

IMAgEs

[the newsletter of the International Missions Association]



The participants in the 2013 Holy Spirit in Mission conference and the Asia Pacific Mission's/Bethany International University's 20th anniversary celebration gathered in Singapore from August 26 through September 2.

“The Age of the Spirit”

CHANGI COVE, Singapore – It wasn't an ordinary annual meeting for the International Missions Association (IMA), but a grand joint assembly with more than 60 alumni and students of Bethany International University (BIU) Aug. 26 - Sept. 2 in Changi Cove, Singapore.

BIU students serve in the Asia Pacific Mission (APM), one of the 22 member organizations of the IMA, an association of Anabaptist mission bodies established for prayer, mutual support, and partnering in the task of world missions.

Celebrating 20 years since their founding, APM/BIU hosted the annual IMA gathering and the Holy Spirit in Mission Conference with a gracious, Singaporean flair, enveloping the IMA in their own anniversary reports, teaching, and equipping sessions.

As he introduced APM/BIU in the opening ceremonies, Dr. E. S. Isaiah, BIU President and Director of Training, said, “Integrating the redemptive heart of God for the restoration of fallen man in the most contextualized and culturally sensitive ways – that's what we're all about.”

He went on to introduce the mission of the school 1) to train students to multiply national workers and trainers, 2) to prepare cross-cultural missionaries who are planting churches among unreached people groups, and 3) to equip “tentmakers” to multiply disciples in restricted access countries.

He reported that in the past 20 years BIU has trained people in 20 countries in Asia, Africa, Europe, Latin America, and North America. They are offering

– continued on page 2

– Unless otherwise indicated, all text written by Richard and Jewel Showalter, and all photos by Javier Soler.

IMA members

The International Missions Association (IMA) is an association of Anabaptist mission bodies established for prayer, mutual support, and partnering in carrying out the Great Commission. It began in 1997 by four members (PIPKA of Indonesia, MKC of Ethiopia, Amor Viviente of Honduras, and EMM of the U.S.), and presently includes the following 22 members:

1. African Christian Mission International - Kenya
2. Agencia Misionera de las Iglesias de la Convencion Menonita de Costa Rica
3. Amor Viviente - Honduras
4. Asia Pacific Mission - Singapore
5. Binay Fellowship of Churches - Nepal
6. Deliverance Outreach Ministries - Kenya
7. Eastern Mennonite Missions - USA
8. GITJ - Indonesia
9. Happy Church - Kenya
10. Honduran Evangelical Mennonite Church
11. Hope Celebration Christian Church - Kenya
12. Integrated Mennonite Church - Philippines
13. Junta Misionera Convencion Menonita de Nicaragua
14. Kanisa la Mennonite Tanzania
15. Kenya Mennonite Church
16. Koinonia Fellowship of Churches - USA
17. Meserete Kristos Church - Ethiopia
18. PIPKA - Indonesia
19. Pocket Testament League - India
20. Rosedale Mennonite Missions - USA
21. Spanish Mennonite Council - USA
22. Word of Grace Network - USA

President – Yesaya Abdi

Vice president – Henry Mulandi

Secretary – P. C. Alexander

Coordinator – Tilahun Beyene Kidane

President's corner

“For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also. Luke 12:34

We praise the Lord for His favor to the IMA 2013 gathering in Singapore: the warm welcome, the venue and delicious food provided by Asia Pacific Mission (APM) as the host, a wide range of spiritual blessings, the holy atmosphere of worship led by the worship team of Bethany



International University (BIU), the messages and testimonies delivered by the speakers and the participants, and by the amazing reports of BIU alumni and IMA members. In addition, we were blessed by the testimony presented by Dr. Tan Kok Beng on “live by faith,” which for many years has been practiced by the Asia Pacific Mission (APM) and Bethany

International University (BIU). The need of the funds at the beginning of each month are very great, several million dollars, but the Lord provides the funds without human solicitation. We also received similar testimonies from alumni that emphasized hearing and obeying the voice of God by faith. As a result, various training centers have been established.

In IMA 2013 Singapore, all members of the IMA agreed to raise the contribution for the travel ticket, from USD 500 to USD 1,000 which will be applied in 2014. And as reported, more IMA members gave special offerings to IMA. Praise and thanks be to God. But more than that, while the event was taking place, the IMA Executive Committee invited all participants to give a personal pledge in order to foster a sense of belonging to IMA. The result was very good.

On this occasion, as re-elected President of IMA, which I consider an honor, I would like to invite each one of us to give glory to our God for the many good things He has done in Singapore. Let us hold hands to be used by God to make IMA an association which is able to self-sustain its activities, by His grace and for His glory.

Jesus deserves not less than the best.

– Yesaya Abdi
IMA President

The 2014 Holy Spirit in Mission Conference and the IMA Annual Meeting will be held in La Ceiba, Honduras, from September 23 – 30. Amor Viviente and Honduran Mennonite Church will be hosting the gathering. All are welcome. Please register by June 30 at www.emm.org/ima.

MORE ON THE WEB >>

Newsletters available to download at emm.org/ima.

“The Age of the Spirit” continued from page 1

this “leadership development” opportunity to all IMA members – giving members the privilege of sending leaders to be trained in the masters’ level training program that is built on the foundational philosophy of 1) hearing God’s vision 2) living by faith and trusting God for provision, and 3) developing Christ-like character.

The three-part training which focuses on academic development, spiritual development, and ministry skills competency is offered free of charge to students who are accepted into the program. One student from an IMA member organization is currently enrolled and three more from other member agencies are being considered for admittance.

Stories, reports, prayer requests, and times of ministering to one another spilled out as the groups flowed together in worship, teaching sessions, fasting, prayer, and country reports.

Dr. Winston Elliot, one of 30 adjunct faculty members who augment the work of BIU’s eight core faculty members, spoke opening day on what he called “the age of the Spirit.” Borrowing from Harvey Cox’s *The Future of Faith*, Elliot said church history can be divided into three ages – the age of faith (early church to Constantine), the age of belief (Constantine to the 20th Century) and the age of the Spirit (20th Century to the present.)

Elliot explained that in the transition from the age of faith to the age of belief, the clergy became professionalized and took the Bible away from the common people. “Western Christianity bought into the ‘age of belief’,” Elliot said, adding that the Protestant Reformation did not significantly alter this phenomenon.

By way of illustration, he said that in many modern translations, Greek words such as brother, disciple, and saint were often translated as “believer” – further emphasizing the role of belief and the mind.

“But now we’re in the ‘age of the Spirit’, and we really don’t know what is taking place!” Elliot said. He

– continued on next page



A West African traditional worship group leads in the song, “Jesus Power, Superpower.”

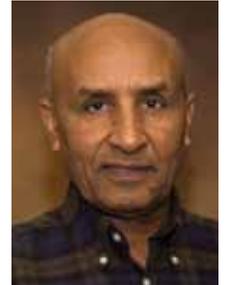
Hearing and Obeying

The theme of our gathering in Singapore, "Hearing and Obeying the Holy Spirit in Mission," was given to the planning team after much prayer and soul searching. It virtually landed in our laps from heaven for which we were immensely grateful to the Lord. It was, therefore, no wonder everything that happened during the gathering and the APM/BIU 20th anniversary celebrations fit together in such a seamless manner for the glory of God. The presence of the Holy Spirit was very evident in the worship, sermons, presentations, testimonies, reports, prayer and fasting, and fellowship times. We were amazed at what the Lord has done in missions through his servants who carefully attuned their ears to the voice of the Holy Spirit and walked in complete obedience to Him. The two people at the conference who clearly symbolized what walking in obedience to the Holy Spirit means, were Dr. Tan Kok Beng (Singaporean) and Gerbole Hirpa (Ethiopian). The background, experiences, and qualifications of these two brothers are very different. However they share some common but important Kingdom traits:

- walking in the fear of the Lord and serving Him full-time
- hearing and obeying God without question
- living by faith without a regular salary or income (Dr. Tan for 54 years and Gerbole for 40 years)
- bearing much fruit and continuing to be available to the Lord and being used in powerful ways

While Dr. Tan was the host of the IMA gathering and the 20th anniversary celebration, the Lord saw fit to prompt Brother Gerbole to join us in Singapore as a special guest. As a result, the Lord literally made these two brothers walk among us at the conference as symbols of what it means to hear and obey the Holy Spirit in our daily walks and ministries. It was a potent symbol making the message loud and clear to one and all as we embark on the next phase of missions. We were on holy ground.

– Tilahun Beyene Kidane
IMA Coordinator



cited humble, often uneducated men and women who have led powerful revival movements in Indonesia and China during the past century.

"They have defined the transition from the age of belief to the age of the Spirit," Elliot said. "The greatest move of the Holy Spirit since Pentecost has taken place in China. The leaders were ordinary people, without formal training, but they walked in the Spirit. It was a 'bottom up' movement."

Throughout the week, speakers focused on the theme of "Hearing and Obeying the Holy Spirit in Mission."

As IMA president Yesaya Abdi introduced the week, he said, "May this be a week of spiritual awakening for us. The IMA is not just about organization or entertainment. We've come with Samuel's spirit – 'Lord, speak to me'." They were not disappointed.

Gerbole Hirpa, a guest from Ethiopia, shared stories of his faith walk in pioneering new church plants in Ethiopia. Once he visited an unchurched community and God told him to begin by walking around and preaching to the sheep and the shepherds. By faith he took stones and marked out the site of a future church. Today the community has a church of more than 300 – with seven pastors.

– continued on page 4



Top: Brother Peter Xu prays for a participant.

Above: (Left to right) Dr. Tan Kok Beng, Tilahun Beyene, Dr. E. S. Isaiah, Brother Gerbole Hirpa.

Right: A group picture of Indonesian, Singaporean, and Indian participants.





Participants of the Holy Spirit in Mission conference worship together.

“The Age of the Spirit” continued from page 3

After another day of preaching in a community he received a gift of 1,500 Ethiopian birr. He has six children and was grateful to have the funds for household needs. But on the way home God instructed him to give the money to two other needy families. He obeyed even though that meant he didn't have sufficient funds for transport home. As he stood by the road with his empty pockets, a van came along and transported him home – and after he'd been home, praying for 30 minutes for food for his children, the manager of the bank came with a gift of 10,000 Ethiopian birr. The manager said an angel had appeared and told him to give the money to Gerbole.

“If we obey God in the small things, He can bless us in a major way,” Gerbole said. He added that he would come to the IMA meeting in Singapore if he could pay his own ticket. He reserved a ticket, in faith, and just two days before he left, God provided him with the necessary funds. Years ago when he stepped out to live like this he said God asked him, “Do you want to have a salary every 30 days, or have me provide for you every day?”

In his testimony, Antonio Ulloa, a staff member from Eastern Mennonite Missions who served as an English - Spanish translator for Spanish-speaking participants, emphasized that prayer is not just about asking for things and receiving. “As we grow in our faith, we hear God speak. We become active participants with God as we hear and obey.”

Dr. Tan Kok Beng, CEO of APM, summarized the theme of hearing from God: 1) it is the worshiper who hears the Spirit clearly; 2) the Spirit is Lord of the harvest and calls His people to missions; 3) Pentecost is all about missions; 4) God sets apart the best and the most gifted for missions. “Christians have no right to be anything else but missionaries unless God releases them,” Kok Beng said.

During a day of fasting and prayer, participants clustered in small groups for prayer – pouring out personal needs as well as prayer burdens.

As a North American poured out her burden for the Somali people, Kenyan and Ethiopian prayer group members responded humbly, “Don't worry about Somalia. We're picking up the challenge. The Somalis are our neighbors. We can reach them more easily than you can.” They proceeded to share stories of ministry in the region. Together the group interceded for the Somali people and those working among them.

Later, the groups gathered in regional clusters to pray for challenges such as escalating violence in Latin America. Adalio Romero, President of the Honduran Mennonite Church, reported that a gang in San Pedro Sula had killed two of the Mennonite leaders and one of their churches lost 30 members because of the violence. People are afraid to send their children to school.

The Asian group reported growing tensions between Buddhists and Muslims in Myanmar. They asked for increased unity among the Christians as they face their own pressures from the aggressive, nationalist Buddhist community.

In Africa, there is a growing vision for the many unreached tribal groups within reach of the existing churches – despite tribalism which continues to be a pressing barrier and problem for the churches.

Peter Xu, an elder statesman from the house churches of China, currently lives in the U.S., and has attended IMA meetings since 2007. In his remarks during the day of prayer and fasting, Xu spoke of the refining fires the Chinese churches have walked through. “The church was refined. The wood, hay, and stubble burned. There were no church buildings left, no pastors, no money, no hope. Only a pure heart was left. We became like the

– continued on next page

Report from Pakistan

Christian workers in the Pashtun area spent a day of fasting and prayer on a mountain top – then felt led to pour out a bottle of their precious water as a prophetic act. As they descended the mountain they came upon a group of Pashtun warriors and felt led to ask, “In your opinion, what is life?” The warriors replied, “Killing and being killed. All Pashtun boys are given guns at birth.”

Then the team of Christians asked, “Could we tell you about the Honorable Isa (Jesus) who gave us a different kind of message? He tells us he is ‘the way, the truth, and the life’.”

“Sure,” the warriors said, their guns slumping from their shoulders. They listened attentively, then eagerly accepted scripture portions.

Later, the team visited a local hospital where they were asked to pray for a woman who was struggling in labor, unable to deliver her child. As they agreed to pray for her, they were told that the woman already had five daughters and the sonogram showed that she was carrying another girl. Her husband had told her that if she had another girl he would divorce her.

The team prayed for her, rebuking the demons that held her captive, unable to deliver. To their amazement, the woman gave birth shortly thereafter – to a healthy baby boy! She was the wife of a rich landlord and after that encounter frequently began to call the Christian workers for prayer and conversation. Before this experience, Christians had not been able to rent a building for their church and training center in the community, but this woman has now given them a building for their church.

Report from Kenya

Kennedy Mbatia from Deliverance Outreach Ministries shared about a special outreach they organized to the Pokat People of the northwest – a 13 hour drive from their headquarters in Thika. They had planned for about 80 participants, but 200 signed up. Mbatia said that because of the lack of transport he wanted to reduce the size of the outreach team but as he prayed, God said, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Who are you to reduce the number of laborers?” As he shared the need, a school principal gave them buses at 1/3 of the normal cost. Another

bus was donated, so the group had ample transportation. While in the northwest, they saw an amazing response to the gospel – 1,500 people professed faith in Christ. “Money is not the limitation to our mission, obedience is,” Mbatia said.

Henry Mulandi, a bishop and missions leader, said that after attending the IMA meetings in Ethiopia last year, he was convicted by the fact that his home church in Thika, Kenya, had shrunk from 1,200 to 700 and they had lost their vision for church planting. Previously, they’d sent out clusters of 100 people each year to begin new churches. “We must not be ‘disobedient to the heavenly vision’,” he said. This year they’ve seen the church turn around as they’ve sought the Lord for four months – just worshiping together without preaching. God has brought His agenda back. The church is full again and in the process of planting two new churches. “Why do we have the Holy Spirit?” he asked. “People want the Holy Spirit for a pillow, but no, the Holy Spirit is for mission!”

Report from England

While the IMA does not yet include any members from Europe, Henry Mulandi, a missions leader from the African Christian Church in Kenya, reported that a member from his Kenyan network had planted a church in Reading, England. Mulandi was called to Reading to ordain an African bishop for the regional work there. For the occasion, planners invited 14 other bishops. The Anglican vicar who helped host the ordination said, “We’ve never had such a high powered delegation in Reading.”

Mulandi reported that the Holy Spirit really moved in the meeting, and the vicar had a powerful visit from God that has changed his preaching.

Report from Honduras

Javier Soler, Director of Missions for AV, reported that they are pleased to have three missionaries who are working in Asia. They’ve also started three new churches in Costa Rica and work with churches in Peru. They’ve planted two new churches in Spain and hope to enter Italy. In collaboration with EMM, they are also hoping to send a worker to Kenya.

“The Age of the Spirit” continued from page 4

early church in Acts. We counted the cost and accepted the challenge. To suffer is beneficial so we can learn the righteousness of God.”

In 1964, Xu responded to God’s call to begin assembling people in homes and open fields. “We realized the church needed to care for its children so we began training centers,” he said. “Yet as young people

moved out in mission they were arrested. When I came to help them I was arrested. In one location we were arrested ten times. But when the local people saw the persistence of the young missionaries, they wanted to know who Jesus is, and many became Christians. The joy of the Lord in the midst of suffering – this is our strength.”

– continued on page 6

Today Xu continues to equip Chinese missionaries for pioneering service both inside China and beyond its borders.

As the group continued to ponder the task of world missions, Penn Clark, an IMA member from Word of Grace Network in New York, differentiated between being baptized by the Holy Spirit, the birthright of every believer, and being filled or inspired by the Holy Spirit for life-changing moments of ministry. "We don't

need a great outpouring, but momentary obedience to the Spirit's promptings," he said. "God limits himself to cooperating with man. Angels can't do it. There is no Plan B. Can we be – 'a reed shaken in the wind'?"

In teaching on "The Urgency of Missions," Dr. Isaiah said simply, "The secret of reaching the unreached with the love of God is John 5:19 – "do what we see the Father doing."

God continued to cleanse, empower, and unite as

– continued on page 8

Report from Indonesia

A leader from one of the Mennonite groups shared about the growing vision among their members to engage with their Muslim neighbors. Last year, a new believer in their circle of churches was killed for his new faith. This leader was called in and interrogated by the police who were investigating the murder. When it became clear that the young man was killed for his faith, and the whole courtroom heard the testimony, the police wanted to cover up the evidence. "After this incident, many young people now stand in prayer," he said. "Many are seriously following Jesus. We are mobilizing prayer, support for missions, and discipleship training."

Report from India

P.C. Alexander, leads a growing church planting movement, now 20,000 strong, that has a vision to plant churches in 671 districts all over India. In addition to the focus in some of India's least-reached regions, they have set a goal to send 10 missionaries outside their borders and are partnering

with others who work in Central Asia for this purpose. After a recent church-wide gathering of their network, they saw 100 baptisms in north India – a region where a few years earlier new believers had been forced to re-convert to Hinduism. Now they've even been permitted to construct a new building. Alexander sees the next 12 years as crucial for the development of both schools and churches in the north.

Report from Ethiopia

Yemiru Tilahun, Director of Missions and Evangelism for MKC, reported on their vision to reach 31 unreached/unengaged tribal groups. During the past 10 years, they have changed their outreach methods and are using more of an "insider" approach among both nominal Eastern Orthodox and Muslim people. They have seen startling results as they disciple new believers to follow Jesus while staying fully present and engaged in their home cultures. They also equip and support domestic workers who serve in the Persian Gulf region.

God Has Chosen . . .

The world knows there are beggars in Kolkata. Once the proud capital of British colonial India, Kolkata has long since been replaced by Delhi, the new center of Indian political power. Once boats landed in Kolkata; now planes fly to Delhi.

Until her death in 1997, Mother Theresa humbly and courageously served the poorest of the poor in the center of the city, calling international attention to their plight. But urban decay continued.

1997 was also the year that the International Missions Association (IMA) was formed in Kolkata during a meeting of the Mennonite World Conference. But for two young West

Bengalis, that year carried profound personal significance of another kind. It was the year their crippled mother, along with the whole family, met Jesus just before she died.

A few months later, their blind father also passed away, but not before his baptism along with his two sons. Until then, Jagannath and Bapi Banerjee had been nameless, faceless lads who spent long hours each day leading their helpless father up and down the aisles of crowded Bengali trains, begging for their family's living from those who were merciful. Sometimes they were able to attend school.



Jagannath Banerjee
Photo by Richard Showalter.

– continued on next page

After their father died, they lived in an orphanage. But as they walked with Jesus, their lives were transformed. They were disciplined in small local churches. After they left the orphanage, they served in international mission organizations such as Gospel for Asia and Operation Mobilization, and they embraced God's heart for those who had not yet heard the good news.

As their eyes were opened to the spiritual needs of the world, God turned their hearts to their own people in West Bengal. Jagannath saw how the church was growing rapidly among the minority Nepalis and how the foreign witnesses who came to Kolkata and Siliguri turned their efforts toward them and other minorities. All the while, the majority of West Bengalis were neglected, making them one of the largest unreached people groups in the world.

Ironically, the pioneer of modern English evangelical missions, William Carey, had come to West Bengal in 1792, and he had made a stunning, much-appreciated impact on the people there. Two hundred years later, he is still honored by the Bengali people for his immense contributions to a Bengali cultural renaissance. Yet there had been no significant movement to Jesus among the Bengalis, and few of Jagannath's people had heard the gospel even once. Even fewer had encountered a vibrant, growing Bengali church.

So in 2002, Jagannath purposed in his heart to do what he saw no one else doing – reach out to the Bengalis from within their own language and culture, sharing Jesus in “a Bengali cup,” as Sadhu Sundar Singh might have said at the beginning of the 20th century. It was a momentous decision.

“We were determined just to make disciples,” Jagannath said. “Our purpose was not to build buildings or to create some complicated missionary system.

“Rather, God helped us to raise up village pastors in the ‘real India,’” he said. “They are farmers and tradesmen, not salaried servants. They go to the fields to cultivate rice, like everyone else. Then they circulate among the villages, sharing the gospel and praying for those who are open.”

As my brother Don and I tagged along with Jagannath and Bapi, we were amazed at what we saw. Little groups of believers gathered in tiny, thatched cottages, singing their praises to Jesus with the fervency born of seeing first-hand His miracle-working power.

Everywhere we went we heard about the miracles of healing which had ignited their faith. Pastor Rupchand told how he had asked Jesus to remove a large tumor on his back a month earlier. “I was praying for others, and Jesus was healing them,” he said. “I thought that if He was healing them, I could ask Him to heal me, too!”

Then he pulled back his shirt and asked another brother who had prayed for him to find the tumor. It was gone! Together, we praised God.

In one village an elderly member listened quietly some distance away while members of his family began

to gather under a tree as disciples of Jesus. He said nothing to anyone about his interest, but he prayed quietly, “God, if what they are saying is true, please heal the cancer on my foot and I, too, will become a Jesus follower.” Within three months he was completely healed, and now he is part of the village fellowship. His whole family has now met Jesus.

Today there are 37 congregations of believers scattered around West Bengal as a result of God's power at work among them. Besides these, there are many other embryonic church fellowships. There are scarcely any church buildings to show for it—they meet in homes, under trees, and sometimes in village halls.

“Our goal is to send a Bengali apostle to every district in West Bengal,” said Jagannath. Already they are working in nine of West Bengal's 19 districts.

Because of Jagannath's and Bapi's history as beggars on West Bengal trains, they also have a special heart for children. They have established seven centers, four in the



Children share a meal at one of the centers. Photo by Richard Showalter.

north and three in the south of Bengal, which provide Christian educational opportunities for poor children who are cast-offs from society and have little chance to succeed. Each of these centers are becoming new church plants, and many of the children are becoming disciples of Jesus.

One extraordinary aspect of the Kristalya Mercy Mission, as they call themselves, is that God linked them with the Franklin Mennonite Conference through Fran and Lew Martin. Fran has become a mother to these two apostles of Jesus who lost their own parents at a young age. It is a missiological miracle in this age of the Holy Spirit's work around the globe to link followers of Jesus in new, interdependent apostolic bands.

But how they met Fran is another story. In the meantime, Fran and Lew Martin along with Franklin Conference are seeing the glory of God in a place and in a way that no one could have predicted ten years ago.■

– Richard Showalter
September 2013



**International
Missions
Association**

53 W Brandt Blvd • PO Box 458
Salunga, PA 17538-0458 • USA
Tel 717 898-2251 • Fax 717 898-8092
Web emm.org/ima

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



032014.00150

Group picture of IMA members and guests at the 2013 conference at Changi Cove, Singapore.

“The Age of the Spirit” continued from page 6

the group shared the Lord’s supper together on the last day of the Holy Spirit in Mission Conference. Wanting nothing to hinder the flow of the Spirit for the blessing of the nations, Carlos Marin Montoyo, President of Amor Viviente (AV) in Honduras, publicly asked forgiveness from Adalio Romero, the President of the Honduras Mennonite Church, for the ways AV had offended them.

“Brother, you are forgiven,” Romero responded, and the two IMA member groups pledged to walk in new fellowship as they collaborate for mission in Honduras and beyond.

“After hearing all the testimonies and lectures we are amazed by the quality of what is happening here at BIU,” Yesaya Abdi, IMA president, said. “I’m going to

encourage IMA members to send more people here for training. We need more BIU’s. We came expecting to be renewed – and we have been!”

As IMA members gathered for business and reports after the conference, IMA Executive Committee member, Henry Mulandi, said “Hearing about walking by faith and this whole experience with BIU has been a ‘burning bush’ experience for me. It’s been a deep learning experience. I learn best when I hear about others who are working in similar tasks.”

Recognizing what a benefit the annual IMA meetings have been, the group pledged to shoulder more of the costs. Tetty Sinulingga, a pastor and church planter from Indonesia, said, “How can we change our beggar bowls into bread baskets? We’ve begged too long.” ■