After a most memorable Christmas, catching up with family and friends in both the Philippines and Australia, I raced back to the Solomons, after New Year to ensure Richard and Justina Soto had their visas to study in PNG. It seems God always works things out at the last minute: the Sotos received their visas only half an hour before the office closed on Friday the 6th of January. This meant they could board their already booked flights the following Monday morning. They've since commenced their studies and have two big years of hard work ahead of them.

Since then, I've been back home in the Western Province. Our National Superintendent, Rev. George Velopide and his family moved to Noro not long after that. He's now settled into his leadership duties here, including pastoring the Noro Wesleyan Methodist Church. Though he's also taken time to visit other Wesleyan Churches in the area, where we connect into various local communities.

This year, we have plans for a busy training program. First, as I write I'm about to head off to Choiseul again, this time with Rev. Dennis Hartin from the Sunshine Coast. Together we will teach the Wesleyan History Course, giving students in our most remote district the chance to complete a subject close to where they live.

It won’t be long before the Mosses can join us as they continue proceeding through their visa application process. I had the chance to catch up with Alister and Elaine when they were in Queensland straight after Christmas. All of us in the Solomons can’t wait until they get here, as we look at the next stage with the infrastructure and commercial development of the training centre facility.
Later in the year, we anticipate visits from a number of teams coming over from Australia. As in other years, one will arrive in the middle of the year to assist with a ministry training course. This year, however, we will branch out into more vocational education courses, such as English as a second language and hopefully basic computer skills. These short courses will butt up against another first, with our trial Semester Program scheduled for the second half of the year. This will allow some of our ministerial students to complete sufficient studies to be licensed and ordained at the upcoming National Conference next January.

To that end, we've commenced work on renovating the main hall, which we've previously used for church services, ministry training and denominational events. We're still in the process of raising the funds for this, but we're confident we'll have the roof on before Easter and when we need it for other uses we'll have for this building later on in the year and others following.

**HOW CAN YOU JOIN ME IN CONVERSATION WITH GOD?**

**Praise:**
- The Sotos getting their resident family visas to live and study in PNG these next two years.
- Renovations on college hall and funds coming in for that project.
- The National Superintendent’s move to Noro to pastor our local church.

**Prayer:**
- God to help us secure the Noro property from ongoing theft.
- Course preparation and delivery this year.
- Revival to reach a new generation of believers having a vital relationship with Christ.