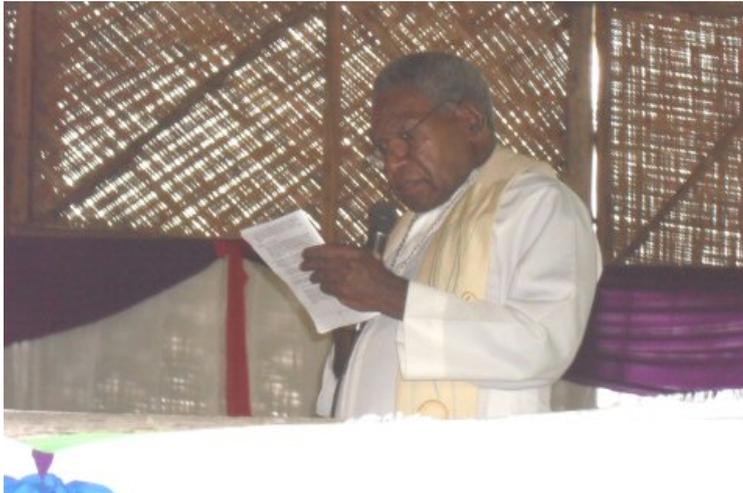


THE CONSECRATION OF THE NEW ELC-PNG CHURCH OFFICIALS

Written by Warime Gutu

Monday, 29 March 2010 00:00 - Last Updated Thursday, 15 April 2010 05:17



“I Reverend Giegere Wenge, have willingly accepted the appointment as the Head Bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Papua New Guinea hereby publicly confess before the Lord and before the presence of God’s people, that I shall carry out duties and responsibilities of the Head Bishop faithfully to the best of my ability given by God through Christ who strengthens me.” Rev. Giegere Wenge confessed

7th of March 2010, forty-one (41) days after being elected on the 14th of January 2010, the new Head Bishop Reverend Giegere Wenge now confessed his oath as the Head Bishop of ELC-PNG to the Christian believers of ELC-PNG, members of the Lutheran Overseas partners of ELC-PNG who arrived from Evangelical Lutheran Church of Bavaria (ELCB), Northelbien Lutheran Church (NMZ), Leipzig Mission, Evangelical Lutheran Church of America (ELCA) and Lutheran Church of Australia (LCA), the Governor of Morobe Province Hon. Luther Wenge and the Minister for Defense and member for Kabwum, Hon. Bob Dadae representing the state.

The consecration service was conducted by Bishop Rev. Dr. Hans Martin Weiss of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Bavaria (ELCB). The event took place at the venue where the 27th synod was held early this year at Martin Luther Seminary.

Rev. Dr. Hans Weiss delivered an inspirational message at the worship service. He shared so much of the rich history that ELCB and ELC-PNG shared. The pioneer missionary Rev. Johannes Frierl was an inspiration to Rev. Dr. Weiss ever since his childhood. Dr. Johannes Frierl was sent and supported by the Bavarian Lutherans in those days to bring forth the message of Christ to us Papua New Guineans and ELC-PNG is the fruit of the giving and heartfelt offering of the forefather Christian Lutheran Bavarians.

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“Isaiah 6:8 ...I will go! Send me!” this is the word engraved on Rev. Dr. Frierl’s head stone at his home town. Rev. Dr. Weiss said that there is so much from Rev. Dr. Frierl that is inspiring to him. Whenever he sees the headstone of Rev. Dr. Frierl and reads the engraved words he gains inspiration to push forward in serving God.

“Christians from Bavaria needs to rediscover many of the Christian essentials from ELC-PNG that we have long forgotten and also ELC-PNG needs to rediscover and learn again some of the Christian essentials that ELC-PNG has long forgotten from us.” Rev. Hans Weiss emphasised. This message was the highlight of his sermon. ELC-PNG and its Lutheran Overseas partners need to rediscover each other again to gain the inspiration that our forefather once laid to see the Gospel preached effectively.

After the sermon the three officials, Rev. Giegere Wenge as the Head Bishop, Rev. Zau Rapa as the Assistant Bishop and Mr. Albert Tokave as the Genera Secretary were blessed to take up responsibility in the Church.

From now until June ELC-PNG's National Church Council's first meeting, the officials will be going through orientation to all the ELC-PNG departments and stakeholders before taking up full responsibility in thier respective offices.

