



Jim & Emi Civale – Assistance & Relief Missionaries
Serving National Church Plants in the Samoan Islands
Testifying ...repentance toward God and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ. Acts 20:21



April 15, 2026

Dear Praying Friends,

What a blessing you are to us! We cannot tell you how much you have encouraged us through your many messages, queries, cards, and prayers as Emi underwent two surgeries and received very differing diagnoses from several oncologists. At this point, Emi is recovering well with only some residual aches and pain and a little less physical strength than before. The oncologists now all concur that Emi's stage-four cancer diagnosis was incorrect and that all the cancer was removed during the two surgeries. Thank God that chemotherapy was not necessary and that Emi is now in remission with no evidence of cancer whatsoever. We praise God for His loving-kindness and thank you all for many prayers and much encouragement. We are blessed beyond measure.

As we faced our health crisis on our side of the world, Pastor Ropati's wife faced hers in Samoa. Mrs. Gau, pictured next to Emi above, is not only the pastor's wife but also the principal of our mission school in Samoa. Gau had been experiencing ongoing and increasing pain, reaching the point that she was unable to attend school. Sadly, the problem wasn't properly diagnosed or treated in the clinic on our island. By God's grace and good counsel from family members, Pastor Ropati traveled with Gau over to the capital where the main hospital is. It is a full day's trip by land and sea. Sadly, before they made it to the hospital, Gau's appendix burst. They were close enough to the hospital, though, that Gau was able to undergo emergency surgery which would not have been possible out in the village. Please pray for Gau as the effects of the episode and the surgery have been severe. In fact, she has been instructed not to work for the rest of the school year. Your prayers for her healing and pain management would be greatly appreciated. For now, Gau is staying in the capital and Pastor Ropati is traveling back and forth between the two islands as he cares for both his wife and the church. Just this school year, we trained someone to do many of Gau's office and administrative duties, not knowing how vital it would be to have that person in place. God knew.



Emi will be traveling to Samoa in June to help with the school ministry for several months. I will travel the following month to help in the church there as well. While we are there, we will be hosting a mission team of fourteen from the church here in New Jersey. The purpose of the mission trip is three-fold: to furnish a kitchen and cafeteria for the school, to complete the remote learning project begun last summer, and to host both a children's and youth camp. The church in Samoa is excited as is the team here in New Jersey as we prepare for the trip. Please pray that all the logistics fall into place and needs are met.

Please also continue to pray for Emi as she prepares for her citizenship test that is supposed to occur in the fall. She has been studying her homemade flash cards with all diligence and seriousness. We are indebted in love to each of you who pray for and support us. May He bless you all according to the riches of His grace.

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Sincerely and gratefully,

Jim and Emi Civale