

Danny & Becca DeLoach

HITTING

the target

JUNE 2008

AIMING

to see God's Word hit its target in the hearts of the people of Papua New Guinea

Profitable Courses

In our last newsletter we asked you to pray that we would make wise decisions about our class schedules. A major choice was whether or not both of us or only one of us would pursue the completion of our Masters Degrees. This was a tough decision, but in the end we felt that the best thing for our family and our ministry at this time would be for only Danny to get his MA. We have already seen the positive benefits of this decision in our family and in our ministry. One result was that it allowed Danny to rearrange his classes so that he could take some courses that previously would have been impossible to fit into the schedule. These classes have turned out to be extremely applicable to some of the most perplexing issues we are facing in our Scripture Use ministry in Wantoat and throughout Papua New Guinea.

Medical Appointments, Visas and Shipping

Beyond class work, much of our time has been devoted to seeking medical attention for our children that is not available in Papua New Guinea. None of the concerns have been dire or life-threatening, but have included such things as diagnosis and treatment of urinary reflux and tubes put in Anna's ears to drain fluid build-up that was impairing her hearing. We are grateful that we have been able to take care of some of these issues while we are home on furlough. Other time-consuming tasks have



been fulfilling the medical and clerical requirements to obtain new visas for returning to Papua New Guinea and also preparing items to ship ahead that will not fit into our limited luggage allowance. (Imagine shopping for Christmas and birthday presents for the next four years!) We have to prepare and ship these items well ahead of time, because they will travel by boat.

Summer Travel Plans

We are very excited to be sharing at churches and visiting with friends in Arkansas, Illinois, Wisconsin, Kentucky and Tennessee this summer. Unfortunately, our time will be limited and we cannot visit as many people or places as we would like. However, we very much want to see as many of you in that area of the country as possible. Our current itinerary is included in this prayer letter. If you can make it to any of the places where we will be speaking, we would love to see you there. If you need further information about any of the venues, please let us know via the contact information at the bottom of this letter.

A Strategic Trip to Papua New Guinea

The study of Scripture Use is a relatively new field in the over-all work of Bible translation. A pioneer in this field of research is Dr. Wayne Dye. Wayne is one of the people who initially inspired us to pursue a specific ministry in Scripture Use (SU). Wayne and his wife, Sally, will be conducting a SU Strategies workshop in Papua New Guinea this summer. In addition to their SU knowledge the Dyes have also worked for many years in Papua New Guinea as Bible translators. So, they have a unique ability to apply the best practices of SU to the specific situation in Papua New Guinea. Wayne has asked Danny to travel to Papua New Guinea to assist in teaching the workshop. This is a tremendous opportunity to learn more from Wayne and Sally while also developing more SU leaders in Papua New Guinea. There is no guarantee that the Dyes would ever be able to return to Papua New Guinea in the future. So, in many ways this is a once in a lifetime chance. We are very grateful and excited about this opportunity!

Danny will leave on July 22nd and return on August 21st (the day before fall semester classes start!) This was an unexpected trip. If anyone would like to contribute toward offsetting some of the financial costs of the travel, it would be a great help. If you would like to give a gift toward this trip, you can send it to either Lutheran Bible Translators or Wycliffe and include a note "For PNG SU Trip".



What is happening in Wantoat-land?

As you may remember, a Papua New Guinean pastor named Nickson Soal has been partnering with us in Wantoat to record Bible stories, songs and Bible teaching materials on to cassettes for the people to listen to. This has been very well received by the Wantoat people, and while we are gone they have been preparing more materials in the Wantoat language for recording. In March of this year, Pastor Nickson went out to the Wantoat area again to record the last of the materials they had translated. He sent us a very encouraging report, saying that the Wantoat church leaders were well prepared and enthusiastic to help finish the recordings. Pastor Nickson is now working on editing the recordings and duplicating them on cassette tapes for distribution.

From the bottom of our heart we thank each of you for partnering with us in this ministry. Your love, prayers and gifts are the fuel that keep us going.

Your Fellow Servants in Christ,

Danny, Becca, Anna and Joshua

Praises and Prayer Requests

Please praise God with us that:

- He has given us peace about our course schedule decisions, and the classes Danny is taking are very helpful to our ministry.
- We have the opportunity to see many of you this summer in the Midwest!
- We have the chance to strengthen Scripture Use ministry for many translation teams in Papua New Guinea through the SU Strategies course there this summer.

Please pray with us that:

- God would help us to communicate well in our speaking this summer and that He would help Anna and Joshua as they meet many new people and have to wait for us while we're visiting with people after services.
- That the SU Strategies workshop in Papua New Guinea would be a good situation for Danny to both learn new insights about SU and effectively share what he has already learned with others.
- That God would help Pastor Nickson as he edits the Wantoat recordings and also bring healing to his wife, Grace, who is experiencing some problems with her eyes.

Summer Schedule

- June 10 St. Luke Lutheran Church
Malvern, AR (6:00pm)
- June 12 Lutheran Camp on Petit Jean
Petit Jean State Park, AR (campfire meeting)
- June 15 Peace Lutheran Church
Conway, AR (8:00, 9:30 & 10:45am)
- June 17 Our Redeemer Lutheran Church
Quincy, IL (VBS & home meeting)
- June 22 St. Paul Lutheran Church
Lexington, IL (after 9:00am service)
- June 24 Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
Two Rivers, WI (10:00am)
- June 29 St. Martin Lutheran Church
Chilton, WI (8:00 & 10:00am)
- July 2 Zion Lutheran Church
New Holstein, WI (7:00pm)
- July 6 Church of the Savior
Nicholasville, KY (9:00 & 11:00am)
- July 6 Preachersville United Methodist Church
Preachersville, KY (6:00pm)
- July 9 Tazewell United Methodist Church
Tazewell, TN (evening service)
- July 13 Bethlehem Lutheran Church
Johnson City, TN (9:15am & evening VBS)
- July 17 Our Shepherd Lutheran Church
Searcy, AR (late afternoon meeting)
- July 22 Danny departs for Papua New Guinea

E-Mail Options:

Between these printed prayer letters we also send out prayer updates via e-mail. Additionally, these printed prayer letters are available in digital format via e-mail. Let us know if you would like to receive either of these.

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