



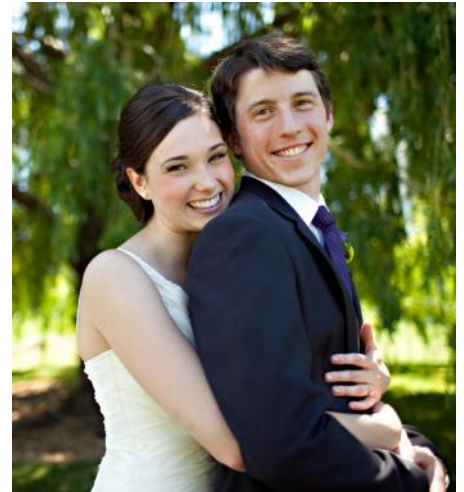
# RANEY NEWS

## THE WEDDING

Aaron and Lena got married on July 2 in Yakima, Washington. It was a beautiful day. It was such a God-honoring wedding, family orientated, and so much fun. We really enjoyed those of you who were able to make it. Thank you so much for coming. It added to the specialness of the day. We are very grateful to the Lord for providing a wonderful wife for Aaron. We are so excited to have her as part of our family. She is such a wonderful person.

We cooked Indonesian food for the rehearsal dinner which was really fun. This also included being able to bring some real Kopi Luwak from Sumatra and enjoy a smooth cup of this very unique coffee together. If you haven't heard of this coffee, please look it up on the internet. It was a joy to hear Aaron and Lena's friends honor and pay tribute to them and share how the Lord has used them these last few years.

Looking back, we're so thankful to the Lord for the time He gave us as a family and all that we were able to do to "be



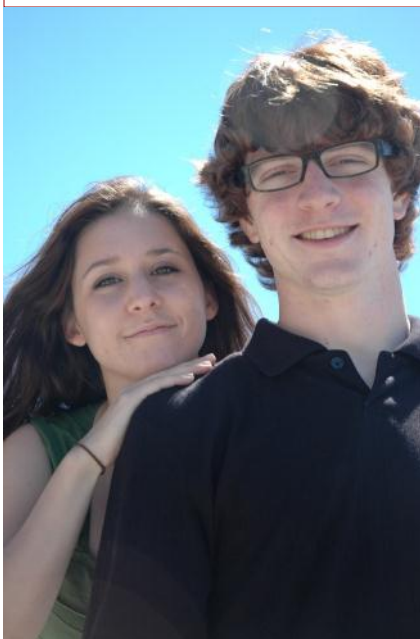
there" for the kids. Elisa and I arrived back in the States on June 2. Jonathan joined us June 15. We were able to help Elena move out of her dorm room and store her things for the summer. Stephen, Elena, Elisa, and I were able to attend Aaron's SPU graduation with a BA in both Biology and Chemistry. We honored Aaron and Lena with a joint wedding shower/graduation party. Jonathan even helped work through a few of the needy car issues. We also helped Aaron and Lena get their belongings moved into their new apartment in North Seattle.



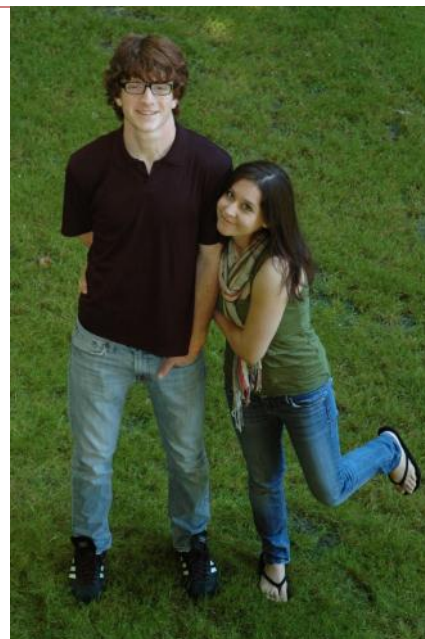
Lena's parents and sister and our family along with Lydia

Meanwhile the Lord allowed us to stay together in a beautiful, one-bedroom apartment with Elena and Stephen. We are grateful to the Lord and to the Dunns who so graciously let us use this cute apartment above their garage. We are just so blessed that we could have time with our kids and be around to help them in small ways. We woke up early every day to add to the minutes together as we helped get coffee and breakfast for Stephen and Elena as they left at six each morning for their God-provided summer jobs. We've been hit again with the sacrifice and reality of living so far away and not being present in the same hemisphere to help our kids with the normal things that are part of life. This turns us back, clinging to our Father who loves them more dearly than we do and puts wonderful people in their lives to help them when we cannot. But oh, it was a treat to be there for a short time. We boarded the plane tired from all the busy activity, but thrilled and thankful to the Lord for the time given together.



**STEPHEN IS ENGAGED TO LYDIA CERVANTES**

Yes, that is right! Stephen got engaged this summer to his high school sweetheart. Lydia's family worked for the copper mine here in Papua, and she boarded at the HIS hostel all four years of high school, where the attraction began. Lydia completed her undergraduate studies in three years and graduated in June from University of Arizona. We were able to spend wonderful times together with Lydia and her brothers as they came and were part of the wedding celebration. Can you tell we had fun being together with our kids? Lydia just started medical school there at U of A. Stephen has one year left at LeTourneau to finish his mechanical engineering degree. They are planning a June wedding. We are very excited to add Lydia to our family; she's a wonderful "catch" and she dearly loves our Lord. It sure is fun, this new phase of life with our kids.

**BACK TO LIFE IN PAPUA**

Some of you may have seen Papua in the news recently due to primarily political issues. Often news reports make things sound widespread when in reality they can be location specific. This has been the case with the current events reported in the media. At the same time, we do ask for prayer as there seems to be an escalation of violence between people groups and/or political groups pulling people back into their old ways of intimidation and revenge. This tendency, unfortunately, seems to be very slowly gaining momentum in today's Papua versus the growth we've seen in the past towards peace and forgiveness. Sadly, in a couple interior villages this too has impacted the Church greatly, with people, including a pastor and a Bible school teacher, getting targeted and killed. We have been involved in flying Church leadership and missionaries into areas for intervention. Here is an excerpt written by Wesley and Esther Dale serving here in Papua with World Team:

*On Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> July two men from the village of Tiyoga went to Woraga planning to kill a man named Elimur, but the plan was discovered and in the resulting tribal fight a man from both villages was wounded, one of whom we had to send by MAF plane on Friday, to the hospital in Wamena with a partial arrow head in his back close to his spine ...*

*On Saturday, my friend Nanina went up to Woraga and was in the church yard pleading for calm and a cessation of hostilities; he was shot with an arrow and died. In the ensuing fight 15 people from Woraga and 7 from Tiyoga were wounded. With the death of Nanina the entire village of Tiyoga fled during the night ... On Sunday the men from Woraga searched for anyone from the Tiyoga village clan, but found none on whom to take revenge.*

*Early Monday morning the Woraga warriors came to Mamit and about 5am discovered Ten Enembe, one of our Bible School teachers, who happened to be of the enemy clan, and murdered him. Ten was our closest neighbor. Over five hundred warriors from the villages up and down the valley came through to Mamit ... I stopped some of these groups of warriors as they came into Mamit, pleading with them to stop the fighting, reminding them that most of them would normally attend church; and applying Scripture relating to the situation. Most of these warriors stayed here at Mamit for the whole week, adding to the tension. At times I expected to see half the houses in Mamit razed, but apart from some windows being broken and kiosks looted, there was little other damage.*

*I have not witnessed seeing so many men fully armed with bows and arrows since the early 1960's when my parents were initially at Karubaga ... The head of our churches (the Evangelical church of Indonesia) Lipiyus Biniluk, flew in on a MAF flight Tuesday and stayed with us for two nights as we sought to defuse the whole situation ... Two of Nanina's sons, one of whom is a member of parliament, and the other a pilot with Merpati also came. They too worked at calming the situation and told everyone their father was with the Lord and there in heaven was also enjoying company with Ten Enembe. Their attitude of forgiveness was exemplary ... Will you please pray with us for lasting peace and that the light of the Gospel that shone so brilliantly through the lives of Nanina and his sons will shine into the hearts of many thousands more in this valley ...?*