

SERVING THE LORD IN

# PAPUA NEW GUINEA

NEWS FROM REV. RON AND MARY ANNE RALL



May 2019



*about*

## TIMOTHY LUTHERAN SEMINARY Birip, Enga Province

### The Students

The students vary in age from early 20s to about 60. Many of the older students are unsure of the day and even the year of their births. Most of the students are married and have up to seven children. Since we have no garden space to feed the students' families, the men leave their wives and children for four 9-week terms each year. The separations are difficult, but the students are very committed and have a strong sense of being "called" to the ministry. Some have had NO formal schooling before coming to the Seminary—an unimaginable scenario in the United States!

Each student is given a Bible, a Small and Large Catechism and a Tok Bilip Bilong Yumi (What We Believe) book. One of our goals is to translate and produce some textbooks in the next year so that students can have books in hand rather than copying everything from a blackboard into small exercise books. With YOUR help, we will be able to do that!



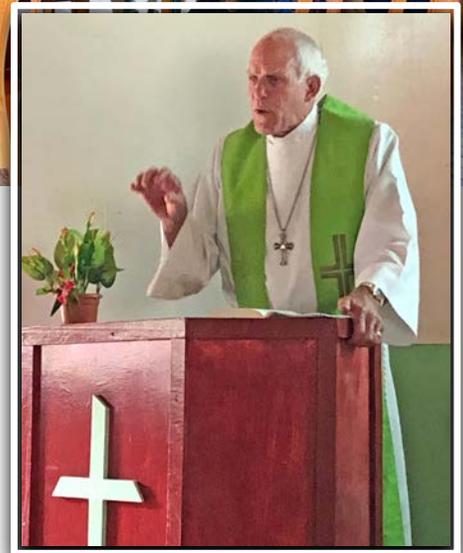
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## Teaching ... *from the pulpit and in the classroom*

We were in Papua New Guinea for the first school term — February through mid-April. Ron was privileged to preach 33 times (during funerals, Sunday services, school openings, teacher dedications and other celebrations.) His classes included "Minor Prophets" (Hosea, Joel and Amos), "Preaching" and "The Work of a Pastor."

We considered it a great gift to be able to worship with the students in chapel each morning, and it was exciting to see the fruits of the preaching class as the fourth-year students took turns giving the message.



Ron printed several pamphlets, the most important of which focused on the many false prophets in PNG and how to respond to them. One of the "prophets," Moses, considers himself the reincarnation of THE Moses and tells everyone he was born of a virgin. He is very persuasive and charismatic. He is also a former Lutheran. In fact, he still calls himself Lutheran!

There is much work to be done here. Thank you for standing at our side and lifting us in prayer!

## PLEASE PRAY...

- that strong Lutheran teachers would be found to work with the Gutnius Lutheran Church (GLC).
- that the pastors would be equipped to deal with false prophets to end their influence and the spread of heresy.
- that we might help in the development of a strong curriculum for the Seminary.
- that a theological educator and a carpenter would be found for the GLC.

## GIVE THANKS FOR:

- dedicated teachers and students at Timothy Seminary.
- safe travel to and within PNG.
- the opportunity to work and worship with the people of the GLC.

## PRAISE GOD FOR:

- strong enrollment at the Seminary.
- Renewal and rebirth of Highland Lutheran International School after the arson attempts last year.



Since the arson fires of October 2018, Highland Lutheran International School has experienced a rebirth and renewal. Top photo, Ron preached at the dedication of the school and the blessing of the teachers in March. The new administration building should be finished soon and the Papua New Guinea Mission Society is presently organizing a book drive after the loss of the school's library in the fire. A 40-foot container full of books will be sent by Orphan Grain Train in August. If you'd like to contribute books, please contact us for more information.



This woman was able to recite from memory the entire Small Catechism. She is probably illiterate, but learned the Catechism many years ago.



Many of the original evangelists and pastors are still serving congregations.

**Jesus said:** "For false christs and false prophets will appear and perform signs and miracles to deceive the elect, if that were possible." **Mark 13:22**

**In Christ,  
Ron and Mary Anne Rall**



There are many opportunities to serve as short-term or GEO missionaries. Check out the current list and download an application at [lcms.org/service](https://lcms.org/service). Click on "Service Opportunities."

To support the LCMS through the work of Rev. Ron and Mary Anne Rall, you may send a tax-deductible gift to:

**Mission Central**  
40718 Highway E 16  
Mapleton, IA 51304

**The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod**  
P.O. Box 66861  
St. Louis, MO 63166-6861

Make checks payable to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. Mark checks "Support of Ralls." Gifts can also be given securely online through the LCMS website, on my online giving page at [lcms.org/rall](https://lcms.org/rall).