



Solomon Island Report. 25th November, 2022.

Giddy Mate's:

From this greeting you should be able to guess where I am putting this report together...Not the Solomons. Not New Zealand. But the land of Oz! Although. I have been in all 3 countries in the past 1.5 months!

But. As I tell my Australian brethren, I will be back in civilization (N.Z.) on the 9th December. And that's probably where this report will be sent from. My desk top is a familiar tool. Not this lap top. And my camera requires a special cable to be able to send you photos.

Here is a report in *brief* for my 'over busy' brethren!

I entered the Solomon Island work on 28th Oct. Worked with 2 Honiara congregations on the 29th. Travelled to the Reef Island on the 1st Nov. and that same day to Santa Cruz. By canoe. Worked in and from Nunguu Village with Lency Mena, the Missionary for Westside in Midland, Tx. Returned to Honiara on the 12th Nov after a bit of a health scare. Worked with the Honiara church until the 16th, when I returned to NSW to convalesce with my son Andrew and his family. Am presently working with the ***Tweed church of Christ*** and am hopeful of helping other churches in this part of Oz before returning home. In this period I was able to conduct Bible Studies in Honiara and Lata, witnessed one conversion, preached and taught 15+ times, supplied a new congregation with set-up resources and funded the travel for 2 of the Lords workers in Honiara to visit this new work. And in addition, contracted a Builder and Plumber to work on the Mission Centre in Honiara along with product pricing. Both for the Honiara Centre and the Mission House in Nunguu.

The health scare:

Better tell you about my little health scare before I get further into the detailed report to follow. Upon arriving in Nunguu, Santa Cruz, I started experiencing prolonged QT, lack of energy and dizziness. Fainted at one point. Then I read my Melfloquine medication blurb.. I was having a negative reaction to this anti-malaria medication. The electrics around my heart were playing up big time. The only relief I got was when I was preaching and teaching. So we decided it was best to get me back to Oz asa. Took over a week and a bit to do this. So by the time I got back to my Sons place, things had settled down and life was more manageable. Am feeling fit and strong now. But will go and see my Cardiologist in Palmerston North and have an ECG preformed. And research what anti-malaria medication I can use safely next time.. Anyway. Back to the report.

Solomon Island Work:

I entered the S.I. work on the 28th October with the following aims in mind: 1. To access the state of the Lords church after their 2.5 year isolation from the world-wide brotherhood. 2. To access the political status quo after their P.M. started taking bribes from the CCP. 3. To visit and encourage the 2 supported Workers in the church there. This took me to Honiara and Nunguu village on Santa Cruz. 4. To preach and teach as often as possible and as was needed by each congregation I visited. 5. To help a small group of disciples in the Western Province Island of Noro to begin worship assemblies. 6. To supply the brethren with Bibles, Lords Supper

supplies, teaching materials and lap top computers, cphones, DBBF books via thumb drives, etc.,. 7. To research the opportunity to begin construction on the Honiara Mission House. A much delayed project. 8. To identify and share the gospel with good soil souls as I went about the above. 9. To lay the ground work for more Workers to enter and help our Solomon brethren in 2023.

All of the above was achieved with the exception of visiting with the Noro brethren and helping them with worship, teaching and outreach. I will do this first up, in my next visit in 2023. In the mean time we made it possible for Alphonsus Ricky and John Bonagi to do what I wasn't able to do.

The congregations seem to be holding their own, but I did not see signs of numerical growth. It will be wise for me to do more thorough P.W. training on future visits and perhaps make more time for soul winning myself. I did teach one-on-one in each place I worked, but was not there long enough to bring those studies through to completion. Perhaps in 2023 these souls will obey the gospel.

The needs in this work:

Firstly. The Santa Cruz work. This work is under the oversight on the Westside church in Midland, Texas. The Menas are the Workers there – Lency and Nancy and their daughter Yoanna. Lency was sick for the whole of my visit. I jokely blamed him for the 3 day flu I also contacted. But it was not the same infection. Any way. He has seen souls saved in Nunguu Village, the congregation there seems quite stable. He was having a successful outreach to Bimia Village on Lord Howe Island and has other villages lined up to work with. He has progressed the construction of a Mission Centre just outside the village on family land (the Village Elders have tried to stop him preaching in Nunguu). He has been debating with the local denominations and gaining a reputation as a knowledgeable Bible Teacher. He is working with 2-3 men in Bimia Village who have leadership potential. If they obey the gospel, he will have the help he needs. At present he is the only male providing leadership and the ladies commented to me that he is not a good song leader. And they sing beautifully, by the way...as do the many children who attend. Solomon Islanders love to sing.. So I was impressed with this work, the Mission Centre (good on the Westside church for this) and the growth that could come because of the work done to this point.

The needs there are as follows: Teaching resources for the 20+ children who attend. About 10 Bibles for the adult members. 1 data/DVD projector for Lency (he saw and used my small Teneka system supplied by the Justin church). We had 2 occasions to teach the gospel via WVBS nights and the audience were thrilled by this means of learning. Lords supper supplies. More song books. And building materials to bring the Mission House project to completion (30 bags of cement, stainless steel benches and sinks, plumbing supplies, fans, another water tank and pump, chairs for the meeting hall, a white board/black board, office supplies. Locks for the visiting Workers house and work room. An assortment of windows, 2 beds and mattresses, coat hangers and an adequate solar system.) All of which will have to shipped in on the Santa Cruz Coastal boat. Which is a 2 day journey from Honiara. I am getting prices on all these items. Plus I want to buy Lency a set of tools that operate on 54 volt batteries and a Carpenters apron. He has worn out his present electric tools and they have to run on a generator. Fuel is eye wateringly expensive on Nendo Island. Some of these items might need to be shipped up from N.Z. but the aim is to purchase them in Honiara if at all possible. I already have a shipping container on my N.Z. property for a use like this. The Westside congregation have funding on the way to cover most of these items, but I will keep you posted if there is a short fall. And I have committed to obtain the tools for Lency to use to finish this project, and then to help the *Lara church of Christ* on Lom Lom (in the Reef islands) to build their own meeting house.

The churches in Honiara need Bibles, more song books, teaching resources for about 10 children. I supplied them with most of these items with the exception of Bible Class materials. Which is best sent over the www. for printing off in Homiara. The P.O. has not been operating in the Solomons for about 2 years. And shipping costs remain very high.

Work in Australia:

I arrived in Brisbane on the 16th November , a little weak from my QT experience, but have steadily recovered while working some with the Tweed congregation. Preaching and a little outreach. On the 4th I visited the

Gympie church on the Sunshine coast of Queensland. Then on 8th December, I flew home to N.Z. and am back teaching in the Hutt work. Unfortunately I missed visiting with Ian and Dianne Coker who are helping in the Solomon Island work, while in Oz. They are presently in Florida with family. But I am hopeful they both will be visiting and helping the S.I. brethren in 2023.

That's it for this report. By the end of December I will send you an outline of my program of work for 2023. There are still souls to be won in three nations down-under in the South Pacific. A Mission House to be finished and another build begun. And brethren to be exhorted and encouraged in the Word of grace (Acts 20:32).

Thankyou, all, for your part in making this recent trip possible. Lets keep on in His work together..

In much gratitude, and in confident expectation of one day being able to work alongside you in the heavenly realms...

Rod.

P.S. I am now going to attempt to attach photos with comments. I am back home as you have no doubt have deduced! And feeling rested and fine and back fully into the N.Z. work.



Bro. Alphonsus baptizing Arleen in Honiara.



The Ricky family we support in the Honiara work.



The Honiara church of Christ.



The Nunguu Village church of Christ.



The New Mission Centre for the Te Motu work.



The meeting hall for the congregation.



The pathway to the Centre. Built by Nancy! Flying in to the Reef Islands took me over this active volcano.



The Hutt Valley church of Christ saying farewell to me as I left for the Solomon Island work.

Miscellaneous photos follow of different activities in 2022.



The Hutt congregation supported the Porirua churches camp/lectureship, earlier in the year.



The Men from the Hutt church on a recent retreat.



The Tweed church of Christ in NSW, Australia.



The P.W. Improvement Class I am conducting in the The Hutt Valley work each Lords day.



Lency and myself getting ready for a village meeting in Bimia, Village on Lord Howe Island.