

Sent: Thursday, 4 February 2021 7:42 PM

Hello All,

Happy New Year! I pray that you had a good Christmas, and a chance to stop and reflect on the wonder of the Word becoming flesh and dwelling among us. While I was sad to not have Christmas with family in Perth, as I had initially planned, I had a wonderful Christmas here with my Ukarumpa family. Not being in Australia for my parent's fiftieth wedding anniversary this week has been hard, even though everyone has been very understanding. Christmas was followed by a week of holidays by the coast in Madang. Being back by (and in!) the sea was restorative, and a great way to start a new year.

January has been spent in Ukarumpa with various meetings, as well as with preparations for my next village trip. Even after doing this for several years, I'm still surprised at how quickly the time goes when consumed by a long list of various things to do. Hopefully nothing too important got overlooked!

I head back to Gulf tomorrow/today (Friday Feb 5) and will be away for five weeks. This time will be taken up by a few days getting organised at Kapuna hospital, three and a half weeks in Ubuo village, a return to Kapuna, then a trip to Mt Hagen for my friend Sharon's wedding on March 6, before returning to Ukarumpa on March 10. Pray that all this travel will go smoothly. In my time in Ubuo, we are hoping to read through the whole of our draft of Luke in Kope, to prepare it for consultant checking later in the year. Pray that we find the things we need to correct, and do not get stuck on things that are already okay. As usual, also pray for good health and good relationships while I am in Ubuo.

Please pray for my friend and neighbour Phil, and his wife Chris. Phil was booked to be our consultant for Luke, as he works in Bamu, which is linguistically a distant cousin to Kope. Nearly two weeks ago Phil had a suspected stroke. We succeeded in medevacuating him to Cairns (which is very complex in covid times!), but he is still in ICU, and Chris is still in hotel quarantine. Pray for healing and for peace.

As part of this trip, I will have two men from our CAM (Construction and Maintenance) department flying to Gulf for five days. Andrew (USA) is coming to install the final battery in the training centre, and finish some other electrical work. Hans (NL) is coming to visit the Gulf delta area, as he is joining our work there as a project manager as we look to support neighbouring languages in translation through oral Bible storying. I'm excited about the growth in our work, and very excited to have someone taking over the project management, as it is *not* my skill set (as proven through the recent building process!).

Thank you all for joining me on this translation journey. Your prayers, gifts and encouragement are a crucial part of the work.

Blessings,
Hanna

PO Box 1 (158) Ukarumpa, EHP 444, Papua New Guinea

E: hanna_schulz@wycliffe.org.au

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M: +675 7900 1475 (also WhatsApp)