

Tuesday night, Oct 13th, 2009
from: Randy & Sharon English
Tutuila Island,
American Samoa

We bring you greetings from the Christians here in American Samoa, who are happy in laboring together in the Lord's work while serving those who have been severely affected by the recent tsunami that struck the Samoan Islands on Sept 29th. We thank God for your prayers and assistance, which has sustained us for every good work here.

For the past two days we have been working to complete the purchasing and organizing of items bought locally that were needed for another relief distribution in one of the villages that was greatly affected by the tsunami - Asili Village. Following yesterday's meeting with village leaders, we confirmed that the Leone church of Christ would distribute relief this evening at 5:00 p.m. to all the households of Asili Village in the Western District of Tutuila Island, American Samoa. Immediately our family began organizing relief efforts together with our co-workers (the Pierce family) and members of the Leone church of Christ. We were also thankful to have the help of Peter Taliloa, a dear brother in Christ who often works together with us in broadcasting the Gospel in the Samoan language. Procuring locally the much needed items for this relief effort is becoming more and more of a challenge. With each passing day, local inventories diminish. This is one of the reasons why we began early in our efforts to bring in supplies from off island via several large cargo containers. This will insure that we can continue to meet the essential needs of those who have lost everything, as we minister to them in spiritual things as well.

The distribution this evening was very well received by local residents and

local leaders. Member of the Leone congregation were once again on the fronts lines serving, just as they have continued to do from the very first day of this catastrophe. The items that we distributed were purchased with funds that congregations and/or and individual members of the church have sent to us via our overseeing elders. Every dollar spent was carefully considered, and in distributing these goods, we were able to insure that those who received the goods were those who actually were in need. We were able to visit with these good people face to face. Although they have been through a lot of suffering, they have not yet given up hope, and inasmuch as possible, they are working to return to their normal lives. They are extremely grateful for what the church is doing, and we believe that God is being glorified. New relationships are being made and although most have heard of the Leone church of Christ, they might not have ever had the opportunity to meet so many of our members at one time. They know that the Leone church of Christ is not a large congregation, so they often ask how we are able to do this much.....we just smile and explain to them that God has blessed us with a wonderful "aiga" (family) in Christ...and that our family from all over the world is concern about helping them physically and spiritually during this great hour of need.

This evening, we were able to distribute to each household in Asili Village the following items: dish ware for 4 people, extra large bowls, a large dishwashing tub, several yards of cloth material, hammers & nails, hand saws, cups, spoons, knives, forks, large plastic carrying bags, work gloves, 5 gallon water containers, 2 cases of purified drinking water, 40lb bag of rice, a large kettle, a large wok, machete, under garments for men and for women, personal care pack including first aid kits, soap, shampoo, deodorant, toothpaste, a bag of toys/candy for children, and more! Most of these items have been very difficult for the families to obtain at this

time. However, God has blessed us to purchase these items from local vendors, each of who has been a tremendous help to us over the past 20 years of laboring in this area of the world.

We're attaching below a few photos taken over the past few days, including this evening's relief distribution at Asili Village, as well as a record/report of what was distributed. Please look closely at these pictures.....each one speaks volumes about the Leone church's relief efforts among these wonderful people, made possible through your prayers and support. Thank you for praying for us and also for deciding to help by sending relief funds. Although there is much work that must be done, we are making progress with each passing day. With your continued support and prayers, we can serve these people and continue building up a great spiritual house for the Lord!

In Christ we live and serve,

The English Family in American Samoa
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