



By Nancy Greenhaw
COUNTRY COORDINATOR
for PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Nancy and Lloyd Greenhaw minister in the United States, Haiti, Papua New Guinea, and several countries in Africa. They conduct missions, conferences, and retreats for adults and youth. They also are involved in prison ministry and work with the homeless.

Nancy and Lloyd live in Texas and have two daughters, fourteen grandchildren, and three great grandchildren.

Spreading the GOSPEL in Papua New Guinea

We worked in three different dioceses on this trip. The bishops are true missionary bishops—tough and rugged, with a real heart for the people. They recognize Renewal Ministries as a valuable asset to their work. They live with many challenges and hardships, plus bouts of malaria and other tropical sicknesses, and do it with humor and grace. It is an honor to serve with them.

Papua New Guinea is not for the faint hearted! While we were there, students at the public universities walked out in protest of government corruption. There were riots and, we were told, six killings. Tribal violence was erupting in many places, and two of our outreaches were cancelled due to concerns of more violence.

Getting to remote parishes was challenging. On one trip across open water in an eighteen-foot boat, the waves were very high, and we were slammed into the bottom of the boat by swells and drenched with sea water coming over the sides. Coming back was worse! On another trip to a remote parish, we alternately slid sideways down mountainsides with sheer drop-offs on one side and then forged through rising rivers before the roads became impassible.

ALL FOR THEE, SWEET JESUS!



Lloyd speaks on the Jubilee of Mercy and the Lordship of Jesus to about 900 youth of different faiths at Fatima High School. According to Nancy, "Nobody wanted to leave!"

» MT. HAGEN DIOCESE

There are three types of weather in Mt. Hagen—raining, just stopped raining, or clouding over and about to begin raining. The green-covered and cloud-enshrouded mountains are in sharp contrast to our home in brown, flat Texas.

When we arrived at one rural church in foggy and misty weather, no one was there. The priest said Mass doesn't start until the people come, since many have to walk in slippery mud and dense jungle undergrowth to get there.

Eventually, the Catholics showed up. The old women, wrinkled from time and sun, walked in, and their faces broke into huge grins upon seeing us. The church filled to capacity—at least 400 people.

The next day, we went to the Holy Trinity Teachers College. We proclaimed the Lordship of Christ, and I talked about the extraordinary grace of the Jubilee of Mercy. Lloyd talked on the call of the Lord on their lives and about teaching being a ministry. We asked them to invite Jesus into their lives in a new and deeper way and prayed for empowerment in the Spirit. Several students asked for individual prayer. Celeste Martin, a team member for this mission, worked with two seminarians who wanted to learn more about Theology of the Body.

One day, we visited the new diocesan mercy shrine. After driving for two hours over roads that went from pavement, to gravel, to mud, we finally came upon a beautiful "shrine in the middle of nowhere." The people were thrilled we had come. Lloyd spoke on the Jubilee of Mercy, I talked on forgiveness, and Celeste gave out religious items to sell at the shrine.

That evening, we went to a school for girls. We normally spend two days there, but a huge problem has overshadowed all their activities. The land owners want more money than the original contract; for six weeks, they closed the gates so no one could pass. As a result, the school lost about 300 girls, and those who remained have to make up all the time that they missed. That meant they could only spend one evening with us.

We sang, danced, and talked with them about how trials are good. Lloyd told them they were blessed and trusted by God, and that if they relied on Him, He would bless them for being faithful during their trials. The sisters said, "That was exactly what they needed. There is a new air of joy and hope."

» WEWAK DIOCESE

One morning, we went up the mountains to Emmaus Parish. Fr. Gregory is a Polish priest who worked in Ghana for the last twenty years. He is educated in sound and radio, and they hope to start a diocesan radio station someday. I gave my testimony, Celeste spoke on Theology of the Body, and we prayed over the people. At St. Theresa's Parish, further up the mountain, the people loved Lloyd's talk on "Who do you say I am?" Lloyd jumped all over it with his drama and noises.

That afternoon, we started a three-day Charismatic rally at St. Joseph's Parish. There was excellent music, and then I sang a song to Mary, and Lloyd did a talk and an empowerment service. There was a huge amount of children; they love to dance to the music. We were outside, because the church would not hold everyone. This priest is evangelistic and the church is very close to a busy corner, so we had people not from the parish.

For the next two nights, we spoke on forgiveness, mercy, and healing. The last night, we did a healing service. Father stood with the Blessed Sacrament, as people walked up to touch the base of the monstrance and ask Jesus for what they needed. Then they came to one of our prayer teams. It was very powerful; there were many testimonies of healing and new-found joy.

The next morning, we went to St. John's Primary School at Warasaua. We were greeted by dressed-up warriors shouting war-cries with painted faces and sharp spears in their hands. It was great fun!

They built a stage for us. It was very hot. Lloyd spoke about God's love and how God knows them by name and has a great plan for their lives. He told them they have a future filled with hope. I sang two songs and the youth seemed to love it. After Lloyd spoke, the kids danced for us.

That night, a beautiful and eager group of about 300 people filled a church to hear the Good News. We spoke on the Jubilee of Mercy, forgiveness, evangelization, and prayed with them. The next morning after Mass, Celeste spoke on Theology of the Body and the Church's stance on contraception, and we prayed with nurses at the church's health center.



At least 300 came to hear the Good News at St. Partick's in Wewak. According to Nancy, "They were a beautiful and eager group of people."

During Lloyd and Nancy's time on Karkar Island, a priest offered Confession—a rare opportunity that most of the people in attendance made use of.



» MADANG DIOCESE

At St. Fidelis Seminary, we spoke to one-hundred seminarians. Lloyd talked on apologetics and I spoke on the Five Keys, which is a simple, effective prayer method to empower people to take hold of the freedom they have been given in Christ. These young men are hungry for information that will help them as priests and were eager for what we had brought them. They asked many questions, and I feel we made a difference in their formation.

One morning—after delays from heavy rains and flooding—we spoke at the cathedral. Lloyd gave several apologetics talks, Celeste spoke on Theology of the Body, and I gave my testimony. Many people showed up, and we were glad we came.

Soon after that, we went to the island of Karkar. We were greeted by song, and the church was filled to capacity, with about 800 people. Three of Mother Theresa's nuns sat in the front row, smiling. I gave our testimony, and Lloyd spoke during Mass. We did another session in the evening, plus a healing service.

We headed home the next morning amidst a dark sky and huge ocean swells. Apparently, many people have run out of gas here, or had motor problems, and were either never seen again or were found on other islands months later. The worst part was climbing out of the boat with shaky legs, up a ten-foot volcanic rock, with slippery wet sandals.

This was one of the strongest trips of the year, in terms of bringing the Gospel to remote areas where it was sorely needed. The archbishop and Father Joseph heard many powerful stories of healing and hope from our visit. The bishops asked us to continue bringing the hope of the Gospel to PNG!