

Dear friends

Last week we attended the annual Local Leaders International team meeting in Australia. We had an invaluable time reflecting on the past year and planning for the development of further training initiatives in Africa and Asia in the coming year.

We were due to go with Karen to Papua New Guinea to complete their Phase 3 training and then on to Indonesia to work with the PASTI colleges. However, it proved impossible to find flights that would get us back from PNG and over to Yogyakarta in time. In the end, we had to remain in the Sydney area and send Karen to Papua New Guinea to run the training, armed with a couple of videoed lectures from us. It was the week of the PNG 50th independence anniversary celebrations so she had to fit the training around the many feasts and dancing displays, but she reports that both she and the participants thoroughly enjoyed it all.

Meanwhile, we have been working hard to prepare for the training in Indonesia. We leave Sydney on Saturday for a week-long workshop in Yogyakarta. Please pray for the 55+ participants, mainly from the south of Java, as we help them to think about their research into the role of the church in Indonesian society at a time when it is becoming increasingly difficult to belong to a minority community. We value your prayers for all concerned.

With our love in the Lord.

Caroline and Dick