

SERVING THE LORD IN

Uganda

NEWS FROM MIKE AND KAREN SCHEMPF



Good News in Uganda



Reflections on life with our Ugandan Family

Laughter and love

Food preparation am-pm

Commitment to Christ

Bustling markets with

fresh local produce

Daily hospitality shown

to family and friends

Vision for the LCU

Many barefoot people

Large extended family

Hardworking hands

Gracious communicators



Oh give thanks to the Lord; call on his name; make known his deeds among the peoples."

1 Chronicles 16:8

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Michael.Schempf@lcms.org
With the word ADD or REMOVE in the subject line.



Nakavule Lutheran Church and School greet us

We arrived in Uganda on Tuesday, April 16th after an 18 hour flight from Chicago to Ethiopia and then to Entebbe, Uganda.

During our first week of orientation in Jinja, we met with fellow LCMS missionaries Mark and Megan Mantey and Rachel Meyer. They worked to orient us to the city of Jinja, the culture, the church body, and basic survival skills necessary for living and working in Uganda. At a delicious fish dinner we received a warm welcome from a number of Lutheran Church Uganda (LCU) national leaders.

It was an exciting day to see the seminary for the first time. Rev. Peter Maganda gave us an insightful tour of the Lutheran Theological College Uganda (LTCU). Seminarians were on break at this time.

After several days of orientation we attended a Good Friday service at Nakabanga Lutheran Church with Bishop Charles Bameka leading worship. On Saturday we attended a hymn festival presented by a large group of Lutheran school children from the area. It was a joy to hear them enthusiastically singing familiar Lenten and Easter hymns. On Easter morning we attended an English service in Nakabanga and a Lasoga (local language) service in the village of Buffula. Rachel Meyer teaches at the Lutheran school in this village.

We are experiencing sensory overload as we take in the sights and sounds around us. As expressed by LCU leaders, they need manpower. The church cannot address the call to plant new congregations without providing trained leaders. There is an ongoing need for training pastors, evangelists, teachers and lay people who are well versed in the scriptures. Pray for us and this young church body as we seek to support and them in this exciting challenge.



PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Physical and emotional strength as we adjust to daily life in Uganda

Wisdom in building relationships in Uganda

Safe travel over many rough village roads and intense city traffic

Our need to find a rugged vehicle and find adequate housing

PRAISE GOD FOR:

Technology that enables efficient long distance communication

His provision every step of the way during closure of our home and life in the U.S.

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

***“Look to the Lord and His strength, seek His face always.”
Psalm 105:4***

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



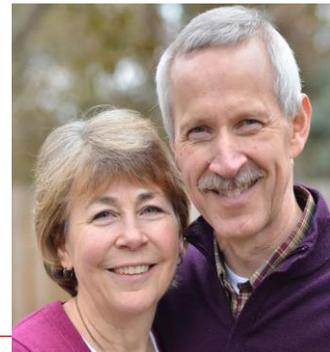
Our wonderful extended family

This month we are living and working with a gracious Lutheran Ugandan family who is sharing their food, home, language, culture and love with us. We are thankful for this unique opportunity to share their lives. We have been privileged to attend worship services, two funerals, shop in the markets, prepare and cook food, wash clothing and visit the village family farm. Our family has a full schedule for us from morning until the last meal of the day after 10:00 pm. A few of the activities include visiting and praying for the sick both in the hospital and in the villages, daily hymn singing and devotions, making soap and weaving mats and baskets. Vicar William is a member of this family and is serving a congregation in the capitol of Kampala. He has given us valuable insights into the needs of the students, congregations and the growing LCU. We admire sister Beatrice who is a social worker and has begun ***Bring Up A Child Ministry*** which is a faith based foundation targeting disadvantaged orphans, disabled, children affected by AIDs and those marginalized by poverty. The needs are overwhelming but she and her family are committed to reaching out with the love of Christ in this community. We are grateful for this enriching experience.

The Body of Christ

Members of Zion and Immanuel (Burnett, WI), St. Paul (Grafton, WI) and Trinity (Freistadt, WI) welcomed us as we presented information about our call to work in Uganda in the weeks prior to our leaving. We have met members of the Lutheran Church Uganda (LCU) who have responded with great enthusiasm and welcomed us with open arms, warm handshakes, Lasoga and English words and bright smiles. We praise God that His faithful people on both sides of the globe who are willing to support us as we move to a mission field that is ripe for harvest. Through the power of the Holy Spirit the LCMS and the Lutheran Church Uganda will continue to grow!

Look for pictures and information on our FaceBook page ***Schempfs Serving the Savior.***



Thank you for reading this newsletter and for your partnership in this work.
Pastor Mike and Karen Schempf



To support the LCMS through the work of Pastor Michael and Karen Schempf, you may send a tax-deductible gift to:

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod -OR- Mission Central
P.O. Box 66861 40718 Highway E-16
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Make checks payable to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. Mark checks “Support of Schempf-Uganda.” Gifts can also be given securely online through the LCMS website, on my online giving page at lcms.org/schempf.