

Dear Darlene Hoover,

Greetings from East Timor!

I write to you from Southeast Asia, where I have been assigned by Global Ministries to work as a medical missionary. Your One Great Hour of Sharing offering fully supports the work I do. So, first I want to say, Thank You, sincerely. I also want to share with you some of the work I have been doing the past 18 months.

I work as a doctor in a primary care clinic in Lospalos, East Timor.

Immanuel Clinic is a ministry of the Protestant Church of East Timor, our partners here in Timor. Right now, the rainy season is upon us, and the clinic has been very busy. Over 1400 patients visited the clinic in March. 17 came for tuberculosis treatment. We served over 100 plates of home-cooked nutritious food to malnourished patients. Our lab diagnosed over 100 cases of malaria, and we had 9 cases of pneumonia.

The vast majority of people who come to Immanuel Clinic have more mundane problems, like worms, common colds, a dog bite here and there. Many adults suffer from the aches and pains that come from carrying water long distances to use for cooking and drinking, and also from sleeping on the ground, or on a bamboo bed that has no mattress.

Everyone who comes to the clinic, no matter the complaint, wants mostly, though, to be heard.

This past month, we drove Marilia, a 14 year old girl, to Dili, the capital city, to get advanced care for a large abdominal tumor. It takes over 5 hours to drive to Dili, but we were on our way and sometimes providing patients with simple transportation solutions is the difference between them getting the care they need, or not. A \$7 one-way bus ticket to Dili is a substantial amount of money to every Timorese person I know in Lospalos. It's simply too much for some. Seven dollars.

As I work each day in the clinic, Tom keeps busy with pastoral visitation, bible study and worship leadership, as well as attending to the odd jobs constantly arising at the clinic. We are blessed to have three young women helping us to care for Hannah, 7, and Simon, 1.



Your prayers are important to us, so please keep them coming! It gets lonely out here sometimes, but Tom and I wouldn't trade this for anything. From this perspective, it is very easy to know just how very much we are indeed in God's hands.

Peace,

Monica Liddle

Peace Church Duluth is our home church, and my position with Global Ministries is 100% supported by One Great Hour of Sharing. I am a naturopathic physician and midwife, and Tom and I keep a blog at www.monicaliddle.com about some of our experiences as missionaries living in East Timor. (above photo from Monica's blog)