### **Remote Island Ministries**

#### Nov & Dec 2024

# MISSION: INDO-PACIFIC!

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"Inside the anchorage, our ship is moored securely, fore and aft, however, this is not a sheltered anchorage..."



A precious, handmade gift card from Amelia in our sending church, was given to me the Sunday we were at Victory Baptist Church. Many others also were given by the children. Thank you, kids!

#### Ship's Log: The Northwest Monsoon

-Glen Knight

THE NORTHWEST MONSOON has fully developed here in the Eastern Indian Ocean, and with it, torrential rainfall and strong westerly winds. Inside the anchorage, our ship is moored securely, fore and aft, however this is not a sheltered anchorage so we get the full brunt of the wind, often exceeding 25 knots. This is also a good test for the vessel's topsides to assure that we have no leaking from overhead. All is good, so far! To say the least, the sailing season for NATIVA is on hold until the weather shifts, which will likely be sometime in March or April as the southeasterlies return. I often say that we have a long history of working very close to nature. We've learned, sometimes the hard way, that there are certain conditions of wind and sea that are too dangerous to test. So for now, we are busy with what is possible to be done in the villages around the anchorage and among the other mariners who, like us, are hove-to at anchor, waiting out the season.

WE ENJOYED spending a few weeks in November and December with our stateside family. What a joy it was to be able to share the time with children in Texas, parents in Tennessee and other special loved ones in Arkansas. It was also great to share a Sunday with our sending church in Sherwood, Arkansas, Victory Baptist. We were even able to travel the long distance to central Florida to visit our eldest grandson and meet our very first great-grandchild! The Lord has been good to us to answer our prayers for safety in the journey and a happy return to the ship here in Benoa Port, Denpasar, Indonesia.

WE ARE WELL and blessed, thanks to your prayers and generosity. Our children in Australia, Japan, and the US are all fine and happy. We hope you enjoy reading this last edition of our newsletter for 2024, as we focus on some of our wonderful family and friends. Thank you and God bless!

Glen & Summer Knight



We enjoyed time spent with our kids, Matt and Lony in Tyler, TX. They own a food service business and Matt is standing in front of their vintage trailer in this photo. Philippine cuisine is their specialty. It's really good!

"Many thanks go to those who love and pray for us often..."



It was our joy to see Brother Phillip Kelley of South Crossett MBC, who caught up with us at our sending church on Sunday!

#### A Brief Visit Home in November & December



PRECIOUS WORDS on cards prepared by children of our sending church, are more meaningful and encouraging than most folks will ever know. I suppose one has to understand the context of the gesture, which in our case, is that of serving half-the-world away and seldom seeing the family and friends we love. The kids who prepared these cards and their teachers in Sunday school, understand. Many thanks go to those who love and pray often for us, especially these VBC kids!

Some of my dear cousins from around Arkansas visited Victory on the day we were there. Steve, Trish, Lyndell, Melba and Kathrine are featured here in this photo with Juli and me. Among them, Kathrine is a member of Victory Baptist Church, along with us. Other of our family members were there who aren't in the photograph, including cousins Danny and Melionee Knight, White Hall; cousin, Carnell Proctor; Sherwood; and, Uncle John and Aunt Rose Knight, Arkadelphia.





My cousin, Michael and I grew up together on neighboring, Tennessee farms. We both cultivated adventurous spirits from a young age and now, even in our senior years, that hasn't waned. He is a mule-skinner with a team of mules and a wagon which he's driven from Tennessee to California, and is currently talking about another drive from his Tennessee farm to the east coast, through the Appalachians. We often compare notes on life and how things have changed for us through the years, what's behind and what lies ahead. He speaks of trails and I speak of sea lanes.

"What we do are things not many people will notice, except for those who benefit in some way. It may be a sort of momentary relief that is shown or a more lasting kind of blessing. It may be a gentle word or a thoughtful gesture given. And we may never know the difference. But God sees." —gk

### At Home and Around The Ship

Two important projects are now ready to commence the first week of January. New anchor chain for the starboard anchor has been located. We are ready to place the order of 500'. The photo at the right is from the supplier in Surabaya, Indonesia. The second project is to replace all the solar energy system of the ship, part of which is shown in the photo below. The upgraded system will result in a tremendous savings in fuel costs.



The system we are replacing has simply aged out and is no longer efficient. I am thankful for Forest Grove MBC, Taylor, Arkansas, Grace BC, Bowie, Maryland, First MBC, Fresno, California and Clovis MBC, Clovis, California for their offerings for these two projects!

Most of our stateside time was spent on the family farm in middle Tennessee. It's always a special blessing to return to one of the places where I spent my childhood years. Many of you know my mother from long ago in Landmark MBC, Gould, AR and Southside MBC, Star City, AR. The photo to the right shows my mom, Betty, and step-father, Bill in their shop on the farm, where Bill rebuilds vintage Mopar automobiles. One of his cars can be seen in the photo, a 1971 Dodge Charger, he had just acquired. I'm a Mustang guy, but we still manage to get along!



During our stateside visit in November, we were able to travel to Florida for a visit with our grandchildren, Noah, Chae and Elijah. While there, it was my joy to catch up with a long-time friend, Pastor David Price, 1st MBC, Auburndale, Florida.



While in Florida, we were able to enjoy brief visits with Lone Oak MBC, Pastor Kerry Beaty, and with Baylake MBC, Pastor Daryl Sheeley. What a blessing these churches and pastors have been to us through the years!

As God permits, we will return stateside in mid-May, 2025. We will be with First MBC, Fresno, CA the week of May 18. Following that time, we are planning to travel to the interior and will be attending the annual meeting of the American Baptist Association in Springfield, MO. We're setting up a short appointment schedule for June. It will be great to visit some of you again! Likewise, it was great to visit with Pastor Jim Harris, Riverside MBC, Wauchula, Florida, over a nice dinner one evening. Thank you, Jim, for your kindness!

"As I'm writing this, it's the last day of the year, 2024. And it got here a lot faster than any of us expected. If things go as in the past, tomorrow, we will open a new calendar on the twelve months ahead, in which we'll jot down what we hope to do through the year. I was looking at an old calendar from 2014 recently and noted things that had been entered in the various blocks of each month. I realized the truth of what Jesus said, "...tomorrow will take thought for the things of itself." — Mt 6:34

#### Remote Island Ministries

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It was for only a few minutes, but we connected with my grandson, Nathan, on the way to DFW Airport.

# ...Reaching people on the edge!



"A Christmas Day Sunset Harbor"

Christmas in the tropics for us, has always been special. There's no cold weather, and thus, no need for heavy clothing. The decorations are usually scant, if at all. But nothing can take away from the real meaning and purpose of the celebration!

### Closing thoughts: Trackless Seas...

-Glen Knight

The oceans and seas are as much a highway as are the roads built by man. Indeed, they are the first highways. I was looking at sea charts lately and considering the routes we've taken in the last several years. It is only on the charts that any mark remains, since as a ship passes on the sea, there is nothing but a momentary wake left behind. Soon, the displaced water merges and blends once again with its surrounding so that the ship's path is undetected. But what remains of the path taken by a vessel at sea, is the impact that is had on the ports of call, or in the anchorages off remote islands. It is there that tracks are laid, and memories are made of more than just an ocean voyage. I can look back at photos from this year and years past, and remember each person in every place, for you see, the heart, unlike the sea, is not trackless.



"The boat here has no mast, no chain plates and no rails. Her dodger is ripped and only bits and pieces of deck hardware remain. It isn't an old boat. She tells a tale of disaster at sea and of possible loss of life. She definitely admits to the failed dream of a mariner who obviously abandoned ship, somewhere, sometime. How much like life without Jesus is this?" —things adrift.