

Basinger News, March 2017



Hello, dear friends, from hot, humid Indonesia!

As the month of March begins, Zeph is passionate about waking up each morning to read for 15 minutes so that he can gain 15 minutes of Minecraft time on the iPad before school. Ezra is learning how to use an inside voice (the story of his life!). Abi, our niece, is looking forward to her senior trip.

Matt is working hard on a partnership that would set the course of his solar-engineering business for the next five years, and I am feeling very fulfilled and challenged as I do counseling and administration at Sekolah Papua Harapan AND chase cockroaches and ants out of my kitchen.

Read along to see some highlights of our last few months of life and ministry ... with more images to

be seen (about what's been going on at Sekolah Papua Harapan) [here](#) and (about life in Papua) [here](#).



Hangar Hang-Out

Every Tuesday and Friday, Mission Aviation Fellowship hosts a "hangar hangout" for our mechanically-inclined SPH kids to get introduced to the world of mission aviation. Here Jon Chin, MAF Papua's Maintenance Manager, is teaching one of our 9th graders, Gerpatius, about installing rivets.

Gerpa has flown on MAF planes since he was five years old. Now, having been equipped with critical-thinking and problem-solving skills through his education at SPH, he has the opportunity to explore the possibility of becoming a future MAF pilot. We can't wait to see where God might lead

these intelligent, capable, passionate kids!



Books, Books, Books!!!

In January, \$1,600 of donated NEW Usborne books (2 suitcases full) were hand-carried across the ocean and delivered into the hands of our SPH students. Thank you to each of you who selected and donated books through the book fair last May! Click [here](#) to see the faces of our ecstatic students and grateful teachers!

Book Worms



Dance Off

For our staff-wide "Food, Fun, and Fellowship" gathering last month, we were divided into groups based on where we grew up and were asked to perform a traditional dance from our place of origin. There were six dances performed from various regions across the Indonesian archipelago plus ...ahem... the Macarena performed by us (rather uncoordinated) westerners.

The true beauty of the night was the deep unity of each person's commitment to what God is doing at SPH. We praise the Lord for the way He unites us in Spirit and Purpose.

Dance Off



Beauty from Ashes

It's hard to talk about the hard things... but the reality is that, amidst the incredible beauty and growth around us, we have also faced some devastating and hurtful realities this year.

A couple of months ago, a trusted member of our community was found to have sexually abused two of our students. We've felt like we are emerging from a fire, all of us burned and disillusioned. And, yet, as we've acted decisively to protect our students and as we've spoken truth, we've see freedom growing in the lives of the survivors of abuse. We've begun to see beauty coming from ashes.

In our twice-weekly staff chapels, we've been reminded over and over about the truth of the Gospel (as stated by Tim Keller): "We are more sinful and flawed than we ever dared believe, yet more loved

and accepted in Jesus than we ever dared hope."

So, when we face to ugliness of sin, we do not despair. We know this is a broken world. At the same time, when sin is exposed, we do not stand by and watch it unravel our lives. Rather, we act in love and toward justice to restore those who are burned and broken.

I have seldom felt so sure of our next steps and so alive with passion as I have through the pain and brokenness we've navigated this year. I'm grateful for counseling training and a gospel worldview which have prepared me to walk this road. And, I'm grateful to each of you who make it possible for our family to be doing this work.

Praises

New Principal! You've been praying with us for a new principal since our former principal left to pursue further education in September...

Thank you! The Lord has blessed us with a fantastic new leader, Ibu Deborah (pictured below). She taught first grade at SPH in 2014, went on to complete her master's degree, and now we are thrilled to have her back!



Personal Mailing Address:
Matthew and Jacinda Basinger

Prayer Requests

Continued Healing. Please continue to pray for our community as we heal from the abuse that we've experienced.

Parenting FIFTEEN teenagers. I meet with our SPH dorm parents weekly to collaborate about how to best support and guide our dorm students: fourteen of them are now teenagers (plus we have our seventeen year old neice living with us this year). Pray for wisdom as I help navigate the joys and challenges of adolescence!

Visa. My (Jacinda's) long-term visa has been *almost* ready for four and a half years. Now we hear that it may be *really* ready in two months. Please pray that it is!

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MAF Box 239
Sentani, Papua, Indonesia

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www.maf.org/basinger

You're receiving this newsletter to stay up-to-date in the lives of the Basinger family as they serve at Papua Hope School (Jacinda) and Advancing Engineering (Matt) in Indonesia.

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