela**—at 10 years old, her interests have shifted from Barbie dolls to knitting, reading, card-making & baking. She enjoys playing with fellow MKs (missionary kids) & neighbor girls & has taken up horseback riding lessons.

**Marcus**—13-1/2 years old, he is almost taller than Mom. School is *not* one of his favorite activities, but he works hard to get all his assignments done early each day. His hobbies include video & computer games, Lego's & a new activity, quad-bike riding. •

\* Contact us for more info—[wrw@usa.com](mailto:wrw@usa.com)