



Lu Piper

Salamo, Papua New Guinea

Partner Church - United Church in Papua New Guinea

About Salamo

Salamo is an extremely remote area in the Papuan Islands region of Papua New Guinea (PNG). To reach Salamo, one must take a flight from Port Moresby to Alotau then endure a ten hour boat ride to Fergusson Island where Salamo is located. Electricity runs for no more than three hours a day. There are no shops and no computers. Satellite phones are the only form of communication. Any supplies must be purchased in Alotau and shipped to Salamo. The climate is hot and humid, and volunteers are at the mercy of the seas for safe transportation.

About Lu

Lu has been a missionary in PNG for most of her life. She is an ordained Anglican minister, who was last in placement in Stroud, NSW. Lu is a trained teacher and worked in PNG in this capacity from 1968 – 1972. She then was seconded to the Melanesian Council of Churches to work on a Christian education syllabus for Primary school students. She spent several years teaching in a remote indigenous community in Australia before returning to work at Gaulim Teacher's College in PNG. Lu returned to Australia where she then studied theology and served in parish ministry. Lu continued to be challenged by a deep longing to work in solidarity with our partner churches in the Papuan Islands region and was sent as a volunteer through the UCA to Salamo in 2004.

The Project

Lu's work is all about capacity building and empowering the local communities that she so dearly loves. She oversees the management of the construction of 18 health clinics on remote islands and also assists with administrative support for the United Church in Papua New Guinea in this region. Her day to day activities include pastoral support and assistance with church work, minute taking and report writing, organizing and managing resources such as boats and motors, trips to and from Alotau hardware to purchase resources and arrange builders to do construction work at health clinics. Lu is an amazing woman who manages a myriad of tasks in a challenging context!





Our Partner Church in PNG

The United Church in Papua New Guinea runs elementary, primary and secondary schools under the national education system, a teachers' training college, a theological college for the formation of its pastors, and a lay leaders' training institute. It supports Bible schools in each region of the country. Developing and training people for mission and training of women and youth are among the priorities of the church. The United Church in Papua New Guinea has been involved in efforts to solve the conflict in Bougainville between secessionists and the government of Papua New Guinea, and is participating in programmes of reconciliation and reconstruction.

"Day by day life and work proceeds as normal around the hiccups.... At times I yearn for what I have left behind. At times I wonder if it is really all worthwhile. Some things infuriate me. At other times I am content knowing that usually little is achieved anywhere quickly. And what is achievement anyway? I have come to the point where I understand ministry is washing feet, and that alone. All else is peripheral, it seems to me, and hopefully, with God's help, it is eventually possible to let all else go."

- Lu



Lu's Congregational Support

Lu is supported by Stroud Anglican Church, as well as by numerous individuals in Australia and overseas. Lu's challenges are constant and your support for her ministry would be much appreciated!

Contact UnitingWorld

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Sydney South NSW 1235
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