

Sent: Monday, February 19, 2024 9:04 PM

Hello all,

I am more than two months into my home assignment, so I thought it time to update you on things.

December and January were set aside for holiday time, to reconnect with family, and to get used to being back in Australia. I thank God that I was able to find a campervan online before leaving PNG, a friend was able to help me with the purchase, and less than a week after landing back in Australia I was in my van and on the road. That week of travelling from Port Macquarie to Melbourne, via a coastal route, was a very good time of relaxing, enjoying the bush, and realising that buying a van for this year was a good idea indeed. Since then I have sometimes used it for camping (Mt Buffalo, Cumberland River, Nora Creina, Bailey's Rocks) and other times stayed with family or friends, but I am glad that I have bought it. Pray that it continues to go well, as mechanical issues can be stressful and expensive.

My goals for home assignment include rest, reconnection, encouragement and support raising. Rest for me includes chances for quiet, for camping, for cultural events, for cuppas with friends, maybe for sailing, as well as for swimming and walking. I have already ticked off a few of these things, but am looking forward to more. Reconnection is time with family, friends and people who support my work in PNG. This overlaps with the goal of encouragement. As I travel around giving reports to churches etc, I want to both reconnect with people and encourage them in the good things that God is doing in PNG. Support raising is about both prayer and finances. During this year I am still reliant on you for these things, so please keep praying for both me in Australia and for the work in PNG, as well as giving to the work.

Reconnecting, reports and encouragement has already got off to a good start, with a few presentations in Victoria and SA already done. I am now in Adelaide and will be here for two months, mostly based in Aberfoyle Park where I am house sitting for friends. As a western suburbs girl, this is a new side of town for me! Adelaide friends, I would love to connect with you while I am in town, and maybe we can even share a Fringe or Festival show. Let me know your show recommendations, or just when we can catch up. Please be patient with me though, as I have struggled to be organised lately, and am often slow to reply to emails and messages.

Upcoming speaking engagements are:

Thursday 22 February: Australian Lutheran College Festival of Learning

Sunday 3 March: Woodside Lutheran Church

Friday 8 March: Hope Valley Lutheran Homes

Sunday 10 March: exPNG missionaries reunion

Saturday 16 March: Translation Treasures at St Bart's Anglican Church Hall, Norwood (contact Ian: saro@wycliffe.org.au)

Sunday 17 March: Pasadena Lutheran Church

Tuesday 26 March: Mt Barker Lutheran Women's Fellowship

Sunday 7 April: Dernancourt Lutheran Church

Saturday 20 April: Celebration of Translation Dinner, Naracoorte

All other Sundays are now put aside for worshipping at my home congregation of Ferryden Park Lutheran.

Currently in PNG the fifth Oral Bible Storytelling (OBS) workshop is under way. There have been some significant planning challenges, and there continue to be background problems, but reports from the village are that the course itself is going very well. Please pray for all involved in the workshop, and for our Gulf Delta team as we are scattered across the globe but doing what we can to keep the work going in PNG.

Thank you for your prayers, encouragement and support. It is good being back in Australia, going more slowly, catching up with friends and family and eating all the cheeses. I look forward to seeing more of you as the year progresses!

Blessings,
Hanna

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