

Vanuatu Medical Mission

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Santo, Vanuatu



SEPTEMBER UPDATE

Dear Prayer Partners,

Greetings from Vanuatu. This year has been a bit crazy — as it has been for most people. As I wrote in my last prayer letter, in February I went to NZ to help my 7 month pregnant sister. She had broken her foot in 3 places and needed help with my niece, Lyla who was 15 months old. My sister's husband was busy calving and the rest of my family were injured or sick. It was supposed to be 3-6 weeks, but my flight home was cancelled because of the current pandemic. God meant it for good as my sister ended up needing a cesarean. Since no family could travel from Australia, it worked well that I was still there in May to help in that stressful time for her. Leo is a healthy baby and a cute addition to the family. I learned to cook some new meals and look after a toddler, which was a shock to the system especially with those 5 am wake ups!

I didn't think I would be allowed to come back to Vanuatu for a long time with all the borders being closed, but a repatriation flight was scheduled with the NZ Air Force on a Hercules areoplane. At the start of June, Medical Santo was able to get me on the plane — I am very grateful for their intervention and the NZ



high commission for granting me passage. I completed a 14 day quarantine in Port Vila and have been in Santo for 2 months now. Vanuatu is still Covid free so entry is very strict.

The effects of the cyclone Harold are still everywhere but I am grateful for the support and prayers for the people here. In the immediate area where we work, no one lost their lives, although some were injured. Matt and Lydia Meads lost their bush house down at Karia. Back in Luganville, an internet tower fell on my house! The aidpost in Tebroma (where I volunteer and was training a young woman) was completely blown away. However, God moved and blessed as some special people donated funds to help repair these things for which I am forever grateful!

The day after the cyclone, some looters broke through the ceiling where the tower fell on my home and stole a few things. They tried to steal my Toyota Hilux that people donated for last year. They obviously didn't know how to drive as they ran into a tree and left it there in the front of the yard. Praise God, it only suffered damage to the front tyre and still runs well.

The biggest



Mobile Phone Tower

problem was water damage in my house from the new hole in the roof. But I have amazing friends who took care of the clean up, so there was little I had to do when I arrived back.

At the clinic in town, Judith was the only volunteer left and she had been on call for 24 hours for 3 months. She hasn't

had time off since mid March. I've been mainly just helping Judith at the clinic—as you can imagine there is a GREAT amount of work to be done. Recently we've had a doctor come from Port Vila, which was a real help. Now



Destroyed Aid Post

that I'm free to do other outreaches, I've made one trip to South Santo and another to Middle Bush. The rebuilding of the Tebroma aidpost (the one blown away!) went very well and was finished

quickly.

Prayer & Praise Points

- Praise God I was allowed to return to Vanuatu!
- Praise God there is still no Covid 19 in Vanuatu!



Rebuilt Aid Post

- Praise God for the quick rebuilding of affected buildings!
- Prayer for the rebuilding of the South road which is now hard to navigate than ever!

Blessings — Rachael

SENDING
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