



BRYAN & TEENA GIRARD

NEW BRITAIN ISLAND

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

December 2023

Our shipment from Indonesia of Bibles, Hymn Books, and Map Books, as well as multiple items to help us to set up our print shop here, is almost ready to ship. Clint is also sending some extra Bible covers so I can re-cover some of the Bibles of our Christians here that they have worn out, especially my assistant Jelio who has worn the covers off of two of them from reading and studying. A special thanks to the supporter whose gift has offset all the expense of this.

Anchor Baptist Church of Kandrian continues to see growth, mostly in the children's department. Hilda Dillon has been doing a great job with the children and we have had a big influx recently. It is so good to see the church full. They bring a little extra noise, but I always have liked church a little noisy.

I made our semi-annual shopping trip this month and it was such a blessing. A woman from about 30 miles down the coast has purchased a small ship and is running it between Kandrian and Lae. Lae has some of the best shopping in the country and this has made it so convenient. She also has a guest apartment in Lae, right uptown, where I was able to stay. The whole trip took about 10 days and I was able to get almost everything we needed, which was a great blessing. I made some good friends on the small ship (crew of about 7) and some good contacts in Lae, including a taxi driver who is the son of one of my pastor friends in Lae. He was very helpful and would not even have taken pay except that I insisted. I was able to leave things in his trunk while he dropped me off to shop at other places. It is the little things like this that make the Lord and the brethren so precious.

While I was gone, Teena and the guys were able to get the Sunday School building moving along rapidly. She is much better at this, as I tend to rush a job just to get it done. She has them taking their time and doing it very nicely. Our goal is to have it done before the end of December and dedicate it at our 5th Sunday meeting.

December being a month with 5 Sundays, we have asked Pastor

Joe Biris to come in and preach for us that weekend. We have a great number of people to baptize as well, including our newest convert Tom Kelekele, Anna & Michael's brother. Please pray for a great meeting that will be a big encouragement to our Christians here. The meeting with Vincent Wain went well and we thank you for your prayers about that.

Our visitation and outreach program resumes again this week. Preacher George Pake and his son Charlie were able to come to Kandrian and help me with this, going around to all the places and just being a general help. Thursdays and Fridays this month of December will be to visit and preach in the villages of the remaining churches and to encourage them for our February meeting. A second preacher from America is wanting to come and is just awaiting approval from his bosses. He has already purchased his tickets, so please pray they approve it.

After our February meeting, Pastor Ruben Oiho and I will be going to the Simbu province to try to encourage the preachers from Missionary Dick Harrelson's work. We have a five day meeting scheduled.

Rist and Elise welcomed a baby girl to the clan. Her name is Eira Josetta Girard. All are doing well and we are so grateful for the Lord taking care of them.

From Teena This Month: Jael's youngest son, 5-year-old Octavius, called Tavy, importantly announced to his siblings that he was going to watch, "Math Thircuth (Circus)". As he turned away he said to himself, "I gotta work on those lispth." On the other hand, his older brother, 7-year-old Tiberius, called Ty, gave his thoughts during school while they were discussing seeing their breaths on cold days, "Yeah, that's hydrogen peroxide! I've seen it coming out my mouth and nose!"

Thank you for your love, prayers, and support for us. We are praying the Lord will bless you.

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