

SIM Australia

ACN 002 679 441

ABN 46 002 679 441

Dear Prayer Partners,

It has been several month since our last prayer letter. It is certainly not for lack of things to tell you about! Our regular schedule would have seen a letter come to you in November and unfortunately we missed that target. Rather than send one out now at Christmas time we have decided to wait and give you a proper letter after the first of the year in February.

For now we would like to just take the brief opportunity to thank you for your prayers and support over this last year. To have you journeying with us as we follow Jesus is a wonderful blessing. As we reflect on Jesus coming to earth to be our Saviour, we have been reminded of some things that are very precious to our hearts. In the old Christmas carol "O Holy Night" the last verse says

*"Truly He taught us to love one another,
His law is love and His gospel is peace.
Chains he shall break, for the slave is our brother,
and in his name all oppression shall cease."*

The words here are very rich and full of messages of encouragement and challenge for us all. For us personally, we find ourselves this year tremendously encouraged to be working in unity with people all over the world. While we are diverse in many ways, (nationality, languages, cultures, denominations, our likes and our preferences, etc.) we are unified round the love of Jesus and His Gospel. We are also praising God for the opportunity that He has given us to be a part of working with churches and missionaries to take the name of Jesus to places around the world to people who are poor, oppressed, and marginalised in many ways. We thank God today for the place He has brought us to in our journey with Him. The love and unity that we see in the body of Christ around the world is refreshing and has renewed our hope in His church.

We will leave you with a few prayer request as you celebrate Christmas and then move into the new year...

- Pray for the elections and referendum in Sudan <http://www.sim.org.au/Sudan.shtml>
- Pray for our family as we continually adjust to different stages of life and circumstances
- Pray that God will provide a new renter for our house in Pennsylvania (or even better someone to buy it!)
- Pray for the many applicants and enquirers we are journeying with that they will know God's leading and that all obstacles will be removed
- Pray as we continue to seek to raise support for the ministry we are involved with. We continue each month to operate at a significant deficit

Thank you again for your partnership. May God richly bless you as you celebrate the birth of His Son and our Saviour this Christmas and may the new year bring with it tremendous fulfilment in all that He leads you into.

Serving Others as His Hands & Feet,

Stan, Deanna and Family

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Planting, strengthening, and partnering churches around the world

SIM includes Africa Evangelical Fellowship, Andes Evangelical Mission, International Christian Fellowship and Sudan Interior Mission