

April 2025



Dear Friends,

Prophets, priests and kings wore various robes showing and symbolizing their status, authority, power and or social position. The High priests had robes woven from a single piece of cloth. Jesus, our great High priest -holy and pure, wore a seamless robe of which the soldiers at the cross did not cut apart but cast lots.



Wearing a robe in the steamy tropics of PNG could be uncomfortable. Yet occasionally robes do get worn by church choirs, at church conventions, or at the several graduations held for students as they advance through their education. Surprisingly Sandy found that women in the sewing class were so eager to learn drawing patterns for sewing up robes for themselves. Their motivation helped them learn quickly and they have gone on and to share this knowledge with other women of the church sewing groups.



Pastor Ray Wangimbi who is on staff with PIM reports that this year again there was a high interest amongst pastors and lay workers who came and received training at the four-day conferences held at the PIM training center in Ambunti and at the Brugam Bible School. 85 pastors of seven different church denominations attended at Ambunti during the first week followed by Brugam with another 111 in attendance.

Pastors attending these conferences often serve small village churches of less than hundred. They do not have easy access to pastoral reading resources, further training at a college as it is most congregations can only



partially financially support their pastors. This year the topics covered by Ray Wangimbi, Alan DeYoung, Melvin Dotinga, Festus Lakir and Eric Schering included a study on 1 John, sermon preparation, Church history, pastoral care, and from the booklet, *David a Man After God's Own Heart* by Eric Schering.

One of the attendees, Alex Nanai of Mowi, a Sepik River village said, "We're eager to learn new things about the Bible. Some of us had to walk for one to two days through the jungle in order to get to river transport and attend this training." Pastor Gibson from Senapien village representing AOG Churches said "we do not have enough tools for our

ministries but through PIM we plant new churches with the resources given to us”

At Brugam, there were discussions exposing the false teachings of group active in that area called the Tabernacle of David. The SSEC regional superintendent Anias Moses, who invited PIM to come to Brugam because of their denomination being threatened by these cultic nonbiblical groups pulling pastors and churches astray, he said, “this house has been destroyed and broken down we are so thankful we can partner with PIM to come and help us to rebuild it again. Now we have concrete posts to stand against the plans of the enemy.”

Thankfully PIM can provide some “nourishment” for pastors helping them to better lead their local congregations.

“By the sea of crystal, saints in glory stand, myriads in number, drawn from every land, robed in white apparel, washed in Jesus’ blood, they now reign in heaven with the Lamb of God.” From the hymn “By the Sea of Crystal

Doug Heidema

