



## REVELATION of HOPE

PNG for Christ

Jan 29-Feb 13, 2021

# Major evangelistic campaign deferred

THE PNG For Christ meeting scheduled for May 1-16 has been deferred due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

The new date for the event is January 29 - February 13, 2021.

In an advisory circulated on April 6 by PNG Union Mission Secretary Pr Henry Monape informed all local missions of the deferral. PNGUM officers confirmed the new date at a

meeting on April 27.

Pr Monape said despite the deferral all churches should continue to reach others.

"All churches are urged to continue to conduct Discovery Bible studies amongst small groups of less than 100 people, while maintaining social distancing," he said.

The evangelistic meetings were to be conducted at 2,000 different sites across the country.

Preachers from America and other parts of the Pacific including Australia and New Zealand were to join their PNG colleagues in preaching the Gospel at the sites.

Pr Monape added that session dates for the PNG Union Mission and local missions will remain as planned. The PNGUM session is set for Sept 20-23 this year.



Members of AWR TMI team with EHSM during their visit to PNG as part of TMI Harvest Campaign preparation in May

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# Prayers offered for nation



A family praying during prayer and fasting Sabbath in January at the Lae Pidgin Church. - Filepic

Adventists in the country fasted and prayed for the nation and its leadership on Sabbath, April 4.

They gathered in their homes and small groups and prayed from 6am to 6pm as local churches were closed due to the coronavirus pandemic.

As scheduled in the church's world calendar, every Sabbath of a new quarter is set aside for prayer and fasting.

The programme was dedicated to prayers surrounding the coronavirus.

PNG Union Mission President Pastor Kepsie Elodo led other pastors working with the union mission to pray for government leaders on the church's radio station Hope FM from 11am to 12pm.

Pastors Elodo, Henry Monape, Lonol Winnie and Cameron Wari prayed for God to guide the leaders make appropriate decisions for the country in light of the threats of coronavirus.

Associate education director Serah Keliwin prayed for all students and schools while

Children's Ministries director Jochabed Pomaieu prayed for God's protection over all children and families.

Youth director Pr Lonol Winnie also prayed for young people, especially members of the Adventist Youth Ministries.

The radio station coordinated hourly prayer sessions and Bible readings while listeners followed at home and in small groups.

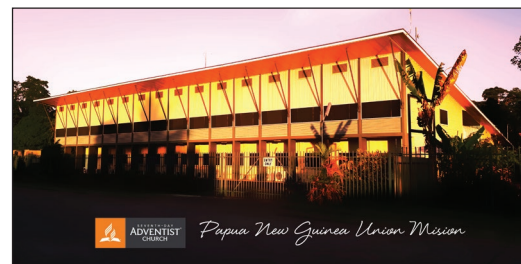
Families and small groups prayed for protection for families, safety of children, Adventist professionals, students and leadership of the church across the country.

Prayers were also offered for service providers, especially health workers, security personnel, business houses, food and water supply to villages, towns and cities and good health for all Papua New Guineans.

They also prayed for the baptism of the Holy Spirit on all homes.

Pr Elodo ended the day by reading Nahum 1:7 and stressed that the "Lord is a refuge in times of trouble".

## Coronavirus forces head office closure



Head Office of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Papua New Guinea

THE PNG Union Mission closed office as a preventative measure in light of the growing spread of the coronavirus.

President Pastor Kepsie Elodo on March 23 said following the Government's announcement of a state-of-emergency, the church head office in Lae and its local mission and conference offices across the country closed on March 24. PNGUM resumed on April 14 with other local missions. Morobe Mission resumed a week earlier.

All church-operated schools including the Sonoma Adventist College also closed their doors.

Adventist Aviation Services has also stopped its operations for an indefinite period.

There were no gatherings at church for two weeks.

Churches remained closed following the orders given by State-of Emergency controller David Manning. However, they can now reopen but with no more than 100 people attending.

"We will support the Government on the position it has taken in light of the coronavirus.

"I also advise that there will be no church gatherings over the next two weeks. However, I encourage all Seventh-day Adventists to continue to pray and study the Bible as families and in small groups.

"As we study and pray, we must look forward to the coming of Jesus Christ.

"Please pray continually about the coronavirus and the effects it is having on humanity," Pr Elodo said.

He also encouraged everyone to tune into the church's radio station *Hope FM* to listen to messages of hope. The radio station is broadcasting sermons, health tips and awareness on coronavirus.

## Leader calls for respect of public properties

PNG Union Mission president Pr Kepsie Elodo has urged all Seventh-day Adventists to respect public properties and authorities during the State of Emergency.

Pr Elodo said the National Government lockdown and State of Emergency orders should be followed.

"God is with us. The coronavirus pandemic is

a wake-up call for Christians, especially Adventists. We need to stand up to be salt of the earth.

"I appeal to all Adventists to do the right thing at this time. Don't loot. Help the community, service providers and respect business houses. "Let's protect our communities. Let us show the light," Pr Elodo said.

He made these comments when closing the prayer and fasting programme on Sabbath April 4 on *Hope FM*.

Pr Elodo also thanked the church and *Hope FM* listeners for praying and fasting and encouraged families and small groups to continue to pray and worship.





In response to COVID-19, and increased safety precautions and building closures, Hope Channel launched Hope at Home on Saturday, March 14, 2020 to provide a way to worship from the comfort and safety of the home.

"It is our mission to share God's good news of a better life for today and for eternity," said Derek Morris, president of Hope Channel International, Inc. (HCI). "During times such as these, it is more important than ever to provide an environment of worship and prayer for our viewers so that they may feel uplifted and remember we always have hope in Jesus."

**100 Days of Prayer starts on March 27**



From March 27 – July 4, 2020 join believers all around the world in calling on Jesus in our urgent need!. During this time, we will also be praying for the following:

- For specific requests regarding the effects of the COVID-19 epidemic on our church and mission
- For deeper personal consecration and revival for mission
- For our local churches to experience a greater outpouring of the Holy Spirit
- For our local churches to be a light to the world during this time of crisis
- To submit a prayer request regarding the needs of your local church or conference, [click here](#).

## Adventist schools receive training



Kaisiga's 2020 Grade 8 students with Mrs. Keliwin. This is the school's third batch of Grade 8 students.

Teachers and students of two Adventist primary schools in Milne Bay province received discipleship and Bible summary project trainings early this year.

PNG Union Mission associate education director Serah Keliwin, Northern and Milne Bay Mission education director Willie Karara and PNG Union Mission Children's Ministries director Jochabed Pomaleu ran the

trainings at Kaisiga Adventist Primary School in the Trobriand Islands and at Ramaga Adventist Primary School in the Alotau district.

According to Mr Karara the trainings, held from February 3 to 14, brought together a total 334 participants at both sites.

Mr Karara said the trainings on the Bible Summary project helped students to study the Bible efficiently, adding

it helped their reading and writing skills and improved their knowledge of the Bible.

He also said teachers were taught how to make disciples.

"Teachers were excited and are prepared to make disciples among the students and community," Mr Karara said.

More Bibles are needed to effectively run the Bible Summary project and the Bible study methods, he said.



Kaisiga Adventist Primary School students with staff.

## Church discovers Bible reading plan

Youth and other church members at the Sorovi Seventh-day Adventist church in Pongondetta, Northern province, are now able to share God's word confidently after undergoing a training on discipleship in February.

Northern and Milne Bay Mission Youth director Alexis Riroriro conducted the training from February 20 to March 1 at the church. He also conducted the induction ceremony for the Youth department.

Mr Riroriro said he taught the 150 participants how to make disciples in families and small groups using the Discovery Bible Reading plan.

"I noticed during the training that so many

young people were sharing their thoughts and they were having fun reading the Bible.

"This clearly showed that the more they practiced the Discovery Bible reading plan in their homes during morning worship, personal study times and anywhere, it will help them with their reading, improve their English vocabulary and prompt them to read the Bible everyday," Mr Riroriro said.

He also said the youth and church members were now more confident to share God's Word, adding the Bible Discovery reading plan was a very effective method that would have better results if everyone was faithfully reading the Bible.



# Adventist® radio impacts communities



Hope Fm announcer Michael Ikabala at work in the studio. He and another three announcers work as volunteers at the radio station.

THE church's radio station *Hope FM* is now reaching thousands across Papua New Guinea as the PNG Union Mission's communication department continues its radio roll-out.

Since its launching in December 2018, the radio station has attracted many avid listeners through its various programmes.

Operating on the frequency 107.5FM, the radio signal is

received in Lae, Port Moresby, Kokopo, Rabaul, Kavieng, Kimbe, Madang, Popondetta, Kainantu, Goroka, Mt Hagen, Madang and Wewak. Plans are underway to extend the coverage to Buka and other parts of the country.

Radio coordinator Harold Kalava said since the launching more than 20 new listeners stumble upon *Hope FM*.

Mr Kalava said the trend was

measured through the average daily text messages and messages.

"We are experiencing over 100-plus text messages coming in every day. Half of the text messages and phone calls are from non-Adventists, and former members" he said.

He added that the radio station was creating a positive impact on many listeners.

"In a month, more than 50-plus

listeners testify on how *Hope FM* changed their lives. Our caller interest forms show that many need prayer, counselling and encouragement. They want to know the truth about the Sabbath," Mr Kalava said.

Some of the radio programmes that have created a lot of interest among the listeners are health, Prayer of Hope, Real Family talk, Hope Daily Bread, Hope Connect and Hope Sabbath School.

## PNGUM continues content trainings in AROB

The training for radio content creation and recording for Bougainville Mission was held from February 25-28, 2020.

The training, held at the Rumba mission station in Arawa, brought together 43 participants from the province.

Five women were among the participants.

Participants came from Buka, Inus, Wakunai, Kieta, Buin and Pabasi districts.

Trainer and Papua New Guinea Union Mission associate commu-

nication director Jacqueline Wari taught the participants how to conduct interviews, write radio scripts, do radio presentations and talked about the reasons why community radios are established and the different formats of radio. The training was done over four days.

*Hope FM* broadcaster and programmer Ben Elvis recorded content for the radio station on Thursday and Friday.

A three-hour recording session was also held on Thursday night.

Testimonies, prayers, Bible readings, successful life stories and devotionals were among the

programmes recorded over the two days.

Mrs Wari thanked the participants for showing an interest in radio and encouraged them to effectively use their skills to talk about God to others.

Bougainville Mission Communication director Minister Monty Kanare expressed his gratitude towards the PNGUM communication department for empowering the church to use radio as an effective tool for evangelism.

Many participants were grateful as it was the first time that they had received training in radio and were eager to create programmes.





# Youths baptised at Bautama congress



Pr Micah Akui, Pr Misikaram Guguna and Pr Roy Tukar baptising the youths during the congress.

MORE than 2,500 youths attended the PNG Union Mission youth congress from Dec 15-22 at the Bautama camp ground in Port Moresby.

Representing the nine local missions and a conference, youths, leaders, teachers, pastors and church administrators attended the weeklong meeting which aimed at empowering and equipping to raise the standard of the youth ministry in the union.

The theme for the congress was *Lifting the Bar of Excellence*.

Guest speakers for the congress were evangelist and mentor to schools in the North New South Wales Conference Pr Rome Ulia and South Pacific Division youth ministries director Dr Nick Kross.

The congress delegates attended morning and evening worship programmes, plenary sessions, studied the Bible in small groups and attended workshops on various issues.

The morning devotions were conducted by Pr Ulia, PNGUM Youth director Pr Lonol Winnie, PNGUM Communication director Pr Cameron Wari and Dr Nick Kross.

Guest speaker Pr Ulia presented powerful, life-changing sermons in the evenings which were live-streamed on Facebook and viewed by thousands across PNG and the globe.

Pr Ulia ended his sermons each night with appeals, allowing everyone the opportunity to respond by moving to the front of the stage.

In one of his plenary sessions, he spoke about re-evaluating the church structure to reach the community, adding worship was not housed in a building and encouraged the youths to become the church so the community can experience God through them.

Meanwhile, Dr Kross spoke on the Excellence of Passion. He spoke about Paul's life of passion towards God and Excellence in Marriage among others.

Workshops conducted by the PNGUM youth directors and departmental directors from the union office covered 18 topics. Topics included youth Christian leadership, spirit-filled youth leader, the influence of cult to young people, youth and consumerism, Bible Summary project, Technology, youth and media, public speaking, facing abuse in youth ministry and youth response to disaster.

One hundred youths repainted seven classrooms for the Mt Diamond Adventist Secondary School as part of the congress project.

The congress ended on Sabbath with the baptism of 26 youths, a powerful sermon by Pr Ulia for divine service, a presentation by Dr Nick Kross in the evening and a colourful closing ceremony where youths from the local missions and conference presented gifts to the guest speakers and facilitators. –



Warren Mathias with SPD youth Director Dr Nick Kross



Youths in deep study during the small group sessions



Youths listening to presenters during plenary sessions



Congress speaker Pr Rome Ulia addressing the youths



A youth painting a classroom at Mt Diamond



A youth volunteer busy at work at Mt Diamond





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