

Rachel's Report

AUGUST 2026



FINDING FAMILY IN CHURCH

"Hi! Welcome to Father's House! My name is Grace. There is a group of young adults that meets for Bible study every Monday night. We would love it if you joined us. It would be a great way for you to practice Indonesian."



I couldn't have hoped for a warmer welcome on my first Sunday in Salatiga. One greeting truly affirmed that this local congregation would become my church family throughout my stay. Grace's kindness and friendship have created countless opportunities for me. **Thanks to Grace's invitation to the Bible study, I've made new friends who, in turn, have invited me to join in experiences I would have missed otherwise—like her wedding pictured above!**

Praise: I've gained amazing friends and opportunities through my church and Bible study

Pray: I want to show kindness to my friends as they have shown kindness to me.

PASTORS' KIDS AROUND THE WORLD

Since moving to Salatiga, I've connected with Grace and her then-fiancé as they prepared for their wedding. Since we are all pastors' kids, it was really special getting to hear their journeys. Even though the cultures we grew up in were vastly different, the joys and challenges we share from being pastors' kids are very similar. **This connection with fellow pastors' kids, even from diverse backgrounds, has reinforced my belief in the importance of teaching at a school where third-culture kids can connect with each other.** Although their backgrounds vary, the shared experiences foster a unique bond that many others may struggle to understand or relate to.



Pray: The local church in Salatiga faces challenges from the transient community of language schools. Ask for strength as they continue to sacrificially support short-term residents.

LANGUAGE CLASSES ARE PROGRESSING!



Currently, I spend two hours every weekday with a **pelatih**, or instructor. During my first couple of units, I had one or two classmates, but I am now, for the foreseeable future, the sole student in my class. **While this transition was challenging at first, I have come to view it as a significant blessing: I receive focused attention and feedback every day!**

My current in-class assignments include text-reading and retelling, sentence dictation, discussion, grammar, and weekly tests. Homework includes interviewing various Indonesians about specific topics and turning their answers into an essay, which I present in class the next day.

Praise: I am growing in my language understanding and communication!

Pray: With a new Hillcrest school year about to start, I'm experiencing some "homesickness." Pray that I will remain diligent in my studies as I wait to return to Papua.



"It's a new car!"

Navigating Salatiga's narrow streets makes me anxious, but I am grateful for Pak Ashadi, our patient MAF staff member, assisting me. Thanks to everyone who contributed to this vehicle, which will open many opportunities for me in Salatiga and later in Papua!

Rachel rholsen@maf.org

Ways to Give

 (800) 498-0800

 maf.org/rholsten

 Mail checks payable to MAF and notate Rachel Holsten. Send to: PO Box 47, Nampa ID 83653

MAF missionaries raise support for a pooled fund out of which MAF covers salary, housing, benefits, and staff-related ministry expenses. MAF exercises discretion over the use of missionary support to carry out its mission and care for its staff.