

As 2014 draws to a close, we have so many things for which to be thankful. Rejoice with us!



With thankful hearts

We are so thankful for each of you who continue to walk with us through the ups and downs of this journey. This year hasn't been easy, but we are grateful for your words of encouragement, prayers lifted on our behalf, and gifts so that we can continue our work, which is a direct extension of each of you. Thank you!



The Lord has allowed us to run five Oral Bible Storytelling workshops this year. Although our jobs have varied with the different workshops, we have found great joy in being able to help these twelve groups begin to understand God's Word better.

Being able to use our gifts of teaching, training, and logistics have been added blessings.



We are grateful for the way God's Word is impacting individual lives and communities through Oral Bible Storytelling. These language groups will be able to hear Christmas stories in their language for the first time this year. As we returned to Yabru in October, we were thrilled to hear Demas's story. He gave his life to the Lord at the first workshop and went home and began sharing stories. Everyone was excited to hear the stories and hungry for more.

There has been no church in his village for over a year.

They asked Demas to share stories for Sunday morning

devotions and now a church has started again! Demas was asked to be the pastor. Still filled with lots of questions, he came eager to learn more to share with his community.



We are so thankful for Greg and Chrissy and their boys who have taken our boy as one of their own while he goes to school at Ukarumpa. You guys have given our family an amazing gift. Thank you! As we observe Nathanael from a distance for much of the year, it has been exciting to see him blossom in different ways as he continues to seek God.



Sometimes it is hard to have him away so much of the time, but we know he is right where he needs to be.

We are all healthy. In spite of two bouts of malaria for Deb, she is feeling strong and able to do all she needs to each day. God has granted healing for Sam's knee injury earlier this year. He will join a team of others later in November headed out to a remote area to contact language communities about being part of the next OBS planned for next year. It will be two weeks of rigorous hiking during the days and listening to the people and sharing our vision with them in the evenings.

God has provided good relationships for us here in Wewak including special people who "fill-in" as aunts and uncles. Through our coworkers,



friends from other missions, and Papua New Guineans, God has allowed us to connect and be involved in the lives of others as well as a local church body.

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Nathanael as The Candy Man during the recent Candy Land themed fundraiser at the school

Photo by Karen Weaver

Thankful kids

Abigail is thankful for:

Trips to the village where there are always kids around.

The chance to teach tambourine to some of the girls in the village.

Special people who invest their time in my life and make me feel extra loved.

PNG friends and other mission kids who I can play with.

Nathanael is grateful for:

Opportunities to lead youth worship time, as well as adult worship occasionally.

Good group of guys to play sports with.

Small group of guys who meet together for regular Bible study.

Opportunities to lead others as part of the Student Representative Council

My two homes and families, one in Wewak and one in Ukarumpa.



Prayer points:

- Good conversations, health, and safety while Sam is on his two week hike beginning November 24.
- Wisdom in balancing work, ministry, homeschooling, and family times.
- We, as a family and individuals, would continue to grow in our relationships with the Lord.
- Times of rest and refreshment amidst all the activity.

Thankful to be His,

Sam, Deb, Nathanael, and Abigail Smucker

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