

THE MISSIONARY'S VOICE

SERVING THE LORD IN
GHANA
NEWS FROM THE SCHUMACHERS



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Steven.schumacher@lcms.org



Christ Appearing to Mary by Charles de La Fosse 1680

EASTER MORNING

"Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord."

John 20:18 (ESV)

Following Jesus' resurrection, Mary Magdalene was the first person to see the risen Christ. Jesus spoke these words to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?" (John 20:15) Mary did not recognize her Savior until He spoke her name, "Mary," and gave her the command to go and tell the disciples that she had seen Him, the Lord.

We too have seen the Lord, through His Word and Sacraments. We follow the example of Mary to run and tell others, "Christ is risen!" He conquered sin, death, and the grave. The devil has no power over us and we too, can be certain with the same comfort of Jesus calling us by our name; assuring us of our forgiveness, life, and salvation through Him alone.



To be added to or removed from this mailing list, send an email message to Cynthia.schumacher@lcms.org with the word ADD or REMOVE in the subject line.

Evangelist Akorful Anaman Provides Signed Worship



Photo by: C. Schumacher

Evangelist Akorful and Rev. Dr. Schumacher with students who were baptized at House of Grace

On Sunday mornings students of House of Grace School for the Deaf travel from their homes by foot, or tro-tro, to arrive at the school around 9:00 a.m. Evangelist Kofi Akorful Anaman greets the students and teaches Bible Stories and a basic understanding of the Six Chief Parts of Luther's Small Catechism. What was started as preparation for their baptism has continued as a Bible Class on the lessons for the day.

The founder of House of Grace, Hannah Boateng, a Lutheran from Finland, contacted The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Ghana (ELCG) in the fall of 2014, inquiring if the church might be able to provide someone to lead Sunday School and worship at the private school. Bishop Fynn, leader of the ELCG at that time, contacted me to assist in making the necessary arrangements. We began services within two weeks of her initial contact. After the service we welcomed and introduced the Bishop, the LCMS West Africa Area Director at that time, Rev. David Erber and

his wife Joyce, to the students and the other Ghanaian guests.

Evangelist Akorful began traveling to House of Grace two Sundays a month while leading worship for the deaf in the village of Adamorobe the other two Sundays. To continue with the weekly services at Adamorobe, I would travel there to lead worship the Sundays Akorful went to House of Grace. This enabled us to continue the hearing Sunday worship at the preaching station we previously began at seminary.

In 2019, one of our recent graduates, was assigned to Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church, meeting at the seminary; which allowed Evangelist Akorful and I to provide weekly signed worship for the deaf in the village of Adamorobe and at House of Grace.

We thank God that He has enabled Evangelist Akorful to continue his seminary studies while also working a full-time job and leading Bible classes and worship.



Photo by: C. Schumacher

Evangelist Akorful holding baby Sandra, daughter of Naomi, at her baptism

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

The deaf and hearing Ghanaians as they remain faithful in their faith and steadfast in the Word.

The Pastors of the ELCG as they minister to their congregations during the COVID-19 pandemic and social distancing.

The West Africa missionaries as they work remotely from the United States.

GIVE THANKS FOR:

Our safe and healthy relocation to Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Faithful pastors and missionaries who provide worship and spiritual guidance to people all over the world during this trying time.

PRAISE GOD FOR:

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

This month we give praise for:

Lake George Lutheran Chapel Fremont, IN

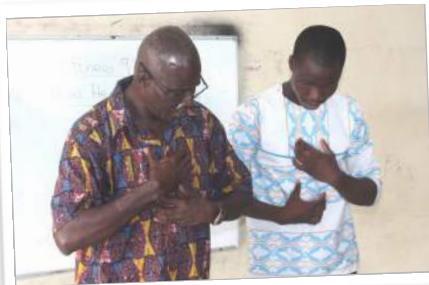
St. Paul Lutheran Church Carroll, IA

Grace Lutheran Church Henderson, NV



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."

Evangelist Akorful continues to serve and study



Photos by: C. Schumacher

Evangelist Akorful and Samuel (above); Akorful and Rev. Dr. Schumacher (top right)



Evangelist Akorful continues to receive individual training from me to become the first deaf ordained pastor in the ELCG. His instruction began in 2016 with a two week intensive class offered at the seminary. The first course was a survey of the Old Testament followed by a survey of the New Testament.

As Akorful has a full time job in Accra, as an auto body paint sprayer, time is limited, yet, we continue his education through the internet and monthly meetings at my home when we are in Ghana. This online instruction works well as Akorful possesses a very good grasp of English reading and writing skills. This pastoral formation will continue even as we are in America.

We are thankful to the Ephphatha Mission Society for providing Evangelist Akorful with a laptop to enable his continued theological studies remotely.



Akorful and his wife, Joyce (center); Akorful and his sons (bottom) Nathaniel (20 yr.) Michael (18 yr.)



To support the LCMS through the work of Rev. and Mrs. Steven Schumacher, you may send a tax-deductible gift to:

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P.O. Box 66861
St. Louis, MO 63166-6861

OR

Mission Central
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