

Martin and Marie Dicke—Missionaries Serving the Lord in Papua New Guinea



Hungering for the Word of God



By Martin Dicke

For the first few months of this year we attended Sunday worship at Highland Lutheran International School (HLIS) at Amapyaka in the Enga Province. This is a boarding school that was built by LCMS missionaries in the late 1950s with funds from the LWML. Initially it was a school for the missionary children because the Enga Province had no educational system. When it was built, our missionaries were just in the process of building an education system for this region from scratch. Now HLIS is a private Lutheran high school with nearly 200 in attendance, about 40 of whom are boarders.

One Sunday in early March I offered to provide the students with Bibles. Books and Bibles are very hard to come by in Papua New Guinea. Schools in PNG teach in English and I had three English Bibles in mind (see picture at right): 1) the Illustrated International Children's New Testament; 2) The New International Version (which reads at a Grade 7-8 level); 3) and

a pocket edition of the Good News Translation (which is good for ESL readers). There was a great response. I was surprised and pleased at the number of students that stood in line to sign up for the Bibles (see masthead above). There were so many, we established a second line (picture at left). That week we were able to deliver the Illustrated International Children's New Testaments and the Good News Bibles. The distribution of the NIV Bibles will have to wait until we return and get another shipment. The illustrated Bibles were of particular interest be-

cause they present the entire New Testament with historically informed drawings of each of the stories of Scripture greatly assisting understanding.

Please pray for those who have received these Bibles trusting in the promise that the Word of God does not return empty.



Thank you for your interest in our mission work. To contact us, please write to martin.dicke@lcms.org.

For information on our ministry or to support us, please visit:

lcms.org/dicke
missioncentral.us/dicke
jubalslyre.com/PNG

You may also call the LCMS at (800) 843-5267 or Mission Central at (712) 882-1029.