

A change of pace

This time of year is normally full of transitions for those of us who are missionaries. Things in our lives are very much in flux. Of course the God that we serve brings stability in the midst of this 'flux'. We are thankful for the opportunity that we have to serve Him here.

Since our last update one of the biggest changes to our schedule has been the completion of the school year for the boys.

They did very well this past year and we are proud of the growth they are making in this area of their lives. We are also seeing some encouraging growth in their walks with the Lord; especially Stephen. We teach them and train them but it does take time and the Spirit in order for them to start making this relationship their own.

As we mentioned in our last update Judith's mom came for a 1 month visit. It was great that she was able to see how we live during the school year and also during a break. It was also great for us in that she was able to sew a new jean quilt for Timothy and finished off our whole pile of clothes that needed to be mended. She also made a bunch of mango and papaya jam. We go years without seeing any family so we feel blessed to have had her here.

As you can see from the pictures, Judith and I were able to travel together into the Wantakia tribe for a consultant trip. A special thanks to the Leedhal, Zimmerman and Parry families who took the boys so that we could go. We had a great time with the team in there. The Sanders and Hambrices did very well on their evaluations and now there are 2 on the team who have moved beyond culture and language study and are starting to work on translation, lesson writing and literacy. The rest are not far behind. We enjoy spending time in places like this because as you rub shoulders with the local people you realize the seriousness of what we are in this country to do. These people need Jesus!

4 days after we returned from Wantakia we went back to the airport as a family and flew down to Wewak for a much needed break. Things for us have really slowed down. We also have our co-workers, John and Christina Hutteman, here which makes for some great fellowship. We are looking forward to some good times at the beach and plenty of days of...well nothing in particular.

Thanks so much for your prayers.

Eric and Judith, Stephen, Daniel and Timothy

*The picture at the top is of Judith and I high above the village in Wantakia.



Aaron and I working with a Wantakia lady, Same, while evaluating Jill Sanders. Same was a blast to work with as she loved to joke around with us during the eval.



Judith came along on this consultant trip and had a great time with the Wantakia team. Pictured here with Jill Sanders and cute as a button baby Havanah Hambrice.



The Boys with Oma as she is getting ready to head back to Canada. Thanks for a great visit Oma.



They just keep growing...and eating!



Aaron and I working through grammar with Jeremy and Mandy Hambrice and their language helper Junior. They did great!

Prayer Requests

- Pray that we will have a good break time here as a family. We have been very much looking forward to this.
- Pray for one of the workers in my department. Segi. His 4 year old son was struck and killed on the Highlands Hwy just down from Lapilo. This was very hard on his family. Please be praying for them.
- We just just lost 2 missionary workers in the centre ops department that I manage. We are very understaffed so please be praying that the Lord will provide some additional skilled workers to help deal with our work load.