



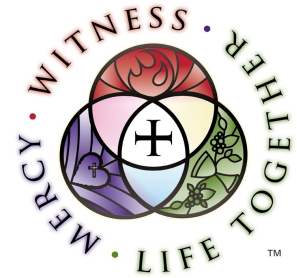
## Mission News

### David and Joyce Erber

David.Erber@LCMSintl.org & Joyce.Erber@LCMSintl.org

David serves as:  
Theological Educator  
Ghana, West Africa

Joyce serves as:  
LCMS Regional Business  
Manager for Africa.



May 23, 2018

Dear Partners in Mission,

Joyce and I worship at St. Paul Lutheran Church in downtown Accra. I serve as one of the assisting pastors.

On Mother's Day, the congregation has the custom of honoring all of the women of the congregation.



After the benediction, on May 13th, the pastor spoke about the church's great appreciation for women, offered words of thanks to the women of the congregation and led the congregation in a prayer of thanksgiving to God.

Then each woman received a chocolate bar. Ghana is one of the world's leading producers of cocoa and Ghana has developed its own chocolate industry. We understand that Ghanaian chocolate is famous in both Japan and Korea. In Japan, chocolate is simply called "Ghana".



Interestingly, our observation is that people in West Africa have not developed a taste

for chocolate. However, the women always seem to like receiving the gift - even if it is just

chocolate!  
(Last year, on Father's Day, the men all got chocolate too. Ghana makes great chocolate!)



After the Mother's Day celebration, a couple of women stepped forward and asked for the microphone. They announced that they also had a presentation they wanted to make.



The women had surprise gifts for the pastors.

On Mother's Day, I received the beautiful gifts of a shirt and new stoles. The stoles match the new altar, pulpit and lectern cloths the women also just made for the church.

What a great surprise and what very special gifts from God's dear people!

### A Note About The July 1st Transition Of Church Leadership In Ghana

These are important days for us in Ghana. We are doing our best to work with our retiring church president and the newly elected officials and others to facilitate a smooth transition of church leadership. Since this is the first transition in 40 or 50 years, this is not a simple or easy change. Last week our retiring President, Dr. Paul Fynn presented his final report and gave all of the files containing bank accounts, bank statements and other important documents to the newly elected President, Rev. John Donkoh. Indeed, Jesus remains Lord of the church. We are simply serving Him!

Your prayers are greatly appreciated!

*David and Joyce*

You've heard my message, and it's been confirmed by  
many witnesses.  
Entrust this message to faithful individuals who will be  
competent to teach others.  
(2 Timothy 2:2; God's Word Translation)

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Thank you for all of your  
prayers and support!  
Your partners in mission,

*David and Joyce*

