

ANGLICAN CHURCH OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA QUARTER 3 & 4 (JULY-DECEMBER 2023) NEWSLETTER

Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea Newsletter

JULY-DECEMBER 2023

Message from the General Secretary



Welcome to our last newsletter Edition for 2023 . This newsletter issue covers the month of July to December 2023. I hope you will enjoy reading updates and stories from Anglican Church of PNG.

As we are in Advent season it reminds us that we are in the Ministry of the Holy Spirit, that we are called to renew and strengthen our spirituality for good growth and development both in our secular and sacred Christian journey.

Let us be guided by God's will in providing good leadership and providing much needed services to others in our communities.

May God's unconditional love abound with peace ,joy and hope to you all with His Grace and Mercy as we serve Him .

To God be the Glory.

Dennis Kabekabe.

Acting General Secretary

MAY WE VALUE THE DIGNITY OF ALL PEOPLE BECAUSE

CHRIST CAME TO BRING JOY TO ALL PEOPLE .

MAY WE ALL BE BLESSED THIS ADVENT & CHRISTMAS

SEASON !

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ANGLICAN CHURCH OF PNG UPDATE

Opening of New Mission Station , Popondetta Diocese



The Launching of the Mission Station at Eya Damberode village took place on the 18th of October. The Anglican National office was invited to witness the opening of the mission station along with all priests, youths and mothers union members from Popondetta Diocese.

Pictures above are on of the journey to Eya and cutting of ribbon by Fr. Matthew Aigaba, Popondetta Vicar general to symbolize the opening of the mission station .

Story and pictures by Roland Siunabae , Anglican National representative to the opening of the Mission station at Eya.



Bishop Reginald Makele and coat bearers at Apugi.

NGI DIOCESE UPDATE

Ordination of Fr. Francis Marvin

On the 26th of November St. Mary's Apugi parish celebrated the ordination of Fr. Francis Marvin.

Bishop of NGI , Bishop Reginald Makele was the official celebrant of the ordination, alongside priests and parishioners who had been present to witness the very special day .

“Glory to the King who has made the Heaven and Earth and has called everyone for this purpose” said by Fr. Wilson Makele.



Fr. Francis Marvin at his ordination.



Brief Story and update by Fr. Wilson Makele.

ANGLICAN CHUCRH OF PNG UPDATE

DOGURA DIOCESE BISHOP ELECTION



The Dogura Bishop election was chaired by Provincial Registrar Mr. Copland Raurela as Chairperson for the Bishop election Committee, the election successfully concluded on the 6th of December.

ACPNG is pleased to announce that the new Bishop Elect of Dogura Diocese is John Alfred Duba-bagi. The election was held at Ukaka, St James Church in Alotau. Bishop Elect is currently a Rector at Ascension church in Alotau and he comes from Sirisiri in Milne Bay Province.

Pictures above are of New Bishop Elect for Dogura Diocese entering St. James after election was done.



ANGLICAN HEALTH SERVICES NATIONAL SECRETARY CONTRACT SIGNING.

Signing of the contract by the new Anglican Health Director, Ms Petra Goviro on the 5th of December during the Health Board meeting at St James Church, Ukaka in Alotau. Appointments of Diocesan Health Managers also took place for Dogura Diocese (Mr Newton Orowari), Aipo Rongo Diocese (Mr Lucas Mas) and Popondetta Diocese (Mr David Kirata).



Pictures on the left, signing of the Anglican Health Director and representatives from other Diocese Health offices and Acting Archbishop Nathan Ingen.

Brief update by Mrs. Thelma Guni, pictures by Mr. Dennis Kabekabe.

ANGLICAN CHURCH OF PNG UPDATE

Anglican Communion Forest Initiative -Lower Jimi Deanery



Team leader Graydon, first Evangelist in Lower Jimi, Gabriel Kuraiwae and Catechist Stanley planting the first Coffee tree.

In Genesis 1:1-31 speaks of God creating the formless earth into what we live in today, our home, our world.

Today our environment is at threat of losing its pure life system. Environmental crisis and natural disasters has caused millions of people and species of animals and plants to be in great danger and suffering.

The Anglican Church of PNG within its five diocese are always prone to natural disasters such as flooding, drought, volcanic activities, sea level rising, earth quake, deforestation, landslides and the list goes on. The Anglican Communion Forest Initiative has paved a way forward for ACPNG to embark on activities that would go a long way in preventing and making communities resilient to natural disasters, preserving biodiversity, tackling climate change and reducing pollution.

ACPNG has taken the first step in engaging in the Communion forest by planting coffee trees in the Lower Jimi Deanery in the Aipo Rongo Diocese. The coffee tree planting initiative was taken on board by the Anglican National Office through its Parenting program in partnership with UNICEF PNG.

Team leaders of the Parenting program from each parish in the lower Jimi planted 11 coffee trees. Nine of the coffee trees planted, symbolize the parishes who are actively participating in the parenting for child development program “Child protection from harsh parenting and safeguarding the biodiversity for the future generation”. The other two coffee trees symbolize the love and care of God’s creation and commitment to the fifth mark of mission on Striving to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth. And lastly, commitment for the communities to invest in planting coffee to generate an income to help with their financial capacities in this time of economic crisis that PNG is currently challenged with.



Brief story by Annsli Kabekabe, Communications & Community Development Officer

Prayers said before the tree planting;
The Communion Forest prayer was recited in the prayers.

ANGLICAN CHURCH OF PNG NETTON COLLEGE UPDATE

Newton College to be part of "Modawa Institute"



Newton College is to be taken up into a new and larger entity, "The Modawa Institute of Higher Education".

The institute will bring together two existing educational institutions of the Anglican Church in PNG, "Newton College" and "St Margaret's School of Nursing". It will also include a school of teaching.

The new institute will formally come into existence on January 1 2024, although it may take the better part of 12 months for teaching in all disciplines to commence on the 265 acre Newton College site near Popondetta.

Newton College principal, Bishop Jeffrey Driver, will be the interim Principal of the New Institute, as the Council looks to recruit a new leadership team.

Bishop Jeffrey said that the creation of the new institute was both forward looking and yet continuous with Anglican history in PNG.

"From the earliest days, the Anglican mission in PNG held together the proclamation of the Gospel with practical expressions of care and a commitment to human development. Health and education were priorities right from the beginning. So in one way, this new institute is a return to past priorities.

"At the same time, it is a response to changing times. The demands of higher education are changing. The national Government in PNG is pushing to lift higher educational standards, with new standards around teaching, educational administration, IT and student support. These new requirements add expense and mean that the smaller institutions will struggle to survive. By creating a multi-disciplinary institute on the Newton College campus, the Anglican Church in PNG is giving itself the chance of continuing with a viable and vital presence in education into the future.

"This is of utmost importance in the Northern (Oro) Province where there is very little by way of higher education opportunities".

Bishop Driver said he was encouraged by strong support for the move, not just within the Church, but across the community. The Provincial Government has set up a working group to support the development and also provided a promise of some funding. The Kokoda track Foundation has committed itself as a major partner and there has been strong encouragement from international church partners.

"The naming of the institute reflects both the history of the Anglican Church in PNG and a vision for the future", Bishop Driver said. "When the early missionaries came to Dogura, they cut down some bush timber to build a chapel. One of the posts was from the New Guinea Rosewood, or Modawa. It grew and became a symbol to Anglicans of the beginnings and growth of their church. The tree is still there in Dogura. It represents growth and inclusion, with room for all under its spreading branches. So as much the Modawa tree is a symbol of Anglican beginnings in PNG it also provides a vision of an expanding and inclusive future".

Update by Bishop Jeffrey Driver

ANGLICAN CHURCH OF PNG PARTNERS UPDATE

International Anglican Partners meeting Popondetta Diocese



The International Anglican Partners meeting was hosted in Popondetta Diocese from the 30th August - to 3rd September. International Partners from New Zealand Mission, Anglican Church Australia, Australia Board of Mission & Anglicans in Development and PNG Church Partners UK attended the Partners meeting in Popondetta.

The partners meeting main purpose is to meet and tell stories or update each other on what they are doing and what areas partners are able to support ACPNG in respective partnership agreements.

The Partners meeting began on the 30th of August with the opening service and visit to Martyrs school. The official partners meeting took place the next day with a field trip to Gona. On the 1st of September the partners visited various places in Popondetta and on the 3rd of September the partners attended the Martyrs Day Celebration.

Pictures above and on the left shows the highlights of the Partners visit to Popondetta Diocese.

Update and Story by Mr. Dennis Kabekabe



ACPNG COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

Difference Course on Peace and Reconciliation done by All Souls Youth, Lae.



Mr. Dennis Kabekabe and All Souls Youth after presentation of attendance certificate for the Difference Course.

The Difference Course on Reconciliation and restoration from Archbishop of Canterbury, Justine Welby's Reconciliation Ministry has made a significant difference in the lives of individuals at the All Souls Parish, Lae.

The Difference Course was facilitated by Mr. Dennis Kabekabe at the All Souls parish for interested youths and parish members. The course has made a positive impact on the mindset of participants when faced with conflicts/challenges individually and how to better respond.

Twenty (20) participants completed the Difference training and received their certificate of attendance on the 22nd of July 2023.

PC & Update by Mr. Dennis Kabekabe

Agents of Change Course graduates participants from the St. Francis Bumbu Parish, Lae.



Mr. Dennis Kabekabe and St. Francis Bumbu Parish Agents of Change participants showing of their certificates after completion of the AoC modules.

The Agents of Change Course (AoC) has been one of the main programs that ACPNG under the Anglican Alliance has been successfully delivered and seen participants complete the course.

The Bumbu Parishioners in Lae, Morobe Province has been one of the active group that went through the Agents of Change course, one of the participants said “The AoC course is one of the first course that has broaden my understanding on how to start, run and do projects within my community and local area”.

Agents of Change has graduated seven participants for the Bumbu parish this year.

PC & Update by Communications, ANO.

ANGLICAN CHURCH OF PNG PARTNERS UPDATE

COMMUNITY AND CHURCH HOLISTIC DEVELOPMENT TRAINING ON THE SUSTAINABILITY APPROACHES OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN THE PHILIPPINES FROM NOVEMBER 14-24 2023



Participated in tree planting during our tour to Northern Philippines, Mountain Province, Diocese of Santiago.



The countries that participated at the ECP Sustainable Development Training: PNG, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, USA, Brunei, Malaysia, Australia and Philippines.



1st Week into Strategic Planning– Group photo.

Mrs Dorothy Siep, ACPNG Mothers Union member and Anglican National Education Secretary was invited by the Anglicans in Development (ABM/AID) to attend the Community and Church Development training on sustainability approaches of the Episcopal church of Philippines .

The two weeks training and learning was focused on sustainable development approaches that the Episcopal Church of Philippines have been successfully implementing and have given rise to successful projects and stories that visiting partners learn from and can explore in their respective provinces.

The training looked into two main sustainable development policies on Asset Base Community Development (ABCD) and Receivers to Givers (R2G). The aim of the policies are to address the day to day peoples' needs.

The ABCD and R2G policies help Anglicans to develop whatever resources/assets they already have and the success was through the establishment of organisations of people's cooperatives mainly through credit unions and taking ownership of it all. Thus, Cooperatives are pioneering their faith to also recover amidst modern challenges of climate change and food security.

ABCD and R2G are values-driven and are fundamentally grounded on Christian values. ABCD considers local assets as the primary building blocks of sustainable Community Development. It is built on assets. It is also the opposite of the needs based approach to development. ABCD importantly mobilizes individuals, associations and institutions. The ABCD model applies to '*Jesus feeding the 5,000*'.

In addition, when Givers to Receivers came into play dependency was reduced. This is a successful method and is empowering many Anglicans. The repayment period with interest is either a long-term or a short term.

ABCD and R2G approaches to Church and Community development are rooted in the 5 Marks of Mission and Christian-values since 2018 and has many success stories. By the end of 2028 ECP would be celebrating its Vision below;

Scripture-Rooted, Spirit-Fired and Disciples-Parishes

Story and pictures by Mrs Dorothy Siep.

ACPNG COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT UPDATE



Above Left: Faith Based Church members who deliver the parenting for Child development program; representation from Catholic Archdiocese of Mt. Hagen, Evangelical Lutheran Church and Anglican Church of PNG .

Above Right: ACPNG Parenting booth at the Apec Haus.

Left: Acting Arch Bishop Nathan Ingen and Acting General Secretary Mr. Dennis Kabekabe visiting the Parenting Booth.

Closing of the ACPNG - UNICEF PNG Parenting Program under the UN Spotlight Initiative program .

The Anglican Church Partnership with UNICEF PNG in delivering the Parenting for Child Development has come to an end after two years of successfully delivering the parenting program in the Lower Jimi, Jiwaka province and Madang urban– Middle Ramu province.

The parenting program in its delivery has impacted over 1000+ parents/caregivers and has reached over 2000+ children. The sustainability of the program under the church is well on the way with plans of creating projects that will help support the parenting program and in time reach the other ACPNG diocese that have not been reached in the last two years.

On the 27th –28th of November 2023, ACPNG was invited to showcase the work of the parenting program at the National United for Equality Summit in Port Moresby at the APEC Haus. The showcasing of ACPNGs parenting program implementation had left individuals speechless on the challenges and successes of delivering the program in the most remotest parts of PNG. ACPNG has been highly commended with other faith based and civil societies for the great efforts in reaching parents and caregivers and in achieving the primary goal of making homes safe and free from harsh parenting and violence.

Brief update and pictures by Annsli Kabekabe, Communications .

ACPNG COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

16 Days Activisms - International Day of People with Disability



Pictures on the above are of Persons with Disability attending the Morobe Provincial International Day of People with Disability at the Eriku Oval, Lae.

Each year the 16 days of activism runs from the 25 November to 10 December, the 16 Days of Activism campaign calls for action against one of the world's most persistent violations of human rights – violence against women.

During the 16 Days of Activism, people around the world unite to raise awareness about gender-based violence, challenge discriminatory attitudes and call for improved laws and services to end violence against women for good.

This year the Anglican National office in Lae took part in one of the 16 Days of Activism activity on International Day of Disability on the 3rd of November that was celebrated on the 4th of November. Anglican Church with other partners joined in raising awareness for people with disabilities at the local, national, regional and international levels.

Stigma and violence against people with disability continues to occur at an alarming scale in every country especially here in PNG. Too often we turn a deaf ear to the voices of the voiceless. People with special needs are our equals and we are to provide them with accessible services and to be included in discussions that matter in changing their lives.

ACPNG has developed a Disability policy that has been endorsed on the 15th of November by the Provincial council and is looking forward to breaking barriers for people living with disabilities through the development programs/projects under the Church. ACPNG values human dignity and respects that all are created in the image of God.

Story and Pictures by Annsli Kabekabe, Communications.

ACPNG PRAYER FOR DISASTERS & CONFLICT

Lord Jesus , you are truly the Prince of Peace and Captain of the Storm. In this troubled world we live in, you continue to sustain our needs and we are grateful. Forgive us for our wrongs and help us to serve you fully in both good and bad times.

Lord Jesus we come before you to ask for PEACE in our overwhelming battles that we are faced with day by day. You may seem far away but we ask that you may remain with us and remind us that your presence is with us always.

We pray especially for Disasters and conflicts occurring all around the world . Jesus may you grant courage and hope to those hearts that are fearful and constricted. May you grant peace and reassurance to those that need you in their darkest times and may you be their light of hope.

In Jesus Name,

Amen

May we keep in prayer the disasters and conflict portrayed on the right.

**PEACE I LEAVE WITH YOU;MY
PEACE I GIVE YOU. I DO NOT
GIVE TO YOU AS THE WORLD
GIVES. DO NOT LET YOUR
HEARTS BE TROUBLED AND
DO NOT BE AFRAID.**

JOHN 14:27



Slow onset emergency ; Drought experienced in Raboraba, Dogura Diocese. PC. Victor Mabira



Earth quake in East Coast of East Sepik Province - 8th December 2023, 5 magnitude. PC. Salvadore Kemaken



Eruption of Mt. Ulawun, West New Britain Province - November 20th 2023. PC. Sharlene Kendo- IOM



Israel - Hamas War 10th October 2023. PC: Getty Images