



CONCH SHELL

18 EDITION | JULY

BE FAITHFUL, THE LORD IS ABLE

As God's faithful servants, I strongly believe that if ever a time we should exercise our Faith in God it is now. This is not a time, we should pass on doubts and fears to our spouse, children, colleagues and friends. A living faith in God, faith that comes from hearing the word of God (Rom 10:17) must be a daily practice. If your faith is challenged today, I pray that God will strengthen and increase your Faith in Him. Too often it is easy to say to a colleague or friend who faced with challenges in life to 'Pray and Trust God' But on a personal level, do we ourselves know what it really means to Trust God completely?

Whenever you encounter challenges always remember that it is wise to choose faith over fear. Three most important words to consider here is;

1. Fear - I would like to say that it is an emotion
2. Faith - is an attitude of complete trust in God
3. Focus - is a choice we must make every moment.

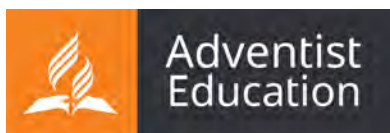
Fear of the unknown or the reality of the known will cripple our walk with God. When our lives are dominated by fear, we began sinking, sinking in spirit, sinking in our faith like Peter in the midst of the storm (Matthew 14:26 - 30). How often we are like Peter, we look upon the troubles and challenges of life instead of keep our focus on Jesus. To those who are fearful hearted, prophet Isaiah reminds us to be strong, and not to be afraid (Isaiah 35:4). Christ is bigger than our fears and it is important that we keep our eyes fixed on Jesus the rock of all ages.

To conclude, I want to leave with you 5 very important things about Faith that I have learnt over the years of my life.

1. Faith is required in each step of our journey. It does not stop at Red Sea and how amazingly we forget easily.
2. Review your life and see how God has led you. God will never leave you now.
3. Faith is necessary in every Christian journey.
4. Faith has to stand still before we move forward. Do not be afraid, "stand still" - meaning take comfort. Hold your peace, God will fight for you (Exodus 13:14).
5. Faith moves forward when we do not have all the answers. The obstacles will never disappear before a doubting spirit.
6. Faith is trusting God even when nothing seems logical. Illogical faith is not sight and sight is not faith. Faith claims the victory before it ever experiences victory.

Friends, when we encounter problems in life, our response should be the same: Look to the Lord first and develop the attitude of complete trust in God. For faith in God alone can quench the darts of discouragement and fear. It is my prayer that we pray and claim God's promises daily. I hope you are blessed and encouraged today to stand strong in God until he comes to take us home.

Blessings



Jannelle Rejavalyn Erick
Solomon Associate Education Director



HAND OVER CEREMONY - BATUNA BOATS

From January 2020, Australia Pacific Training Coalition (APTC) has commenced working in partnership with Afutara and Batuna Rural Training Centres in Solomon in upgrading their skills package delivery for Agribusiness and Building and Construction.

As part of this working relationship, APTC has donated two ray boats and two 60 horse powered engine together with drums of fuel and marine safety equipment to support the RTCs deliver and access industry for the agreed programmes. On the 20th of June the Australian High Commissioner to the Solomon Islands, His Excellency Dr. Lachlan Strahan together with APTC Country Director, Abigail Chang facilitated a handover ceremony to Afutara, Batuna, Tabaka Training Centers and Don Bosco Technical Institute.



The costs of procuring these are for Afutara and Batuna were around \$417,900.00 Solomon dollars. As a Church Education Authority, we sincerely acknowledge and thank the Australian Government and her people; and also, the vision and passion the APTC Country Director has to help build and capacitate our two technical centers.

The Church Education Authority was represented by the two school principals (Alick Maeba and Ibi Drelly) and Jannelle Erick and Joseph Pitakia from the Education Department. - **Joseph Pitakia**

SCHOOL PRAYER BREAKFAST

Olwie Adventist Primary School is small and is located just outside of Port Vila town in Vanuatu. It consists of 9 teaching staff with a non-teaching principal. Due to the influences of this school in the community, many parents are sending their children to this school.

This year the school hit high enrolment of 328 students and 56% of these students comes from Non-Adventist home. In June this year the school, for the first time organised and engaged the students on a Prayer Breakfast program instead of having the regular/weekly chapel exercise.

The prayer breakfast theme focus on the school virtue for the week 'self-control' to help students know that God through the holy spirit, He is able to help everyone to develop and have self-control.

According to one of the teacher, "the feedback from staff and students were positive and are requesting for another program." The result from this prayer breakfast and other influences from the school encourages many students requesting to participate in the Bible study class. This will be the first time the school to organise Bible study class. We praise God and thank Him for such opportunity to reveal Jesus in our school- **Green Luen**

"It is impossible for the soul to flourish while prayer is neglected."

BETIKAMA DORACS REACHING OUT



On the 17th of July, Betikama ladies in the Solomon helped with the street feeding at Lunga junction. The feeding was organized by East Honiara District that involved other sister churches within the district. Lunga junction is regarded as unsafe place, especially at night times. On weekends a lot of drinking occurs there. A lot of the young people who usually loiters around that area comes from nearby communities. These young people felt that they were forgotten. However, the feeding showed love and care that was appreciated. Those who were fed were really happy and asked if the feeding can happen more often.

- PARTINSON BEKALA

WE MUST BUILD RESILIENT SCHOOLS

Solomon Islands is still bracing itself for the COVID-19 pandemic. The government is taking all necessary steps to control the borders and continue to activate all quarantine centers to curb the disease. As schools ready to resume classes for term 3, the MEHRD is preparing the school with more information's for the teachers to know and understand to avoid panic. The Honiara City is still under SOE and all schools are expect to comply with all COVID-19 rules. Recently all the Schools leaders in Honiara undergone an intensive training by the UNICEF through MEHRD to make sure school all schools in the city are COVID- 19 competent especially with their WASH facilities. After the training, the school leaders must cascade the training to the school level.

After successfully attending the training our school leaders who attend the trainings from Kukum, Burns Creek and Palm Drive schools organize themselves and facilitate a three days from (11-13/07/21) of intensive training going through basically preparation details on WASH issues and in preparation for emergencies.

There should learning continuity for all learners in whatever emergency the school face. In addition to the WASH training, the teachers also had session on the Chaplaincy day out and the QSAF materials.



Feedback from the teachers is quite encouraging and challenging especially with the sessions on self- care, the need for physiological support for teachers and students and preparing emergency educational packs for learners during emergencies.

Our schools must at all-time ready for all hazards and learning must continue.

- BILLY LETA

PLAYGROUND A POWERFUL LEARNING TOOL

The new school playground at Beulah Adventist Primary School was opened today, Thursday, 15 July 2021 by the CEO, Ministry of Education & Training, Dr Tangikina Steen and dedicated by the President of the Tonga Mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, Pr Fanueli Mataele. Also present at this joyous event was Mr Fatongia Hopoate, Education Director of Adventist Schools, Pr Sione Naulala, Chair of the School Board, Dr Elisapesi Manson, Education Consultant of Tonga Mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church and Mr 'Onetoto 'Anisi, Deputy CEO, Sports & Recreations Division, Ministry of Internal Affairs. Teachers, students, parents, families and friends were excited witnesses of this significant achievement.

The playground was constructed to closely resemble the interests and imaginations of the students taking into consideration the school context, settings and topography. For this reason, a short study was conducted among the students at Beulah Adventist Primary School to inform the design of the playground. A mixed methodology design was employed where both qualitative and quantitative data was collected and analysed to inform the design of the playground. A total of 20 different forms of play games were installed in the playground using waste materials such as used tyres and other local materials such as sands, bamboos and woods.



The playground project is valued at TOP\$70,000 which was entirely funded from generous donations, voluntary efforts and commitments of various key stakeholders. The playground project engaged collaborations between the school board, Parents & Teachers Association, alumni, local communities and businesses, local football club, families and friends. A total of \$6,000 cash donations was received and in-kind donations of approximately \$64,000 was also received that included materials, used tyres, building equipment, labour, consultancy and many others. Thank you to everyone who have supported the playground project and to God be the glory. May this playground become a model of how locally available materials can promote quality learning that is not only achievable but also sustainable.

- Dr Elisapesi Manson



'Children learn as they play. Most importantly in play children learn how to learn.'
- O. Fred Donaldson -

PRINCIPALS' DAY OUT



On the 6th of July more than 120 school leaders around the Trans Pacific, participate in a one day virtual professional development training. The purpose encourage and enhance the skills of our schools leaders in such challenging time. Facilitators such as SPD Education Director David McClintock, SPD Director of Mission Development Ben Thomas, Tim McTernan Marketing and Sales Manager for Adventist Media, our TPUM directors Mere Vaihola and Associate Joseph Pitakia. According to one of the principals from the Solomon islands, "the training has inspired and equipped me in my role as a school leader in my school. I will make sure to return and implement what I have earned from this program."

ADVENTIST EDUCATION WEEK

Get your school and church family involve, as we promote Adventist education far and near. See your Local Mission Education Director for the resources or you can click on the link for the resources:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1UQb3o9BdlOQqCir1r62MB9t7q7rHYxJd?usp=sharing>.

DO NOT MISS OUT!! IT IS TIME TO GET INVOLVE FOR HIS GLORY!!

PRAYER REQUESTS

- Fiji schools on lockdown
- Vatuvonu process for re-appealing court case
- Navesau financial challenges
- Fulton Adventist University College resumes second semester
- Haversting program in our schools
- Vanuatu awaits MOA with Ministry of Education
- Tuvalu for rain

FINALLY

"She opens her mouth with WISDOM and teaching of KINNESS is on her tongue."

PROVERBS 31:26

We would love to hear from you, your stories and challenges could be means of blessings and encouragement to others. So, please share!

For your stories please forward it to:

Mere Vaihola
Education Director

OR

Joseph Pitakia
Associate Education Director

Education Week
7th - 14th August, 2021
Moving Forward

I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my loving eye on you
Psalms 32:8

I WILL GO Adventist Education
Trans-Pacific Union