Cornerstone - Global Ministries

One Nation at a Time – PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Grace and peace to you in our Lord! In order to facilitate a global perspective amongst the staff and communities, we have put together a template to encourage the body to pray for a specific country and partnership each week.

Pray for All People:

1 First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, **2** for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. **3** This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, **4** who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

--1 Timothy.2:1-4

"...The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective."

--James.5:16b

If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact us at 805.581.9532 or e-mail:

Jen Yun
Global Ministries Administrative Assistant
jyun@cornerstonesimi.com

The Country

The eastern half of the island of New Guinea - second largest in the world - was divided between Germany (north) and the UK (south) in 1885. The latter area was transferred to Australia in 1902, which occupied the northern portion during World War I and continued to administer the combined areas until independence in 1975. A nine-year secessionist revolt on the island of Bougainville ended in 1997 after claiming some 20,000 lives. *

Facts and Figures

Capital City: Port Moresby

Population: 6,057,263 (July 2009 est.)

Religion: Roman Catholic 27%, Evangelical Lutheran 19.5%, United Church 11.5%, Seventh-Day Adventist 10%, Pentecostal 8.6%, Evangelical Alliance 5.2%, Anglican 3.2%, Baptist 2.5%, other Protestant 8.9%, Bahai 0.3%, indigenous beliefs and other 3.3% (2000 census)

Language: Tok Pisin, English, and Hiri Motu are official languages; some 860 indigenous languages spoken (over one-tenth of the world's total)
note: Tok Pisin, a creole language, is widely used and understood; English is spoken by 1%-2%; Hiri Motu is spoken by less than 2%

People: The indigenous population of Papua New Guinea is one of the most heterogeneous in the world; PNG has several thousand separate communities, most with only a few hundred people; divided by language, customs, and tradition, some of these communities have engaged in low-scale tribal conflict with their neighbors for millennia; the advent of modern weapons and modern migrants into urban areas has greatly magnified the impact of this lawlessness.*

The Church

There has been a major spread of the Gospel in PNG over the past 120 years. Praise God that nearly all tribes have been reached and that there have been mass movements to Christianity. *

Our Prayer

- Pray that faith would be deeply rooted and that there would be radical transformation of basic values and beliefs. Pray for revival and deep repentance that will result in true disciples.
- Pray that women and men would be called of God to full-time Christian service in PNG, and that there would be adequate training available to mature and prepare them for the task of leading the Church. Pray that training programs would be established, and that Bible teachers would impart a love of God's Word to students.
- As much of PNG is accessible only by air, missionary aviation organizations are necessary to reach the peoples of this densely forested and mountainous nation. Pray for the safety of pilots, passengers and aircraft, as several aircraft have crashed. Pray also for the availability of the staff, required to service and care for these planes and helicopters.

Our Partnerships

- Please pray **Mike and Jen Cratch** as they have been serving in PNG for many years. They are in the process of returning home for medical reasons and are unsure whether they will be able to return to the field. Pray that the work they began will be sustainable regardless of their presence, or the lack thereof, amongst the tribes people.
- Please pray for **Tim and Courtney Shontere**. They recently had their third child and are planning on returning to PNG in November of 2009 after having been on furlough for a few months. Pray that transition back would be smooth and for their relationship with their teammates. Pray for continued unity and like-mindedness.

*Some statistics and information were gathered from the Operation World Prayer Calendar and CIA World Factbook.