

2 November 2017



Dear Family & Friends,

November 2nd marks the 30th Anniversary of our arrival in Goroka, PNG. It is time for us to transition back to the States. No, we are NOT retiring, more like “retreading.” We will be staying on full time with ABWE, however, our base of operations will be Columbus, OH rather than Simbai, PNG. We are looking forward to being back in the States, and especially for more time with the kids and grandkids!

Time in Simbai.

Our time in Simbai has been filled with sorting, tossing and packing. We are 95% done, as most of what we want has already been flown out of Simbai and is in storage containers in Goroka. The next 5% will be done during the final packing of our personal and household effects into a 20 foot shipping container and getting it sent off to Columbus, OH before we depart from PNG on November 29.

On November 2 this year, we are making our final trip into Simbai, although it will be a short 12 day stay. The first weekend in October, I (Bill) and Steve participated in a 3-day Farewell Meeting at Calvary Baptist Church in Yomneki. (Check out the pics on the website.) This weekend I (Bill) and Steve, will be involved in a 3-day Farewell Meeting at Bible Baptist Church. Bible Baptist is a 10 mile (45 minute) trip down the road in the 4 wheeler, then an hour hike down the mountain. The following weekend the 3-day Farewell Meeting will be at Mt Olive Baptist Church. Mt Olive is only 3 miles down the road, and accessible by 4 wheeler. We will be able to commute to the services each day.

Back to Goroka

On November 14 we will make our last trip out to Goroka. The following 15 days will be filled with team meetings (16-17), the annual Pastors’ Conference (20-21) and Graduation (22), and our final packing of the container before our departure from PNG on November 29.

Celebrations

On Monday night of the Pastors’ Conference, November 20, we will be celebrating ABWE’s 50th Anniversary of being in PNG. On Tuesday night, November 21, we will be celebrating our 30th Anniversary of being in PNG. We are looking forward to the time of reflection and reminiscence of what God has done here in PNG, as well as projecting what God will do in PNG in the future.

Prayer Request.

We are still in need of new partners to work with the Roots in Simbai. Ideally, we need two full time couples/families to come be a part of the Simbai Team. “Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest.” Check out the link on ABWE’s website: <http://www.abwe.org/serve/opportunities/glamping-purpose>

THANKS.

Thanks again for all your faithful financial and prayer support for us. We greatly appreciate your generous and sacrificial financial support, but more so your faithful thoughts and prayers. We count it a privilege to be a part of your missionary team. You all take care, keep up the good work, and have a great day!

Bill & Debbie

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P.S. We posted some new info and more pictures on our website. Check it out at www.tobias.abwe.org