

the RIGGINS family



SERVING THE MELANESIA AND SOUTH PACIFIC FIELDS

The Missing January Newsletter

In January, our home computer crashed, and we are still working to see if we can salvage any data from the hard drive. Most of our e-mail addresses were on that computer, so we have delayed sending our newsletter. We are now in the process of rebuilding our e-mail address book from memory. Please help us pass this along to others you know who have received our newsletter or who would like to receive it. Also pass their addresses along to us so that we can add them to our list again! Thanks for your help!



COMING SOON . . .

A new blog with ministry updates from across the fields . . . watch the March newsletter for more information.

✘ Making Christlike Disciples ✘

“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”
- Matthew 28:19-20

PNG NATIONAL PASTORS’ CONFERENCE

The PNG National Pastors’ Conference was held January 21-25, and marked the first time that such a large numbers of pastors from across the country had gathered in one place. An estimated 400-500 pastors, representing all 12 districts, attended. General Superintendent, Dr. Jesse Middendorf was the

special guest for the first three days and challenged the



pastors to ‘Make Christlike Disciples’ and lead the PNG Church to do the same. A special ordination

service that included pastors from all of the districts was one of the many highlights of the conference.

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LEARN MORE about ministries in Melanesia and the South Pacific and how you can become involved . . .

Fiji Boat Ministry www.fijiboat.org

Kudjip Nazarene Hospital in PNG
www.kudjipnazarenehospital.org

Open Hands, Open Hearts Foundation
www.nazarenehospitalfoundation.org

Vanuatu Mission
www.pottersnvanuatu.com

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PNG Pastors' Conference (continued)

The last two days of the conference included workshops presented by various leaders and missionaries on topics such as HIV/AIDS ministry, Marriage and Family, and Financial Accountability. The services each evening again emphasized the theme. Many pastors responded to the challenge and left the conference emboldened to make a greater impact in reaching the lost for Christ. Pray for the continued impact of the conference on many lives throughout the country.

Melanesia and South Pacific Audits

The last week of January, Kevin Brunk visited us from the Regional Office in Singapore to audit the books Scot keeps for the Melanesia and South Pacific Fields. It was a productive visit, as Kevin was able to complete the audit, and he and Scot were able to discuss many issues related to the field finances. Scot will be auditing the books at the Melanesia Nazarene Bible College this week; he is already beginning to look toward and plan for his annual audit trip in the islands. Pray with us as he begins the complicated process of scheduling this trip.

Joseph - A New Creation!

Recently, Scot returned to his office from lunch and there was a man waiting to talk to him. Joseph said he had spiritual problems and wanted to talk. His questions was "How can a man who has done so many bad things become a Christian?" He began to confess the bad things that he had done, and in most countries they would have put him on death row. He was part of a 'gang of criminals' as he called them. After talking more about the grace of God and explaining that Jesus died even for those sins, Joseph said he wanted to give his life to Christ. Scot was able to pray with him, asking for forgiveness and for Christ to come into his life. He gave him his first Bible and helped him find a way back to his home place in another province, and away from his life of a crime. We are praying for the opportunity to disciple Joseph through his visits and possibly through the letters that he asked if he could write. Praise God for this new life, and pray with us that Joseph will continue to grow in his relationship with Christ.

MK Teacher Update

Kristin Molinaro, our MK High School teacher this year, finally arrived in the middle of January. We are thankful for the work she is doing with our students, teaching, encouraging and mentoring them. We are also thankful for Cassie Alberson, a volunteer planning to come in March. She will be helping as needed at the MK elementary and high schools, as well as working with Community Based Health Care. Pray with us for Cassie's visa to be approved quickly so that she can come as scheduled.



Family News

We continue to enjoy watching Aden and Wiley grow and change all the time. Aden's vocabulary expands every day, and Wiley is constantly changing, right before our eyes. It is a joy to watch them become buddies, even at such young ages. For more news and stories about our boys, visit their blog: <http://adenandwiley.blogspot.com>.

We have been asked to print the following letter for Kudjip Nazarene Hospital:



Pictured at left:
Crowded shelves in
hospital pharmacy
and storeroom, full of
medicines and
supplies waiting to be
classified, sorted, and
shelved

Dear Friends of Kudjip Nazarene Hospital:

Through the years Kudjip Nazarene Hospital has survived because of the loyal support of Nazarenes around the world. This support has taken many forms: people have prayed, given financially, rolled bandages, collected empty pill bottles and have sent a variety of supplies and medicines. As our supporters have responded enthusiastically to past requests for help, we have received large quantities of medicines and supplies.

However, we never anticipated that we would receive so many containers of small quantities of medicines, sometimes only a few doses of each. Our pharmacy staff are not familiar with many American medicines, so the input of doctors is required in order to sort and label many of these. Also, we have received a large amount of supplies, but sometimes only one or two of each item. It has become more and more difficult for us to handle, store and distribute all of these. Sometimes our friends have sent items that we really can't use here. Additionally, more and more, supplies are available for purchase in Papua New Guinea at a lower cost than the cost of mailing them.

We have come to the place that we have to take a new approach to gathering medicines and supplies. As we make this transition, we certainly don't want anyone to think that we haven't appreciated what has been done in the past. It's just that "the times they are a-changin'" and we must find new methods for new times.

There are now things that we have to ask people not to send. These include *empty pill bottles, medical supplies that are not specifically requested, small quantities of medicines, and sheets and pillow cases*. In recent years, Nazarene Hospital Foundation (NHF, directed by Dr. Todd Winter) has been able to acquire large quantities of donated medicines that are not available here, and that would be far too expensive to buy. This has turned out to be very efficient for us. However, because of limited staff and storage space, NHF can no longer accept unsolicited boxes.

There are still ways you can help. **First**, as always, *pray for us*. The challenges of caring for the medical and spiritual needs of the people of the Highlands of PNG can be overwhelming at times. We always need your prayers.

Second, you can support us through your *financial giving*. We can buy many medicines here in PNG for less than the cost of shipping them. It is not good stewardship to ask our supporters to spend \$80 mailing a box of medicines that we could buy for \$15! There are two ways you can help.

- 1.) Giving to "Work of Nazarene Hospital, PNG". This money will be used to purchase medicines and supplies here in Papua New Guinea. This may be sent to General Treasurer, 6401 The Paseo, Kansas City, MO 64131, designated for "Work of Nazarene Hospital, PNG".
- 2.) Giving to Nazarene Hospital Foundation. This money will be used to pay for the shipment of bulk quantities of medicine and supplies, and for investment in the long-term support of the hospital. This may be sent to Nazarene Hospital Foundation, 555 Black Oak Drive, Suite 100, Medford, OR 97504, or you may also give online at <http://www.nazarenehospitalfoundation.org/donations.html>. Your gift to NHF is tax deductible.

Third, you may give a *quantity donation*. If you have access to large quantities of supplies or medicines that are on our "Needs List," NHF can help with shipping. The list will be maintained on our hospital website: www.kudjipnazarenehospital.org/needs.asp. Items that are in particularly short supply will be highlighted on the list, and minimum quantities will be noted. We always need rolled bandages. Pre-approval is required for shipping any of these items. Please email for approval, to hospitallinks@reachone.com.

We want you all to know how much your support means to us. We do not feel like we are doing this work alone! We are aware of the great army of Nazarenes and many folk from other churches who stand behind us. May God richly bless you as you continue to prayerfully support our work here.

In Christ,

Judy Bennett

Judy Bennett
Kudjip Nazarene Hospital



Construction Continues on Kudjip Nazarene Hospital



Construction on the new hospital building continues to move forward, and we are thankful for the arrival and involvement of Mike Chapman in this project. It seems that each week there are new issues and complications that arise, from tribal conflicts to power and electrical difficulties.

Nevertheless, as each issue is resolved, progress continues. Please pray for the work on the new hospital, and for those involved in decisions and leadership on this project. For updates and more information, visit

<http://chapmanconnection.com/blog>.

Highlights from the Fields

- *MNBC reports record enrollment of 203 students!
- *Kudjip looking for Maintenance and IT volunteer help
- *Five work and witness teams scheduled for Kudjip in 2008
- *SPNTC Board of Trustees meeting to be held in Fiji February 5-8 (attendees from Solomons, Fiji, Vanuatu, and Samoa)
- *Kim Family (Tonga Mission) returned to Tonga from 'home assignment' in Korea last week
- *Vanuatu missionaries David and Sylvia Potter have moved into their new home (built by work and witness teams)
- *District Assemblies for all countries on both fields are completed; all gave positive reports from assembly time
- *Community Based Health Care entered new area of New Guinea Islands
- *PNG Church developing HIV/AIDS response strategy; pray for this crucial area of ministry
- *Jesus Film training meetings in the Solomon Islands emphasize time to listen for God's direction