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BACK TO SCHOOL

What a joy it was to return to my students in Bufuula in February as we began a new school year! They were anxious to share about how they had carried the Christmas carols we had learned home to their congregations and families over the break. One student even led the youth in her home congregation to do a drama for Christmas based on the one our school had done. The students started this new school year looking forward to learning new hymns and passages from God's Word.

During a review lesson at the beginning of the year, I paused to reflect back to my first interactions with these students two years ago. My heart smiled to realize how much the students have grown these last few years in their Biblical literacy, prayer life, and understanding of the gift of salvation God has won for them. Please keep them in your prayers that God may continue to grow them in His Word.



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So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth... For we are God's fellow workers. You are God's field, God's building.
1 Corinthians 3:7, 9

Called to Serve in God's Fields



For the last two years, I have been serving in Uganda as a GEO (Globally Engaged in Outreach) missionary through the LCMS. The service I was called to was specifically focused on teaching Bible classes at one Lutheran school for a period of two to three years. I thank God for the opportunity He has given me to serve among His field of hearts at Hope Lutheran Church and School in Bufuula during this time. It has been a blessing to see how God has worked through His Word in their lives and continues to do so to grow these children in faith.

However, God is now expanding the field in which He is calling me to serve. Hope Lutheran in Bufuula is only one of 32 Lutheran primary schools in Uganda. Each of these schools is a rich mission field where the Lutheran Church of Uganda has the opportunity to share God's Word with hundreds of children. The Lutheran Church of Uganda has expressed a need for an LCMS missionary teacher to help them as they develop the ministry throughout their Lutheran Schools.

Thus, God has now called me to serve in a new position. I have accepted a Call issued by the LCMS Board for International Missions to serve as a Lutheran Education Consultant here in Uganda. This is a career position without a specific term-length.

While I will continue teaching children, much of the focus in this new position will be in working alongside church leaders, pastors, school chaplains and administrators, and teachers to support them in their ministry to the children. One of our initial projects is to develop a uniquely Lutheran Religious Education curriculum for use in the primary schools.

As I transition into this new position, I am thankful to continue working with the students in Bufuula, whom I have developed relationships with these last few years. I am also grateful to begin serving alongside the chaplain and teachers at the primary and secondary schools in Nakabango this year. As time continues, I will also have opportunity to work with other schools.

I am humbled that God has called me to continued service here in His field. Thank you for your continued prayers as I transition into this new position with its added opportunities, challenges, and responsibilities. Thank you for partnering with me as fellow workers to share God's Word with these children. May all glory be to God who gives the growth.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- *The Lord to bring more people in Uganda and around the world to saving faith in Christ*
- *God's guidance, wisdom, and provision as I transition into serving as a Lutheran Education Consultant in Uganda.*
- *The church leaders, pastors, chaplains, school administrators, and teachers as they minister to the children in the Lutheran schools during this new school year.*
- *Health and safety of people around the world*

GIVE THANKS FOR:

- *The opportunity to serve God in Uganda*
- *God's work through His Word in the lives of the students*
- *The many congregations, schools, and individuals who pray for, encourage, and support me*

YOU ARE IN MY PRAYERS.

- *I regularly pray for the individuals and congregations who support me by name. Please share any specific prayers I can bring before the Lord for you.*

Chapel



ASH WEDNESDAY

Rev. Benard Mwesigwa, chaplain for the schools in Nakabango, led the students in Bufuula and Nakabango in special chapel services for Ash Wednesday.



HYMNALS

The students and teachers in Bufuula love to sing. They are very thankful that this school year we have received several hymnals, making it easier for us to sing together and learn new hymns.

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.
Colossians 3:16

*Humbly in the Lord's service,
-Rachel Meyer*

Kids' Corner

All God's creatures...

Can you name this animal in our classroom? I'll give you a hint. When the students returned it to its home in a tree outside the classroom, we watched it change colors to camouflage itself.



Sharing God's Word

My students have been learning about God's promises to us in His Word. They wanted to share one of God's promises with you from Isaiah 41:10.

"Fear not, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

My student said, "This reminds me I do not have to be afraid because God is with me."

Write down a promise from God's Word and share it with someone today. Also, share it with us! My students would love to learn from you!



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