

December 1, 2018

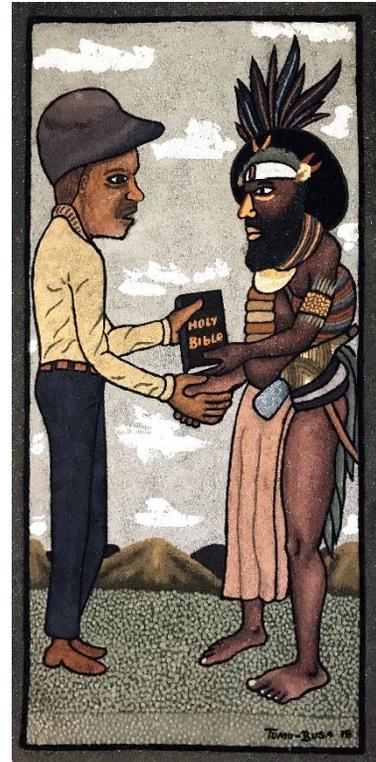
Dear Friends in Christ,

Merry Christmas from Papua New Guinea!

During the first week of November, Sukutea (Resurrection) Lutheran Church at Yaramanda celebrated the 70th Anniversary of Lutheran Church Missouri Synod (LCMS) missionaries arriving in the Enga Province. It is a remarkable story involving Australians and Papua New Guinean missionaries from the Siassi Islands and the coastal area of Finschhafen where New Guinea's first missionary landed in 1886. The theme of the celebration was "From Ghosts to God in Enga Land," the title of Rev. Dr. Otto Hintze's autobiography.

On the first night of the celebration Bishop Samson Puia preached on the Christmas story and the words of Isaiah, "The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light." He reminded those gathered that this prophecy was fulfilled with the baby Jesus. For three days they thanked God for sending this Light to Enga Land.

On November 3, 70 years to the day that the LCMS missionaries arrived, the congregation presented the LCMS with a gift to thank them for bringing the Good News to the Enga people: a sand painting of a missionary giving the Holy Bible to an Engan man in traditional dress (see picture above right). We along with missionary Julie Lutz were honored to receive the gift on behalf of the LCMS and all those who worked and supported this mission field over all these years.



Although at times it is very difficult and challenging, we are privileged to serve here among the faithful followers of Jesus, the Light in whom "there is no darkness at all" (1 John 1:5).

As this year comes to a close, please prayerfully consider a Christmas donation or a special year-end gift so that we can proclaim God's love to the people here in Papua New Guinea. Your prayers are an encouragement to us and your generous financial support allows us to continue to proclaim and share God's love and mercy to those who so desperately need to hear it.

Please also consider partnering with us in the coming year. The needs here are very great. Thank you for sending us and making it possible for us to share the message of our crucified and risen Savior Jesus Christ with those in Papua New Guinea. One-time or recurring gifts may be made securely at www.lcms.org/dicke (888-843-5267) or www.missioncentral.us/dicke (712-882-1029).



We will be in the US on Home Service from April – early July next year. We hope to see many of you then. For all of our newsletters, video, audio, and lots more links, please visit www.jubalslyre.com/PNG.

Until then, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Martin and Marie Dicke