



# PNG, South Korea and Fiji 2022



Christmas Blessing and prayers are sent your way!

October 7<sup>th</sup>. We arrive in Papua New Guinea after 37 hours in transit. Of course, we hit the pavement running! We were greeted so graciously at the airport by our PNG friends Komet and Regina whose home we lived in before. They met us with a truck for us to drive and a key to the mission house, "our home away from home." They prepared our home with all the amenities including, filling the water tank for us. East New Britain has been experiencing a record-breaking drought where there hasn't been any rain for over 5 months. Everyone in the province has to haul water for all the cisterns are dry. The jungle looks bare and sparse with only the hardiest of plants surviving. We appreciated the thoughtfulness of our hosts.



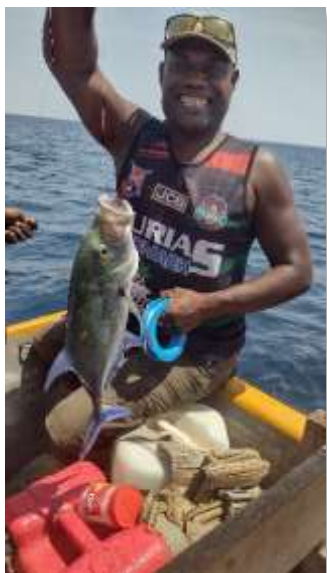
We proceeded to town where we bought groceries and was greeted by most of the same workers that were employed 3 years ago. They remembered my name and greeted me! I just wished I had remembered their name. I knew their faces and most of their life stories. I was happy to hear that many of them had kept their jobs during Covid. The grocery stores have not changed! I could find everything I was looking for. It was pretty crowded since it was pay day for the government workers!

After, we arrived to the house the temperature was now around 95 degrees, we discovered there was no electricity to power any of the fans and pump for the water to flow. This is caused by the turbines in the river do not have enough water to generate electricity. Komet did have a small backup generator for us to use. So, we quickly powered it up for about 10 minutes to take a quick shower and fill up some containers full of water. We really didn't want to run it much since it cost about 6 dollars a gallon. Long story, we adapted to the heat!!!! I just wished others had it as good as we had. We had access to water and we had a very comfortable safe home. We had an older lady sleeping below us with her two

grandsons "security". I don't know if she has allergies or TB. You can hear her cough at night. I hope it's the dust. But she has the stature of someone who could have TB.

Of course, village life comes with lots of noises and in addition to the noise of the road, you get the night life activity! About 2:00 am many drunks





wonder home yelling and waking up the roosters! In the day kids are always running around playing rugby or singing songs. The day begins with many sounds from the school next door. The village road still requires 4x4 to drive even when it's so dry. But when it rains, watch out! I remember driving down the same road with 12 inches of water running down like a river!

Keith and I were kept extremely busy with a church service on Sunday, Marriage conference Monday thru Wednesday night and a women's conference all day on Thursday. I believe we spoke 9 times. Friday, we played! We took a small banana boat to the neighboring islands of Duke of York's and was able to swim (not long enough) for a couple of hours. Then we returned just in time where the sea was dancing too much for our liking! Our special PNG friends Eremas and family accompanied us. (He has been our PNG son since 1998 when we first came to Enga.) They had made a traditional Mumu for us to enjoy on the beach! It was fun just to watch their 2 boys play in the water with the snorkels that we brought. We returned to home to have cream buns, fruit and cordial to top off the day.

We have been so Blessed with the attendance of the conferences. Many of the leaders had traveled by boat, walked or caught a bus just to attend. They stayed at the church grounds and cooked their meals over an open fire for 4 days. Your contributions made this possible for so many to come! Thank YOU! We were also able to purchase the tents that Happy Home Vacation Bible School raised funds for. They were more than thrilled to receive them!!! Next time, we would like to take these conferences to other areas and partner with some medical outreaches at the same time.



The 11 days in Papua New Guinea preaching and teaching were fruitful. Women came from all over the islands region to attend the women's conference and was greatly encouraged. The Holy Spirit was powerful in every meeting. Many were filled with the Spirit. We had a great time catching up with our friends. BY THE WAY, we all prayed for rain and 2 days after we left it rained for 2 days straight. Praise God!

[So off to South Korea.](#)

We then traveled to South Korea to attend the Eastern Council of Foursquare Churches for 6 days. It was good to rest from preaching. We had great fellowship with the Foursquare family from all over the South Pacific and Asia. We met up with David and Kathleen Norcross and introduced them to national leaders and missionaries they will be working with in the region. David and Kathleen will soon be deployed as missionaries to American Samoa next year.

Our South Korean hosts were so gracious and took very good care of us. The food was great and was abundant. The speakers were world class, but the fellowship was best part of the conference. Sitting and hearing the life stories of so many servants of God from all over the world is humbling. We of course froze in the 50-degree weather. We lived in our coats! The weather is much like Seattle with hills and foliage much the same. The cities were modern and well maintained. Instead of the vast stretches or suburban houses like Seattle, there were many high-rise apartments stretching for miles.



We spent the last day touring the DMZ (demilitarized zone) between North and South Korea. We held a prayer meeting for the reunification of the north and the south and for peace and de-escalation of tensions. The South Korean church is praying that in 2023 there will be a reunification between the north and the south celebrating the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the separation of the two countries.



The DMZ is 6km wide area along the border that's fenced off and completely filled with land mines. Not a good place to play rugby or frisbee. Yes, you guessed it, that sign says sniper danger zone.

### So off to Fiji.

Travel Tip... Oooooops .... Lesson Learned! I saved the sandwich from the meal on Air New Zealand and thought I could eat it later. 😞 Unfortunately, I didn't think to declare it on the form when I went through customs. (In my defense, I had already been flying for 15 hours, pretty groggy, didn't even think twice about it.)

Well, I got nailed and fined!!! No mercy, \$185 dollars poorer! Don't bring any food from anywhere!!!!!!

We traveled together with the Norcross's to Fiji for 9 days for more preaching, leadership training and women's meetings. Even though we had many meetings, the highlight was being able to meet with many precious people.



God so loves us all. The hunger to know God is universal across all nations and culture. But God's desire to be intimate with all of them is even stronger. This is evident in the tremendous outpouring of the Holy Spirit we experienced in all of our meetings. God's number one desire is to

reconcile us to himself through His Son and indwell us through the outpouring of His Spirit.

We had a full week of leadership trainings and services. Dave and Kathleen made the week so much easier teaching and sharing the load. Our accommodations and our hosts were so inviting and restful. We stayed in a country church/home close to Tavua. They converted the bottom half for church meetings and for team housing. This allows teams to come and help with the work, such as building projects, youth camps, and leadership training. The upper half is for the pastor's family to live in. We felt so privileged to have the best Indian food you could imagine. All of it done the hard way!!! (When you don't like to cook you really appreciate fine dining!) Our National Pastor John drove us everywhere and lead as an example as how to serve. He usually likes to help with the cooking besides all of the driving. Living and eating with Fiji people is far better than the unreal world of resort hotels and beaches.

The Beds looked so inviting even at 85 degrees! We were grateful the power was on and we had a fan and comfortable bed! I have discovered the secret to staying cool at night. Get your bed clothes wet before laying down resulting in a much cooler body temperature as the fan rotates! At least for half the night until you are dry and hot again!

Kathleen and I spoke at a women's conference. It was exciting to meet with women from all walks of life. We put together little gift packets for each of them. It was fun seeing how they appreciated it. Pastor John arranged for the transport for 62 ladies to attend the conference. This was a momentous occasion since Fiji has been in lock down for so long. Even, the nearby towns couldn't get together. Many of women were going through persecution. Their husbands and families are not Christian. Two of the worship leaders were beaten by their husbands quite frequently because of their faith.

Sunday, was another full day. We left the house at 8:00 am to take part in a lovely service followed by another exquisite meal of Indian food. We dropped Dave and Kathleen off at the airport and proceeded to a 2 hour ride up to a mountain church service. The Pastor had invited the community for the service and a meal. It was amazing to see people who wouldn't darken the door of a Christian church show up with their little dots on their foreheads and questions about the God who doesn't require sacrifices, prayers, food, or money to get favor. Keith did a great job explaining that Jesus did it all for them and you don't have to earn Gods favor to experience His peace. About 28 of them accepted Christ. It's been a busy fruitful month. We appreciate all of your prayers and support!



Finally, after being gone almost a month, we were met by airport staff. We were asked if we need wheelchair assistance! We must have looked tired! It was time to come home!!!!

2022 update with our immediate family! We have all survived the Big C! Natasha and Shane and 3 kids live in Bonny Lake, David and Danelle and 2 kids live next door in the renovated milk house (they are waiting on the well to be drilled (2 plus years) for a home to be built on the hill. Kristal, Joshua our grandson, and Keith's brother Kirk live here on the farm. Melissa lives down the road. My mother, (still a kicking) lives in Tacoma.

We have lost many dear relatives and friends this year! It has been a dose of reality. We are all destined to meet God! We never know when it is our time. We are thankful for the Peace and Assurance that we have. We do not have to be afraid of death! John 3:16, John 10:10.

[Coming up in 2023.](#)

Lord willing, we will be going to Tonga in February!

A small island nation near Fiji where you may recall last year a huge volcano near by blew up and rained ash on the tiny island. The resulting tsunami waves severed all communication from the outside world. The Lord protected the islands inhabitants and FDR worked closely with our Foursquare Church on the island to provide food, water and shelter repair. We will be visiting our FMI missionary Brandy Fifita and providing leadership training and a marriage seminar.

In March FDR Medical will be doing an outreach in the country of Jamacia.

Thank you for your prayers and support! We are your hands extended!

*Keith and Cindy*

