



A Special Place:

Neema Lutheran College is the theological seminary of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Kenya. I have been privileged to spend 10 years here now, helping to train pastors and deaconesses for churches in Kenya, South Sudan, Uganda, Tanzania, Ethiopia, and Zambia. Thank you for helping to put me here!

Did You Know?

Kenya has two yearly cycles of two seasons, dry and wet. Torrential rains fell as soon as I arrived in the far north of Marsabit in March, and in the northwestern Turkana region when I visited in April.

Coming Up:

Teaching July 20 – August 15, at the Lutheran Theological Seminary in Tshwane, South Africa.

To be added to or removed from this mailing list, send an email message to [Thomas.Aadland@lcmsintl.org] with the word ADD or REMOVE in the subject line.

The Lord’s Supper Bestowed to Refugees

When LCMS offices learned they had not received Holy Communion in five years, I was sent to visit the Kalobeyei refugee camp in far northwestern Kenya, to Gambella Lutheran Church, traveling with student Okach Omot Opiew and Deputy Area Director and Communications Specialist Shara Osiro. Now 400 plus members, the congregation was started in the Dadaab refugee camp in 2006, when many were touched by the teaching of a Lutheran catechist and were drawn by it so to confess Christ. They started a simple church by meeting under a tree. Eleven years later, they were relocated to the Kalobeyei refugee camp and now have a more permanent church building, and lay leaders, but no ordained pastor.



Administering the Sacrament of the Altar at Gambella Lutheran Church, associated with the ELCK, Kalobeyei Refugee Camp. 150 attended and 60 were communed. See <https://spark.adobe.com/page/OGro2BT5LEaNr/> for Shara Osiro’s beautifully crafted report on this wonderful opportunity the Lord gave us to care for God’s people, so hungry for the Gospel and the Lord’s Supper.



Sending laborers forth into the harvest!



“For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it” (Isaiah 55:10-11). God’s Word goes forth as he has promised, bearing the fruit of faith. Semi-arid Turkana receives the renewing rains, together with the Gospel.

Bringing greetings to the congregation in Marsabit. Standing with me is their pastor, Rev. Lole Said. Lole was in the first class I taught at Matongo in the fall of 2008. The area is thoroughly Muslim. Courageous Christians are bringing their neighbors to Christ. Their new facility replaces one put up just two years ago, which they have outgrown. Recently, 17 have been baptized into Christ, most of whom had converted from Islam.





PRAYER REQUESTS:

“Thanks be to God ...”

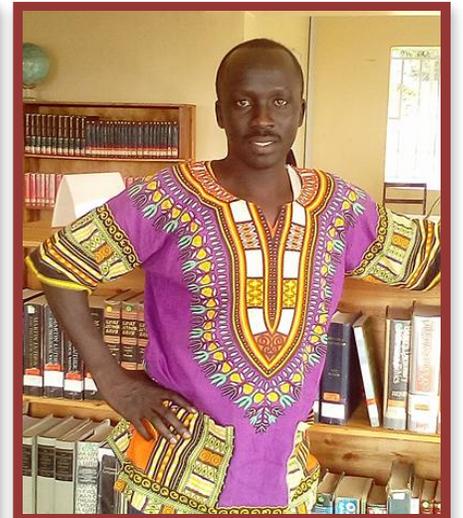
- For the faithful support of so many who have enabled this work.
- For students and faculty who come from far and wide to study God’s Word in Matongo.
- For the renewed spirit of unity and brotherly love within the ELCK.



Issuing diplomas or certificates at graduation. I have served as Dean of the Theological Faculty since 2011, a position now turned over to Rev. Dr. Moses Okoyo.

“Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer ...”

- For those who have graduated this year, 11 pastoral students and 8 to be deaconesses, that they may be kept faithful in their service.
- For restoration to health of Rev. Daniel Mtiti, that he may serve those otherwise without a pastor in the Lodwar region.
- For the theological faculty of Neema Lutheran College, and for Principal Rev. Dr. Tom Omolo (pictured on the left above), that God may give them wisdom, humility, and courage in their witness to Christ and service to their students.



From near and far students come to Matongo. Maria Okoro (L) is from next door, the Matongo parish, and has prepared to serve as a deaconess. Pastoral student Farah Haidar (R) is from north of Khartoum in Sudan, but lives in one of the refugee camps of Kakuma, in Turkana.

God keep you well and faithful!

Pastor Aadland

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