

## *A-Team PNG News Update – July 2020*

Dear Family and Friends,

***“But there's one other thing I remember, and remembering, I keep a grip on hope: GOD's loyal love couldn't have run out, his merciful love couldn't have dried up. They're created new every morning. How great your faithfulness!” Lam. 3:21-23 (The Message)***

This verse has been a real encouragement to us and we trust it will be a fresh reminder of His continuous love and faithfulness to you as well. Thought we would share a bit of news and a few praises and prayer requests with you.



### **Praises:**

- We praise God for all of you who have been so faithful to pray, and give and encourage us since we've been back.
- The Lord has been faithful to provide us with a place to live...since May we have been living in Alabama with Beth's brother Roddy Cahoon.
- We are enjoying the bounties from the garden...

blueberries,



tomatoes,



peppers, cucumbers....

- We are thankful for the internet so we can keep in contact with our PNG friends and colleagues via email and zoom. This technology helps us to keep working on various literacy tasks and projects remotely.
- We are also able to have weekly zoom sessions with our family and friends so that we can keep up with what they are doing even though we can't be together.

### **News from PNG:**

- At the end of May we received news that our house had been broken into and Joy's laptop along with 2 other training laptops had been stolen. The thieves also took various flash drives and a USB hub; And get this, Joy's stash of SPAM! All 8 cans of SPAM were taken. One of them had been partially eaten and left behind.....



We are thankful no one was hurt, but it sure caused a lot of extra work for our friend Jan who was checking in on our house from time to time. We are thankful for Samuel and Abu who helped Jan clean up the place and also helped to board up the window that was broken into. We are also thankful for everyone who was involved in the repairs, especially our friend Jimmy August, who did a lot of the repair work.

- A few weeks ago we heard that Samuel Saleng (same Samuel as above), Literacy training staff and SIL employee had woke up one morning thinking he had had a stroke or something. The doctor thinks it was bells palsy. Anyway, the Lord is continuing to heal his body and he is slowly regaining his beautiful smile. Please pray for his complete healing.

- This past Saturday we received some very sad news. Ezekiel Judas, a friend and teacher we were training to be a teaching staff trainer for the Literacy courses, had fallen out of a PMV (Public Motor Vehicle) and died. What a shock this news is. We are thankful that he loved Jesus, and know that he is now worshipping the Lord in Heaven. He will be missed. Please keep his family in your prayers.



### *Future outlook...*

Looks like we will need to be here a few more months due to the COVID 19 pandemic. PNG, like Australia has closed its borders and in order to get to PNG we go through Australia.

In the meantime, we are being careful to wear our masks when we are out, and we are practicing social distancing when we visit with our friends.

We know that this is a difficult and stressful time for many of you. It is for us too. But we are comforted by this passage from **Jeremiah 9:23-24** which says. *“Thus says the LORD, “Let not a wise man boast of his wisdom, and let not the mighty man boast of his might, let not a rich man boast of his riches; but let him who boasts boast of this, that he understands and knows Me, that I am the LORD who exercises lovingkindness, justice and righteousness on earth; for I delight in these things,” declares the LORD. “*

May we each strive to **know** and **understand** our Lord better so that we might *delight* Him.

In His service with you,

*Joy and Beth*

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