

# Brandell e~Scr@pbook

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[www.missionvanuatu.com](http://www.missionvanuatu.com)



Closing of our 3rd annual Holiday Youth Camp

## Holiday Youth Camp

Our month was consumed with camp - from preparations to hosting to wrap up. We've said it before and we'll say it again... Youth camp week is the best week ever. We thoroughly enjoyed having 65 campers from four different islands for our 3rd annual event... a significant increase over the 12 and 25 we've had in the two years prior.

Our wall tents arrived just in time, and this was our first opportunity to put them to use. A very sincere "thank you" to those who donated funds to purchase and ship the tents late last year. The 13'x20' structures were full-to-overflowing, and it's evident that we need to order a couple more!

Our key verses for the week, Matthew 7:12 and 2 Timothy 2:22, served as the foundation for our devotions, discussions, and evening studies. In addition to those, we enjoyed daily exercise, meals, games, sports, free time, singing, and nightly activities. Always a crowd-favorite, we ended the week with Island Night - a local slant on the common variety/talent show, with LOTS of laughter.

Our primary theme during the evening studies centered around God's design for the marital relationship, paying special attention to the pre-nuptial stage. We focused on a keyword during each study, including marriage, fornication, boy/girlfriend, and sensuality. These are topics that we preach and teach on regularly, because God's way is so at odds with the world's way, and the fruits of both are manifest in Vanuatu. We love working with youth because it is an opportunity to influence them

## Prayer Requests:

- **Outer island trips**

Our family plans to make our regular trip to Malekula at the end of June. We will be visiting Lembinwen and Tulwei Villages as usual, and also have been presented with opportunities to teach in two new areas... Toman Island and Wiaru Village.

- **Campers return home**

Camp is a great week of retreat and renewal. We pray that the youth will return home with a renewed sense of dedication, and that they will continue to think on and apply the concepts we studied together. We especially lift up the five who made decisions for Christ!

- **In Memory**

We are honored to acknowledge our reception of \$1,793 in donations made in memory of the late Dr. David Buntley. One of our most generous supporters and strongest fans, his legacy lives on in a number of ways in Vanuatu and beyond.

## Prayer Updates:

- **Tropical Cyclone**

Following Cyclone Cook in April, Cyclone Donna paid us a visit in May. It would seem that we've survived another cyclone season, and we are grateful for your thoughts and prayers!

- **Youth Imprisoned**

For those who took time to pray for Mark last month, thank you! He was released on bail and able to attend youth camp. The experience has been impactful and we hope he will stay on the right track.

for Jesus at such a critical point in their lives. Decisions made in youth very often impact the rest of our days. Wise decisions regarding dating and marriage are near the top of the list, and there is indeed much confusion here. It was rewarding to have so many of the campers approach us privately and/or make statements publicly to the effect that the studies were indeed impactful.

Several campers made another important decision during the week... a commitment to follow Christ. We all rejoiced as we witnessed LenJohn, Kawia, Larios, Wesly, and Joylene make their confession of faith before being baptized into Christ.

There were many tearful goodbyes on Saturday, but our camp work wasn't complete until we got everything put away and all the island visitors on ships back home... a process that takes a couple of weeks.

You can take a much more in-depth look at Camp Week by visiting our Facebook page- [www.facebook.com/v2brandells](http://www.facebook.com/v2brandells).

## Week with Uncle Mike

Mike Olson (our teammate in Vanuatu from 2005-2012) returned from visits to Malekula and Santo, and spent a week with us in Vila.



The kids especially enjoyed having

"Uncle Mike" in our home, and we all benefited from his visit.

One task we conquered together was cutting plywood for cyclone shutters on the Vila church building. We then installed them in preparation for Cyclone Donna.

## Another year

They say you're only as old as you feel, but the calendar says I'm now 38. I was honored to celebrate another year of life with the family this month. God has blessed me richly, and I look forward to serving him for as many years as he provides!



**Mike enjoying catching up with Timothy in Eton Village**



**Happy B-day Dad!**



**Campers arriving on the ship ... and getting settled in their tents**



**Morning devotional**



**Vila building prepped and ready for Cyclone Donna. There was significant damage done in Torba Province in northern Vanuatu, but much less on us in the central and southern regions.**