

U P STEGEMAN NEWSLETTER A G



Ray & Dee Stegeman

USA / Papua New Guinea

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Greetings from Ft. Collins!

Rejoice with us!

We recently got this email from Faith Comes By Hearing:

The Akawaio New Testament Audio Recording was finalized on April 29. It is now available on the Bible.is website. You can listen via the internet or your smartphone with the App.

35 Proclaimers should be in Guyana and reach the Akawaio in July or August.

If you know anyone who would like to make a donation, they should go to faithcomesbyhearing.com/donate or mail it to Faith Comes By Hearing, 2421 Aztec Rd. NE, Albuquerque, NM 87101 and designate it for Akawaio Proclaimers.

We immediately went to the website (and we urge you to do the same), downloaded the files and are excited for the potential impact among the Akawaio people. Please pray with us for these audio files to speak to hearts and transform lives!

Back in the good ol' US of A

Dee and I got to Boulder, CO on 14 March. Dee's sister and her husband hosted us for a few weeks. It was wonderful to be able to get over jet-lag and get organized a bit before we moved their mother up to Ft. Collins. Marjorie hardly batted an eye as she quickly became accustomed to her new surroundings, for which we thank God. The people who work there are very friendly, and Marjorie has endeared herself to them already.

We could really see God's Hand in the provision of housing for ourselves in Ft. Collins. Our housing budget in PNG is about US\$300/month, so you can imagine that doesn't go very far here, where the average 2-bedroom apartment costs about \$1200/month – unfurnished, of course. Since we don't believe in coincidence, we'll say we experienced a number of God-incidences leading us to places to live. After moving Dee's mom, we were reunited with a family we knew from Ukarumpa who are now living here in Ft. Collins. They had a basement apartment available to share with us until the end of April. Again, it was great to have a friendly place to anchor as we got oriented to Fort Collins. Then, a local pastor who knew of our need contacted a church member who said he'd be interested in allowing us to stay with him until we could find an affordable place to rent. We were able to meet with him and his two adult children who live nearby, and they agreed we would make a good match. So, we moved in on 24 April. We believe this man to be a Godsend and are thoroughly enjoying our new friendship.

Hannah's graduation from college



Ray's parent were there. This was after the Nurse's Pinning Ceremony.

We flew to Tampa, and spent a few days with my parents and with my older sister and her family in Bradenton. While there, we shared about the work of Bible translation and our work with Wycliffe at 2 places. Then, we drove northeast to Jacksonville to be part of Hannah's graduation festivities at Jacksonville University. Luke flew down from Chicago to join us for about 36 hours, since he had finals the following week. Hannah's husband, Gurana came from California, and Dee's sister from Washington DC, her sister and brother-in-law from Gainesville and my parents and sister from Bradenton all came. Each of these people was instrumental in helping Hannah through her college years, particularly when she first arrived to the USA from PNG as an incoming freshman. It was fitting for them to celebrate with her. Hannah graduated Magna Cum Laude and received three awards: one given by her nursing classmates and faculty, and two by her Navy colleagues. As Dee's dad would have worded it: "We were popping shirt-buttons" with pride for all Hannah has achieved in these past four years. She is excited for her first assignment with the Navy at the Balboa Naval Station in San Diego and that she'll finally be able to live with her husband of nearly one year, who was recently transferred to that same area by the same company he worked for in Utah the previous year – another God-incidence.



Hannah (back, left) got to march during the graduation ceremony in her Navy whites.



Proud husband!



Yet another special award for Hannah!



All in the family, at the graduation ceremony.



Now we have 3 nurses in the family!



Lucas

As you read this, Lucas is in Europe this summer for a required “sketching tour” through Judson University. He’ll be spending 3 ½ weeks in Portugal, Spain and Italy, visiting great architectural wonders. When he gets back to the Chicago area, he’ll be working for the same architect he worked for last summer and for whom he did occasional work throughout the past school year.



With Mom on Mother’s Day

Luke, before a presentation he made at an architectural firm in downtown Chicago.

For prayer -

- † Increased support for living in the US.
- † A good learning experience for Lucas in Europe.
- † Hannah’s move to California.
- † That we can be a blessing to those God puts in our lives here.
- † A healthy balance in our everyday lives.

Continued work with Wycliffe

While Dee continues caring for her mother, I work on the various tasks involved in my “remote” assignment. My work with Wycliffe is basically two-fold. I am a Linguistics consultant, which means that I read lots of papers by Wycliffe colleagues describing languages they are studying for doing translation work, helping out in areas they find difficult. I can do that via email and Skype from the US. The other facet of my job involves the training of Papua New Guineans whom God has called to translate the Scriptures in their own mother tongue. With over 800 languages in PNG, it is exciting to be in a classroom with students from 10-15 different languages at a time, knowing that they will be able to translate: 1.) much more accurately, having participated in my classes and 2.) much more naturally, being native speakers of the language into which they translate. Lord willing, I will travel to PNG to teach courses twice per year. I am preparing lessons I plan to teach when I return to PNG in August of this year. I also keep up with details related to the linguistics office in Ukarumpa, and I “attend” regular Skype sessions with other Wycliffe linguistics consultants, to clarify current policies and determine future ones related to guaranteeing quality translation work into the future.

May you overflow with hope through the power of the Holy Spirit.

(Romans 15:13b NLT)

Ray & Dee

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