



# NEWSLETTER

*"Hear, O Israel! The Lord is our God, the LORD is one! You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might."* - Deuteronomy 6:4-5. NASB

## THE MAMITIANA FAMILY

Greetings from Fort Dauphin. The last time you heard from us was that we had arrived safely in Madagascar on Jan. 7 with a red-carpet entry that we did not even expect. If you do not know what we are talking about, it is worth it to read our exclusive update on our website.

As a family, we stayed in Antananarivo, the capital of Madagascar, for about three weeks. The reasons were spending time with our family and relatives. Both sets of our parents are there, and that was number one. Then we had

to take care of some administration paperwork with the government for our coming crate. During those times as well, I was invited to preach at three different Baptist churches and connect with the leaders of the Baptist convention in Madagascar.

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*The Mamitianas pick up the vehical donated by ministry partners*

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## OUR VISION

*Our vision is to train servant leaders of Jesus Christ through biblical teaching for the purposes of local and global missions, as well as discipleship. Please pray for us:*

[shemamadagascar.org/p-a-r-t-n-e-r](http://shemamadagascar.org/p-a-r-t-n-e-r)



*First Baptist Church, Fort Dauphin, Madagascar*

CONTACT

[WWW.SHEMAMADAGASCAR.ORG](http://WWW.SHEMAMADAGASCAR.ORG) | [MAMITIANA@SHEMAMADAGASCAR.ORG](mailto:MAMITIANA@SHEMAMADAGASCAR.ORG) | [TOKY@SHEMAMADAGASCAR.ORG](mailto:TOKY@SHEMAMADAGASCAR.ORG)

Just a few days after we arrived here in Fort Dauphin, we started to contact people and share the gospel around our neighborhood. As a result, one day before our first service, a couple (Ledada & Vangelina, and their son Fandresena) gave their lives to the Lord and put their faith in Christ for Salvation. The next day they came with us to church. The next thing we will do as a church is to baptize them as they are already learning about the believer's baptism. Praise the Lord for the rejoicing in heaven, seeing this couple receive their assurance of eternal life.

We started our very first service for the First Baptist Church on Feb. 9, 2020. A very historic day in the history of Shema Madagascar Ministries, to tell the generations to come. There were about 20+ people, including children, attending the first service (Photo), may God continue to build His church. The first sermon was taken from 2 Timothy 3:15-17, explaining how the Bible was God's inspired words, the inerrancy of Scriptures, true and trustworthy, and it is the supreme standard of instruction for life. We will continue to meet at the temporary place until we find our permanent place for worship.



### FORT DAUPHIN BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

We are getting ready for our first upcoming conference and training for pastors and church leaders, taking place in June. We will invite all the pastors from the bushes where we have planted churches with the IMB missionaries in the last five years. There are more than a hundred of preaching points, which means they are all becoming a New Testament Church that meets regularly for

discipleship, fellowship, and worship. A team from my church will come as well and be a part of this with a professor from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. There will be a separate training for the pastors and male church leaders, and also specialized theological training for the women. Please be praying for this pastors' conference as this is the beginning of the Baptist Theological

Seminary here in Fort Dauphin. After this training, we will select 25-30 students to start their first-year residential training in the Seminary. We will rent a house to host them until we build our Seminary building. If you are interested in helping us financially for this Pastors' Conference or in helping us construct the Seminary building, please don't hesitate to contact us.

### SHEMA CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

Since we arrived here in Fort Dauphin, my heart (Toky) continues to beat faster with an exciting plan preparing for this vision of Christian Academy. The need for a Christian School in Fort Dauphin is so obvious. There is no question about it. This fact has increasingly motivated us to start the School this coming September 2020, the beginning of school year here in Madagascar. Praise God, we just found a house to rent for us as a family to live, but also we are planning to use one big room in this house to be a classroom to start the K4 classroom until we have a permanent one for the school to use. We are praying for our own building construction for this

Christian School Academy. It is a step of faith as we will add a grade level each coming year, so there is the urgency to buy land and build the school. This is a huge project. Having the end in mind, we are so excited to see how this Shema Christian School Academy, as a God-honoring school, would be an instrument to win the next generation for Christ. Your prayers and support are much appreciated.

#### Specific Prayer requests for this School:

- Please pray for wisdom and guidance as we plan to start school this coming September.

- Please pray for God's provision to buy the right strategic land so we can build the Shema Christian School Academy.
- Please pray for a godly teacher to join and to work with me, to be able to educate and impart the love of God to the children.
- Please pray for God's timely provision for the school supplies.
- Please pray for donors to come and invest to partner with us to build this school.

The next step for us was to go down to Antsirabe toward the south, as we were invited to be a part of the Madagascar IMB Missionaries in prayers retreat for four days. We had a great bonding time with them. We felt refreshed, energized, and encouraged with the vision for the next decade to reach Madagascar for Christ. It was a divine appointment for us as a family to be a part of this prayer retreat.

From the retreat, we then drove toward Fort Dauphin as a family for a three-day journey. We drove through

crazy roads that were physically and mentally exhausting. You can imagine a snaky road; potholes that we have to drive very cautiously over, muddy and sliding roads, going through waters, including death bridges. Praise God for the provision of a sturdy and robust vehicle that we made it safe and sound to Fort Dauphin after the three-day journey. Special thanks to the donors of our vehicle with your generous donation and support, we can go to the impassable roads of Madagascar. With this car, we are taking the good news to those

unreached tribes in the very remote and isolated places.

We landed our boots on the ground on Feb. 3, 2020. As a family, we are the active ground troops in the Lord's army, physically deployed, fighting and engaging in the spiritual warfare against the darkness through bringing the light of the gospel of Jesus Christ. There is no more distinguished honor than to voluntarily serve our General, the Lord Jesus Christ, doing the extraordinary work of the gospel here in Fort Dauphin.

## PRAISE REPORT & PRAYER REQUESTS

### **Praise God for:**

- We are thankful beyond words to all our faithful partners, faith partners, and prayer partners, helping and supporting us in this ministry. Special thanks to our sending church and all the saints at Hulen Street Church in Fort Worth, Texas.
- We have arrived safely here in Fort Dauphin after traveling the impassable roads, and now beginning to settle.
- Praise God for the generous donors who provided the money for our ministry vehicle.
- Praise God for the first Sunday service of First Baptist Church of Fort Dauphin (FIANGONANA BATISTA BIBLIKA FORT DAUPHIN) and all that came to attend the service. Glory to God alone.
- Praise God for the couple and their son who gave their lives to Christ, accepting Him as their Lord and Savior. (Ledada & Vangelina and Fandresena). Praise God that they desired to take the next step through believers' baptism.
- Praise God, we have found a house to rent and that soon we will be moving to that house.

### **Please pray for:**

- Please pray for us as a family as we

are settling. There are many reverse culture shock that we have to go through and adjust. Those are not easy, but by His grace, we are encouraging one another to look the best way at life and to face it with the right attitude.

- Please pray for Toky as she started homeschooling the children. Our daughter Kanto is 7th grade. Nomena is 6th Grade; Fitahiana is 2nd Grade; and our little Honey Bee Tantely just turned 2-years-old, and is active as a busy Bee. Your prayers for the children are much appreciated as they become the third culture and missionary kids. They have a bright future in Him. Thank you for your prayers.
- Please pray for First Baptist Church Fort Dauphin to grow and to see sinners coming to faith to Christ.
- Please pray for the upcoming Pastors' Conference and the women's theological training.
- Please pray that God will select the right students for the first year, starting in September 2020.
- Please pray for the construction project for the Seminary and the Christian School Academy. We need to raise more than one million dollars to accomplish this project. Pray that God will direct donors to see the needs for both theological training

and Christian Education here in Fort Dauphin.

- Please continue to pray for God to bring the right people to work, partner, and support us with the overwhelming task here in Fort Dauphin. The Harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few; pray to the Lord of the Harvest to send us more laborers.
- Please pray for my studies. I am in the dissertation phase and writing chapters for my research. At the end of July, I will be going back to the States to present those chapters and attend my yearly class. Pray that amid ministry business and needs that I will find an undivided time and focus to write. This has been a real struggle through the transition of leaving the States and settling here at home.
- Let us all pray that God continues to give us a desire and burden to witness to the lost people around us. There are always people who are dying without knowing Christ as their Savior right there in the area where God placed us. May we see the opportunity to witness, and the boldness to share the good news of Jesus Christ. Together with Christ after the lost, until He comes.

## MEETING WITH LOCAL GOVERNMENT

I (Mamitiana) made an official visit to the mayor and the governor's office. The purpose of this meeting was to let them know about Shema Madagascar Ministries and the reason why we planted here in Fort Dauphin. The

mayor and governor both appreciated the initiative to start this ministry here in Fort Dauphin and said if there is anything they can do to help and facilitate not to hesitate to call them. It was a great visit, and they welcomed

Shema Madagascar Ministries.

At the end of each meeting I was able to pray for them and their staff, as 1 Tim. 2:1-2 encouraged us to pray for those in position of authorities.



**GIVE SECURELY ONLINE:**

[hulastreet.churchcenter.com/giving/to/shema-madagascar-ministries](https://hulastreet.churchcenter.com/giving/to/shema-madagascar-ministries)

*Your charitable gifts to the Mamitiana Family or the Shema Madagascar Ministries are tax-deductible. Please let us know how you would like to assist and support us.*

