

THE SMITH FAMILY

Zach & Stephanie
Smith

December 2025

As we wrote our last update in August, we thought that the rest of the year would slow down and finish quietly. However, God had other plans.

Mid - September, I (Steph) woke up one morning to a missed call and an urgent text from one of my brothers. Everyone's worst nightmare. I called him back frantically several times and texted him. The few minutes that passed until he called back seemed like an eternity. He called back and choked out, "Dad had a heart attack this morning." Tears poured down my face as I tried to process what I'd just heard. Dad was alive, but the doctors weren't exactly sure what things looked like long term.

Zach and I made the decision that I would fly back to Illinois to help and be able to go to the multitude of appointments that follow a heart attack. God was SO good in how our community here in Sentani came around our family while I was gone for almost 3 weeks. Childcare, meals, flexible work hours, and so much more blessed our family and continued to bless our family even after I returned home. Dad is recovering well and keeping us all on our toes!

Transitions. Relationships. Packed. Unexpected.

These 4 words keep coming to mind as we look back on 2025. Transitions to working in the hangar, building relationships in town and with friends interior, packed full of memories, and learning to expect the unexpected. Each of these words reminds us of the amazing community we have all over the world. What a blessing it is to us!

We are so thankful for each family and individual who has partnered with us through prayer and finances this past year. Each of you is part of our community.

It is our privilege to express our thankfulness to our partners and praise God for His faithfulness in providing for our financial needs this year. If you feel led to give a year-end gift or to join our regular partnership team, we would love your help as we launch into ministry in 2026! Thank you for partnering to get the Word to the Bibleless!

Merry Christmas!
Zach, Steph, Adam, and Madelyn



Praise:

- * Zach is continuing to grow in his knowledge of turbine aircraft
- * Safety on a whirlwind trip to America for Steph
- * We were able to attend a marriage conference here in Sentani
- * Being able to celebrate Christmas again in Papua

Pray:

- * For Zach & the maintenance team as they work short-staffed
- * Wisdom raising our kids cross-culturally and preparing them for furlough late next year
- * For the Bibleless to receive the Word in the language and format that they best understand



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