



September 2023

Dear Pastors,

The last three months have been interesting here in the work of the Lord on Guam. Although Typhoon Mawar has left her mark on the island, God's people continue to grow and share the Gospel. Many of our families were without power for over two months. For six to eight weeks, the water supply was interrupted. Even more challenging was the internet outage! How can a family survive without that?! Actually, it was not a pressing issue compared to the other essential needs. The most memorable time was the gasoline shortage. It's amazing how much we depend upon gasoline! One day, I waited ten hours for gas. When I finally made it to the gas station, I filled up my car and several five-gallon containers. For several days, I was the pastor, gas hauler, and water dispenser for our church. What an opportunity to reach people!

A few weeks ago, we baptized several in the ocean. Thank God, Mawar did not affect our baptismal pool. During the baptism, many local bystanders and tourists watched our services by the ocean.

During the recovery, we decided to have our scheduled VBS, having over forty young people attend each of the three nights. How encouraging to see our people get involved, despite many still



ASSISTING AGENCY:  
ALL POINTS BAPTIST MISSION  
P.O. BOX 977  
NEW PHILADELPHIA, OH 44663



HOME ADDRESS:  
7513 ROCKINGHAM DR.  
SOUTHAVEN, MS 38671  
1 (662) 209-1445  
SBARNES93@BELL SOUTH.NET



SENDING CHURCH:  
BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH  
6001 GOODMAN RD.  
WALLS, MS 38680



removing debris and trees earlier in the day! The evening VBS offered a reprieve from the recovery.

Our people have found that the best way to recover is to focus on others.

The military continue to rotate in and out of the island. Shortly after two of our military members PCS'd to the States, the Lord gave us two families that joined last Sunday. As long as we continue to go out and give the Gospel, the Lord supplies the visitors.

I want to thank all of those churches that gave towards the Mawar recovery for our families. Only Eternity will reveal the true rewards of those prayers and support. To our supporting churches, thank you for your faithfulness.

Your missionary to Guam,

Steven Barnes



[Pictured above] Seven of the eight families who lost their homes to Typhoon Mawar



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