

# THE SMITH FAMILY

Zach & Stephanie  
Smith  
March 2026

We sent our newsletter out in early December with the prayer for the rest of the month to be uneventful. God's plans are bigger and greater than ours. For our family, we watched many hard things in our missions community, including 3 medivacs and the death of a sweet 16 year old young lady due to complications from dengue fever and pneumonia. We celebrated Christmas with joy and heavy hearts. At the end of January, we prayed for our community as we watched plans for a 4th medivac come together. Praise the Lord that 3 of the 4 patients who were medivaced have been brought home to Sentani and one has returned to their passport country.

Early January, our friend Dan, a young adult from one of our partnering churches, came to spend 6 weeks with our family to learn about life here first hand. God granted him so many unexpected opportunities while staying with us. He was able to spend 5 days interior, visit with many different families here and learn about their ministries. He helped us with projects and the kids, led worship at church, had the opportunity to visit one of our beautiful beaches, & much more. As Dan prepared to move onto his next adventure, his family met him in Bali and we were invited to join them. It was a blessing to spend time with them and to reconnect!

Even with the hard things that happened in December, we had the privilege to help with an "Angel Tree Project" for a local orphanage. Schools in Indonesia require students to wear mostly black shoes with white socks. This orphanage, like many here, struggles to make ends meet. One of the practical ways that we can help them is by members in the community adopting one or more children and buying them the shoes and socks needed.

Getting all of this coordinated requires a team of people (much like us getting here to Indonesia and also regular life here). There's the behind the scenes work of getting all the children's information, putting it on a separate piece of paper, then a group goes to measure the children's feet on that paper, ornaments are made with each child and staff members name and shoe size, then, at church it's announced and people can come pick out a name. Once a name has been selected, shoes and socks are purchased and paid for by that person or family. Finally, a few days before Christmas, the gifts are delivered and there's a little Christmas program followed by everyone opening their Christmas gift. Even though they all know what is in it, the joy on their faces can't be erased from our minds!



## Praise:

- \* The maintenance team is more fully staffed for the time being
- \* Our friend Dan was able to come visit us for a little over a month & time vacationing with him & his family
- \* Dad was released from cardiac rehab early this year

## Pray:

- \* For Zach & I to be able to find purposeful rest as we near the end of our first term
- \* For the missions community here as we grieve death & walk alongside each other through illness
- \* Wisdom raising our kids cross-culturally and preparing them for furlough later this year
- \* For the Bibleless to receive the Word in the language and format that they best understand



Zach, Steph, Adam, and Madelyn

Zach  
980.241.5482  
zachary\_smith@wycliffe.org  
Stephanie  
515.320.1383  
stephanie\_smith@wycliffe.org

Wycliffe Bible  
Translators  
PO Box 628200  
Orlando, FL 32862  
1-800-WYCLIFFE

To give by check, please include a separate note stating: "Preference for the Wycliffe ministry of Zach & Stephanie Smith #201104"

Wycliffe<sup>®</sup>  
BibleTranslators

