

Matzke Messenger

March 2013

News from Tim & Martha Matzke serving with Wycliffe

Spring is in the air and with it comes changes! We are getting closer to our departure for the Solomon Islands!

A New Day for Kids in the Solomon Islands

Children around the Solomon Islands speak sixty-five different languages, but when they start attending school, English is the language of instruction. Most kids have almost never heard English spoken and many become frustrated and find learning a challenge.



The Ministry of Education in the Solomon Islands has asked Tim to provide technical assistance for the development of a multilingual education pilot program. Tim will be responsible for working closely with national and local educators to help prepare a program in two language groups to begin teaching children in their own languages.

When the new school year begins in January 2014, pre-class (kindergarten) children will be greeted and taught in their own languages. Experience around the world has demonstrated that this approach to educating children will be of great benefit for students. With a strong foundation in reading and writing in the language they speak on a day-to-day basis, in the following years they will learn English, and eventually use that language for learning.

We are excited to be able to make a contribution to this new education initiative in the Solomon Islands. Over the next few years, the Ministry of Education plans on expanding the program to other language groups. The two languages that will be targeted for the pilot program both have New Testaments so children will soon be able to read God's Word for themselves!

Our 'to do' list:

☐ Order a vehicle
funds needed: \$12,000

With apologies to Detroit, our next car will come from a used vehicle website in Japan: www.japanesevehicles.com. Shipping, insurance and duty will add to the cost, but will be the best option for reliable and affordable transportation in Honiara.

☐ Prepare shipment of household goods:
funds needed: \$1400

We need to ship basic household goods for our home; kitchenware, linens, clothing, etc.

☐ Apply for Solomon Islands work and residency permits

☒ Renew Sarah's passport

☐ Make arrangements for Sarah's Papua New Guinea visa

☐ Visit supporting Churches

☐ Pack up our house in Dallas and arrange for renting

☐ Travel to Michigan and Minnesota for good-byes to family

If you feel led to contribute to our outgoing expenses or regular support, tax deductible gifts can be sent to Wycliffe. Be sure to designate the gift, 'for Tim & Martha Matzke'.

by mail:



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Thanks for Asking...



Are you going to live in your same house in the Solomon Islands?

Yes! Our renter recently moved out and another family needed a short term place to live. We are thankful for someone to live in the house until we get there.

Thank God with us for someone to stay in our house.

Are you going to sell your house in Dallas?

No. We will rent out the house using a trusted rental agent.

Please pray that good renter will be found for the house.



What will Emily be doing when you go back to the Solomons?

Emily is graduating from her Apache Helicopter Armament training with the Army Reserves. She will return to Dallas in April and is planning on living in Arlington, TX. It looks like this fall, she may be deployed overseas with her unit.

Please pray for Emily as she looks for housing and a job.



How is Sarah feeling about going to school in PNG (Papua New Guinea)? How often will you see her?

Sarah is excited about going to school at Ukarumpa International High School. Shortly after we arrive in the Solomons, we will travel as a family to PNG to help her get settled before school starts July 24th. She will live in a youth hostel which is staffed by a missionary family.

Sarah will return to the Solomon Islands for Christmas break and between school years. There may be opportunities during the year for one or both of us to travel to Ukarumpa so we will see her from time to time.

Pray for Sarah as she has to say good-bye to friends here and for good adjustments in PNG.



Sarah's 16th Birthday party

Do you have all the financial support you need to live in the Solomon Islands?

We thank God for the wonderful financial support we have been receiving the last couple of years. The cost of living in the Solomon Islands is close to what we have been averaging over the past couple of years. An increase of about \$200 a month would bring us up to 100%.

Pray that God would provide the additional monthly support and outgoing expenses.

When do you leave the USA?

We fly out of Dallas on June 25th to Australia and on to New Zealand where we will visit friends before going to the Solomons on July 10th.

Praise God for free flights to Australia thanks to the gift of a friend's frequent flyer points.

