



MINISTRY MOMENTS

“For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.” Jeremiah 29:11 (ESV)

photo by Krista Young



New Beginnings - 2018

Happy New Year! This year brings with it changes in ministry for me. I have been asked to take on some new responsibilities and will be stepping in the role of communications specialist. I will also be assisting my area director as his deputy. There will be new adventures, new things to learn, new relationships to nurture and new things that God will reveal to me. As I transition into this new ministry, I will also help my colleague to transition into her role as volunteer coordinator. I look forward to all that the Lord has in store for me this year as He teaches me to trust His decisions for my life.

New Project 24 site Nyambiri

I was blessed to attend the groundbreaking ceremony for the new Project 24 site Nyambiri in the Nyamira Diocese. Bishops and pastors from the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Kenya (ELCK), members of the community and missionaries from the LCMS East Africa Field Office gathered together to celebrate this most joyous occasion. Acting Archbishop Ochola opened the ceremony with a word of prayer followed by messages from the other bishops. Then with pick-axe in hand, he broke ground where construction would soon begin. The new site is scheduled for completion in July 2018. Bishop Aranda from Nyamira, expressed his thanks that God will bless the children who will soon call Nyambiri home. Project 24 director, John Kissinger said that it is a big achievement, that this new site is bringing the community and the church together.

A Visit to Tanzania

At the start of the year our East Africa Field Office has regularly hosted agricultural missionaries, Delano and Linda Meyer. Part of their service this year will be in Tanzania. My colleagues Sarah Kanoy, Krista Young and myself joined them for a few days as they started their teaching. We met with the leaders of the LCEA (Lutheran Church in East Africa) to discuss the location of the upcoming MMT (Mercy Medical Team), visited a few sites and met with the DMO (District Medical Office) to get permission. One of the site visits took us to the village of Kahe where we met dear friends, newly ordained Pastors Godson and Yacobo. We exchanged many smiles and hugs since it had been about a year since we last saw each other. The highlight of the trip for me was seeing a sister in Christ, Joyce. She was a patient at the MMT in 2017 who came with a very infected foot. The team assisted with helping her to get a life saving amputation and the medication that would be needed for the aftercare. Seeing her coming towards us filled my heart with joy. She visited us along with her granddaughters and I was happy to hear that she was doing well. Pastor Yacobo told us that she is the first one in church on Sundays. I thank the Lord for blessing her with the help that she needed. This year has been amazing thus far and I look forward to sharing many stories of the work in Eastern and Southern Africa with you.

Yours in Christ....Shara



Prayers & Praise

- Pray for God's strength and guidance as Michael and I serve in Eastern and Southern Africa.
- Pray for God's wisdom for as I transition into my new ministry. I have much to learn.
- Pray for our agricultural missionaries as they serve in East Africa this year.
- Praise God for Joyce and the blessing of a good recovery after her amputation.

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