

From: Rev- Anthony Elemetry, Lutheran Chaplain University of Goroka,
Highlands Regional School of Nursing and Goroka Technical College

To: ESG Chemnitz-The Evangelian Students Parish of Chemnitz.

Subject: Report of the University of Goroka, Goroka Technical College and
Highlands School of Nursing under Lutheran Student Graduate and
Partnership (PNGLSGP)- Goroka Region-2009

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We the Lutheran Student Graduate and Partnership (PNGLSGP) would like to convey our warm greetings to you all in the name of our risen Lord and saviour Jesus Christ. It's a new year and we look forward to stumble upon what the Lord has in place for us individually and also in our partnership with you. It is our prayers that our relationship will be fruitful in such that we will be able to know and understand each other fully and to share our experiences and the love of God with one another as time goes by.

We are very obliged for the letter you have sent to us at the end of December last year. We really enjoyed reading your letter with the photo graphs as none of us including our chaplain, church elders, St.Mathews Congregation members or the student had been to Chemnitz to report to us like what Rev.Albani and Mr.Troeger had done to you about our beautiful country. We assure you to believe their report because they are talking through self-discovery. Furthermore, our chaplain and even some of the student knew Rev.Albani very well as they met him last year here in Goroka and talked with him to establish our partnership with you. Even some had been with him as he was working in their congregation here in PNG.

About our country, we have more than seven hundred nations living in our country. That means that we have more than seven hundred languages and different provincial and cultural backgrounds. In the partnership (PNGLSGP), we have students who hail from these different provincial and cultural backgrounds. Goroka is one of the twenty provinces in PNG, and in Goroka alone; there are more than twenty languages. In this type of environment and atmosphere, it is very difficult for unity to abound, however we praise God for His Divine Power who is exceedingly able to unite us under the counsel of His word. Any where, we also had learn from you some of the activities involved especially in extending the kingdom of God and also to enjoy our Christian life through some activities outside the church grounds like Christmas retreat and bike trip. Through exchanges of ideas and experiences,

we believe we can together extend the boundary of the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the unreached.

About our three institutions, the new academic year had started in February and the entire student from the University of Goroka, Goroka Technical College and Highlands School of Nursing are back in school.

Brief Report of the three institutions

The University of Goroka (UOG) offers four year bachelors Degree in Education were students graduate to become high/secondary school teachers, and it is located on a mountain side .The Goroka Technical College (GTC) is located just below the university of Goroka and it offers courses in business studies and in technical fields. They only offer two years diploma courses. And the Highlands Regional School of Nursing (HRSN) offers general nursing courses with diploma for three years. It is about 2 miles away from the two institutions-UOG and GTC.All of these three institutions are located in the heart of Goroka

town. Since these three institutions are located in different locations, each institution has its own weekly prayer meetings and knight fellowship. In UOG for instance, every Monday knight from eight to nine o'clock, we usually have our prayer meeting which is conducted by our prayer coordinator, and on every Friday Knight from seven to nine o'clock, we usually have our fellowship in which our chaplain usually come and preach to us or the students taking sermon themselves based on our yearly program. Sometimes we normally have weekend seminars were we invite speakers from different field to come and speak to us. At other times we usually write letters to other fellowship groups like Seventh Day Advantage Association, Catholic Students Fellowship group, and Pentecostal Students and we usually have fellowship based on the principle that in heaven there exist no denomination-only Christians will get there. We had good relationships with them. Some times they usually invite us to their fellowship to partake with them. Similar activities also eventuate in the other two institutions. On Sundays, the entire student from the three institutions gets to a central location which is the St Mathews English congregation to have fellowship. This congregation is also located from the heart of the town. This congregation purely consist of the students, the Lectures and few English speaking people around the town area. The students are the congregation musicians, they take Sunday's bible readings, liturgy and even they preach. Every Saturday evening from three to five o'clock is our music practise in which we prepare songs for Sunday service. About our partnership (PNGLSGP) fellowship, we usually have two to three fellowships in a year were all the students from the three institution gets together to have fellowship. But other activity as mentioned above is a communal activity for the students which eventuate every week.

We further would like to introduce you to some programs which we believe you would want to know.

Outreach

Outreach is a yearly program in our fellowship. Outreach is one of the prime aims of the fellowship as the students take on their shoulder the Gospel of Jesus Christ and walk into rugged mountains, crosses huge rivers and remote places to evangelise and to strengthen the faith of the Christians serving under the Evangelical Lutheran Church. As we fully understood that missions is the heart-bit of God, we eat with them, sleep with them and fit into their shoes and the Lord move in His own ways and touches them and give them conviction to continue to press on for Christ. Our mission field is not a one way delivery in which we only take over discussion and teach them the word of God, we give them space to talk and ask us questions and in some instances, their elders and even village leaders are able to teach and give us encouragement were we have never encountered before in our lifetime.

Here is a brief report of our outreach.

Last year on September right after our Christmas break, we had arranged with the Jiwaka District in which we have visited two Circuits (Kerowaghi Circuit and Dawo Circuit).Rev.Albani will tell you more on this Church District as he was working in this district for a long time. This is a district located along the boundaries of two highlands provinces-Chimbu province and the Western highlands Province which is K20.00 away from Goroka. Many students had showed their interest to go for the outreach and had submitted their names; however some had changed their minds because of their parent's responses while others had to leave home because it's a holiday period .Despite all these reasons, some of the student had managed to say no to their freedom and to follow the calling. On this particular outreach to Jiwaka, Eight students were able to follow the calling-seven male and one female. Below are the photos taken during the outreach.



Front Row (Right to Left): Kelly Kasiva-4th Year-(UOG) he is the Music Coordinator in the Fellowship-The one with cap.

Siwert Robert: In-service 2-(UOG) he is the coordinator of PNG Graduate and Partnership Goroka Region .Seated next to him is a youth from a congregation we have visited who had taken us for a tour in the Village.

Middle Row :(Right to Left): John Friel Engduei-2nd Year-(UOG) he is the secretary of the Fellowship.

Bernard Dengiwabo 2nd year-(UOG) he is the Outreach coordinator of the Fellowship who had organised our outreach.

Back raw :(Right to Left): Justin Porongo-4th year-(UOG)-President of the Fellowship.

Hosito Felix-4th year-(UOG)-Member in the fellowship



Dan Tiawong-4th year-(UOG) -vice prayer coordinator (Man with Guitar strumming).

Mekrack -In-service 2-(UOG)-Prayer Coordinator (Only female in the Background next to Dan)

Kua Binan-4th year-(UOG)-Member in the Fellowship. (Standing in front of Dan)

(A)

(B)



(A).Kerowaghi Circuit-Departure to another congregation (B). Awagle Paris-Kerowaghi Circuit-students with Congregation Members .



One of the Oldest church that we have visited which was built by the Germans-Ombuntapi Congregation in Dawo Circuit.



Students talking to the Kewamugle Congregation-Kerowaghi Circuit.

The theme of our outreach to Jiwaka Distract was taken from Malachi 3:10 which emphasis on GIVING. We challenged them and even ourselves not to give to God our left-over's like money, time, food, land, etc. We challenge them that its time

now the Evangelical Lutheran Church of PNG should stand on its own rather than to depend on the partner churches overseas or to gain free hand-outs from the politicians. Furthermore, we elaborate that it's not what the church can do for us but what we can do for our church. We have visited 13 churches, seven in Kerowaghi Circuit and six in Dawo circuit. It was a two-week solid work mission which started from 22nd September and ended at 5th October 2008. It was a day-knight mission in which we had given ourselves no rest. On one hand, it was very interesting because the people in each congregation had received us like politicians or some other very important people. We meet new faces and made new friends, but those friends only last for a day because as we leave them for another congregation, it seems like losing them for life time as some of us (students) are from other provincial groups. They were so kind to us in providing different types of food which include variety of fruits, proteins like chicken and pig, sweet potatoes and different types of greens. They also provide houses with blanket and mattress for us to lie down in the night. However, instead of having rest, after the night fellowship, we invited the congregation to come over to our resting house where we burn wood and we share the word of God amongst each other. Therefore every night in every congregation we had to go to bed around two to three o'clock in the morning and then woke up in the morning and having morning devotion with them and by eleven or twelve o'clock we had to depart by foot to another congregation. Our arrival to another congregation was usually around four to six o'clock. On the other hand, it was sad that we found some churches with only old people, some churches getting old while other churches had many youths and instruments while others had no congregation pastor or evangelist.

Reflection: As we reflect back on our outreach last year, we found out that there still exists the need for further outreaches.

PNGLSGP Introductory Knight 13th 02-2009-7pm-10pm

It was a tradition that at the beginning and end of the year, we usually have fellowships with our spiritual parents of whom some are lecturers, pastors and evangelists. This year, we had our first introductory service at the university of Goroka. Forty-nine students had attended the meeting of which half of the population were from Goroka Technical College. Unfortunately the student of the Highlands Regional School of Nursing were not with us because of transportation problem. But we hope to have another gatherings to have them also. Lutheran in PNG had been called by other denominations and even the Lutherans themselves as the "Sleeping giant". However, during the National Church Synod at Okulbeng in Western Highlands Province in 2007, our head bishop Late Rev. Dr. Wesley Kigasung had decoded this name and had declared another name as "The Moving Giant". This statement has started to dawn in our fellowship. The students are moving in different directions burning for God. There is always joy in our fellowship and the joy to carry the cross of Jesus Christ daily. Below are photos of the introductory night.

(A)



(B)



(A).Principal for GTC -Mr Patrol Maino (ML) Giving Speech-He is also the Chairman of St.Mathews English Congregation. (B).Students introducing themselves.

(A)



(B)



(A).Evangelist Mogia Weminbare giving speech.(B)Mr Patrol Maino (ML) and Chaplain Anthony Elemetry enjoying the refreshment with students at the background.

(A)



(B)



(A).Students preparing the refreshment themselves.

(B).Musicians are the student themselves.

The knight was very excited as student enjoyed both the spiritual and physical refreshment, and also meeting the first year students. The knight message was given by the Chaplain Rev. Anthony Elemetry who challenged the students to put God first and then their studies. The message was found in 1 Peter 1:13-15: *"So then have your minds ready for action, keep alert and set your hope completely on the blessing which will be given you when Jesus Christ is revealed. Be obedient to God, and do not allow your life to be shaped by those desires you had when you were still ignorant. Instead, be holy in all that you do, just as God who call you is Holy. The scripture says; "Be holy because I am Holy"*. The message from the chaplain to the continuing student, first year student both In-service and pre-service and the staff this year 2009, it was all about living a life in Christ with purity and righteousness.

The student president Mr. Justin Porongo, the Principal of Goroka Technical college and our Evangelist Mr. Mogia Weminbare had given their speech to encourage the student to stay strong with God while on studies.

To conclude, we would like to once again tell you all our friends in Chemnitz that the Lutheran Church is now in our hands. Its time now we move forward so that many of

our brothers and sisters who are lost can hear the call of the Master shephard Jesus Christ.....Amen

Yours in Christ.

Rev. Anthony Elemy

Lutheran Chaplain Univesity of Goroka