

The Glories of God in Ghana

Psalm 87

News from the Kasters, Serving the Lord in Ghana

Email us: dale.kaster@lcmsintl.org



Various pastors in attendance at the CLET opening service

One Language – Christ

We have entered our busy season, the time of training. During this time, we visit four different villages and each one of them possesses their own language. And though our trainees do speak English, it is, as we like to say, not our English. It can slow down, if not completely stop, our teaching. So, we rely on the pastors of the locales to help us, translating what we are saying into the vernacular. This is in fulfillment of St. Paul's teaching in Romans. "So, faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ." (Rom. 10:17 ESV)

This season we are teaching four classes to our students: African Traditional Religion, African Church History, A Survey of the New Testament, and Biblical Interpretation. Some of the topics, as you can imagine, bring the added difficulties of theological terms: exegesis, polytheism, apocalyptic literature, syncretism, etc. They may be foreign words to many, but they are an essential part of a pastor's toolbox; this is especially true here where many theological errors exist as norms. So, we are always seeking to teach, if not the words themselves, at least the ideas to our students ... and this in different languages!

While recently in Bawku, we were able to cross the border into Togo so that we might visit with our LCMS West African team members in Dapaong – Rev. Jacob Gaugert, Rev. Micah Wildauer and family, Rev. Ryan McDermott and family, and Valerie Stonebreaker. It was a blessing to share some time with them and to be encouraged in our work. While there, we also got to take part in the opening service of the Centre Luthérien d'Etudes Théologiques (*CLET*), or Lutheran Center for Theological Studies. The CLET's mission is to provide confessional Lutheran pastors to our francophone sister churches. So, the service, which was so beautiful and filled with our hymnody, was in French. It put a hard strain on our brains as High School French was so long ago. We were just glad to say, «La paix du Christ» or, "The peace of Christ."

Which, when you come to think about it, is our common language. Whether speaking in the Dagbani of our hometown, Tamale, or the Kusal of Bawku or the French of Dapaong or the English of where you are, Christ is our language because He is God's language to us. "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." (Jn. 1:1 ESV) We speak Christ, because Christ is Light in the darkness, because He is Truth in contrast to the lies of Satan, and because He is Life in a world enshrouded in death. So speak Christ loud and long!



Rev. Elisha Hamidu teaches African Traditional Religions course



Praise God For:

The many congregations and individuals who pray for us, encourage, and support us.

This month we specifically thank:

- Good Shepherd Lutheran, Point Pleasant, NJ
- Grace Lutheran, LeMars, IA
- Holy Trinity Lutheran, Kingsland, GA.

Thanks for your prayers and support!

Please pray for:

- Victoria, Abigail and Angelica, that their new home would be filled with peace.
- The students of Bakpaba and for our teaching there.
- For our family as we are separated one from another.
- The students of the CLET.

You can write us at:
Rev. Dale and Suzanne Kaster
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West Africa

There are many opportunities to serve as short-term or GEO missionaries. Check out the current list and download an application at www.lcms.org/service. Click on "Service Opportunities."

A House Blessing and More

Allow me to introduce to you a wonderful Christian lady, Victoria, and her two daughters, Abigail (r) and Angelica (l). Victoria's husband used to be a member of our congregation but has become abusive and has left the congregation, not wanting to hear Christian counsel. Victoria has finally found a new home for her and her girls. On September 4th, I went to the new house to bless it; she would not move in without it! So, I led the liturgy for the blessing of her one-room home, praying for God's angels to guard them and for the blessing of the Triune God to remain on them. As we were leaving, she said to me that many people have blessed us so that we can be here to be a blessing to her. She wanted everyone to know how much she appreciated you all making it possible for us to be here for them. I promised her I would make her appreciation known back home. And so I have. Thank you so much! Please pray for them.



God's Goodness in Ghana

We are known to complain when the thermometer hits 110° or more. So, we have to thank God when the cool weather is upon us. The funny thing here near the equator is, that while you are roasting, we have the cool weather and heavy rainclouds of this time of year. Driving home from Bawku we rode with the windows down (partly because the AC had gone out) but nonetheless enjoying the mild weather and seeing the bright greens of this season. We have about another month, then we go to bone-dry!



Looking Ahead

We are enjoying two weeks of being in our home. After this, we go to Bakpaba (just south of Yendi) to repeat our classes there. Bakpaba is a short 2-hour drive over the best roads of our traveling. So, we will go for the first Monday through Friday and then return to Tamale. After Divine Service, Dale will return to Bakpaba. We are doing this so that Suzanne can go home a month ahead of Dale to be at our daughter's wedding shower. Dale will follow at the end of October so that he can be there to officiate on November 4th.

Speak Christ! Speak Life!

We commend you to the Lord Jesus Christ,
Rev. Dale and Suzanne Kaster

Your Missionaries in Ghana, West Africa

To support the LCMS through the work of the Kasters, you may send a tax-deductible gift to:
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod **OR** Mission Central
P.O. Box 66861 40718 Hwy E16
St. Louis, MO 63166-6861 Mapleton, IA 51034

Make checks payable to The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod or LCMS. Include "Kaster – Ghana," in the memo line. Gifts can also be given securely online through the LCMS website at www.lcms.org/kaster.

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