



Did you know . . .?

The desert locust has descended by the billions in Ethiopia and East Africa threatening food security to many in already impoverished areas. In the Bible, John the Baptist ate locusts and wild honey —this could become a food source here. They consist of 62% protein and 17% fats (Encyclopedia of Sci.)

The Evangel in Ethiopia

A Changed and Changing World with COVID-19

Addis Ababa— Life has changed. Every time you make a phone call in Ethiopia, you get an educational message about handwashing and corona virus prevention. We get regular warnings from various embassies about if you want to return home, buy a ticket now (!) and go, watch out for anti-foreigner violence, be aware of the limitations of the health care system, etc. There are no students on our seminary campus and the seminary is working to find a way to finish the school year. Many shops are closed. All places of worship are closed. People are fearful and uncertain. There is something new each hour.



A volunteer provides hand sanitizer to passengers entering a bus as a precaution against the spread of the new coronavirus in the capital Addis Ababa, Ethiopia© AP Photo/Mulugeta Ayene

But in a time like this, we are thankful to be able to remain in Ethiopia to serve our brothers and sisters here as we are able. The EECMY has MY TV and has continued to preach the message of Christ to the people of Ethiopia in seven major languages nationwide since they suspended church services in order to keep the Word of God in their members' lives. The usual things that we do are no longer in place. But one thing remains constant in a world of change—God has us in the palm of His hand wherever we are and whatever we are doing. The message of Christ and salvation for us cuts through the fear of death and anything else Satan throws in our way to make us fearful. We are thankful for God's faithfulness to us and are certainly praying for all of you in the U.S. as well as our faculty, students, etc.

COVID-19 All Schools Close and Locust Plague

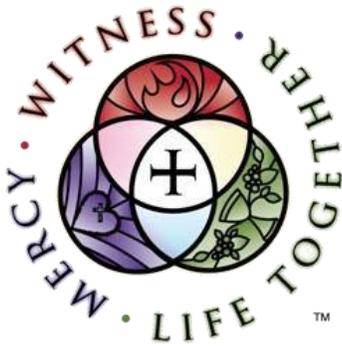


Prime Minister Abiy announced that all schools (including the seminary) will be closed indefinitely in an effort to slow the corona virus. Additionally, there is the worst locust invasion in generations. (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PG-3pr1s304>) Please keep Ethiopia and her people in your prayers that God would be merciful.

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Amharic— to say “locust”, your would say አንበጣ (ānibet’a) and “plague” is ወረርሽኝ (wererishinyi)





What Have We Been Doing & Seeing Lately?

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- the seminary students and a way to finish their studies this year
- health and safety for the Ethiopian people in this global crisis
- a new date for the recently postponed national elections
- wisdom for the LCMS to know what to do for the worldwide missionaries
- for relief from locusts and help for farmers and those without food

GIVE THANKS FOR:

- being able to stay here in our home in Ethiopia
- ways to contact our family around the world

PRAISE GOD FOR:

- our fellow missionaries, the Rabes & for Susan Kaiser's birthday last month
- all of our supporters in prayer and finances
- for homeschool
- for healthcare workers who are willing to meet this challenge head on



From top left: recording another professional music video in our backyard; Luke in homeschool; Naomi with her soccer "football" team last month; from L to R—Stef Rabe (LCMS missionary), Susan Kaiser (Lutheran Bible Translators), another translation worker, and Johanna at Susan's 65th birthday; Levi and a neighbor



Closing Thoughts . . . Our Lord is always working through His people. We remember the Ethiopian eunuch: "So Philip ran to him (the eunuch) and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" ³¹ And he said, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" (*Acts 8:30ff*) Thank you in Jesus' Name for your support of the work which God has laid before us.

In Service to Christ— Eric, Johanna, Rachael, Naomi, Luke & Levi

Missions Anyone?

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."

To support our work financially, you may send a tax-deductible gift to either:

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