



# Brian and Helen's News & Views

Eastern Highlands Province

October, 2009

## The Village Church Grows Through Trials

### *Village Unrest Between Clan Lines*

In the last few months we have witnessed considerable unrest between the two major clan families at Ukarumpa village. There have been many tensions, that climaxed when criminals with semi-automatic guns terrorized the villagers. It is with regret that I must report deaths in the village.

Pray For:

- Brian as he is asked to preach peace and reconciliation at the village church services. Romans 12 is very appropriate here, leaving "vengeance" in the hands of the Lord.
- Helen's medevac work did indeed decrease during this period. Pray for wisdom as a team works to translate an HIV AIDS oriented Bible Study into Tok Pisin. Many of the concepts expressed do not translate well.
- David continues to advance his skills in audio mastering and recording arts. Pray for more work in this field.
- Hannah Paris with husband Brian would like to finish GIAL studies well and ace their exams! (near Dallas)



**Singing Celebrations:** The Church celebrates sending David Bina, one of their own, to be their next overseas missionary. They continue to Praise Him despite village grief.

### *Signs of Maturity in the Church*

One of those indicators of a mature church is when the body considers anointing one of their own members to consider the missionary task – such a person or couple is to become a "sent one", a missionary to a far away land.

This is one of the "marks" of Christian maturity, much like the Birds of Paradise are easily identified by their bright and distinctive plumage, and have specific feather "markings", so Christians have special markings that make them identifiable.

We witnessed this "Greatly to be Praised" event at our village church. We and many others attended a large, four-hour multi-congregation service for a

specific purpose: to send David Bina as an EBC missionary to the OM ship, "Logos Hope". David's parents came from another province. Both his mom and dad, tearfully "gave away" their son to the Lord and gave testimony as to how they knew at an early age that he would be called to go as a missionary. David's mother shared with both joy and tears that it was difficult to send her son to a faraway, unknown place. She also testified how it was by God's grace that she is able to dedicate him to the Lord and trust Him for his watch-care over her son. It was a touching event for us, and reminded Helen and I of our tiny Vermont churches,





Helen enjoying the company of elder Riki after the service

sending us out to the unknown. We too, had to leave our friends and families behind. That was well over 25 years ago now.

There was a formal signing of a contract with OM, a candle

service, and testimonies followed by a mumu feast and lots of eating! Much special music too by various groups from related regional churches... plus a special offering for David's support.

It was fun to watch the parents in that congregation, who have known many expatriate missionaries, suddenly realize the cost of allowing their children to travel to the uttermost parts of the earth.

OM or Operation Mobilization travels the world to various ports of call and then distributes free or inexpensive Christian literature, often in difficult to reach environments and "hostile" countries.



Pastor Karl, Brian, and a very special group of men that preach in Tok Pisin to remote village locations

We rejoice in being a part of this "sending church" in the village. The villagers are not particularly well off by Western Standards, and yet, they are willing to make the financial sacrifice needed to

help one of their own reach out into this world, for God's Glory. Once again... a sign of maturity for them.

### ***The Quest Kodiak Arrives for Service***

After years and years of development the dream of Quest Aviation engineers was realized. The first new Missionary Aircraft to be designed in years, rolled off the assembly line for around the world assignment. JAARS Inc, was very much involved in the development of this project.

With joy our Ukarumpa Center in the Highlands received the 8<sup>th</sup> Kodiak Aircraft and it was flown safely across the Pacific. It was even tracked interactively on the Internet as it made it's way across the islands and re-fueled.



People inspect the new Kodiak Aircraft

The Kodiak design is quite necessary in today's world. It is designed for STOL flight, (short take off and landing) and has considerable cargo carrying capabilities. But most importantly, its turbine engine uses much less expensive and more easily obtained Jet-A fuel. Supplies of Av Gas are very difficult to obtain and extremely expensive when available.

Praise God with us, for His provision of this new type of aircraft that can continue the work of language development and Bible Translation. Pray for safe flying with this new equipment and for our pilots with their required training schedules.

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## *Staying Connected*

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