

Johnnie &
Jennifer Peyton
—
Associates in
Missions to Vanuatu



Celebrating USA Independence Day with Sis Amy Sawyer!



Celebrating Vanuatu Independence Day on July 30th!

July - A Month to Celebrate Freedom!

Jennifer and I felt very “free” throughout the month of July! On July 4th, we celebrated American Independence Day with Sis. Amy Sawyer, our fellow American missionary who is visiting Vanuatu for a couple months. We marked the occasion with an American tradition—by getting burgers and fries at Jill’s Café, the only local “American” restaurant.

The freedom festivities didn’t stop there; on July 30th, Vanuatu celebrated their own independence day, which marked their liberation from British and French rule in 1980. Jennifer and I visited the local Independence Park and ate local food from vendors who are saints in the church. Later, fireworks lit up the night sky.

The USA’s national motto is “In God We Trust.” Vanuatu’s national motto is “Long God Yumi Stanap,” which means “In God We Stand.” This month we reflected on how true freedom is only found in God. Regardless of the political entity we find ourselves under, we can dwell in the Holy Spirit, and we can have confidence that where His Spirit is, there is freedom (2 Corinthians 3:17)!

The work continues in Vanuatu!



Vanuatu welcomes Rev. Lee Sherry and Rev. Dr. Ralph Buie & family!

Rev. Sherry Arrives

The UPCI of Vanuatu was overjoyed to see the return of Rev. Lee Sherry! He and his wife served as UPCI missionaries over 40 years. They founded the work in Vanuatu in 1992 and served until 2012. Many locals refer to him lovingly as “Abu” (Grandfather) Sherry. Sis. Sherry went on to be with the Lord earlier this year, and now Bro. Sherry has returned “home” for a brief visit.

GATS Teacher’s Training Seminar

This month Vanuatu held a teacher’s training seminar for all current and prospective teachers at the local UPCI Bible School. We were pleased to have Rev. Dr. Ralph Buie, who is the Director of Accreditation at Texas Bible College. The sessions were enjoyable and informative!



Fellowship lunches during the seminar



Bro. Buie’s enjoyable teaching



Jennifer passionately teaching at the Bible School



An evening of fellowship with local ministers and youth!

Prayer Requests for Vanuatu

Our biggest request right now is for the upcoming national conference in August! There are many exciting things going on during this time. Many ministers and saints from all across the country of Vanuatu will be converging on the main island for conference. The recently-completed amphitheater which sits on the UPCIV headquarters property is being dedicated this year at conference. Bro. Doug Klinedinst will be flying in to preach. Finally, an AYC group of over 30 young people will arrive a week before conference to help evangelize the region and support the conference. This is a very busy time but very profitable as well! We are confident that God will do great things in Vanuatu and in the lives of everyone involved through this conference!