



MINISTRY MOMENTS

He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty. I will say to the Lord, "My refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust." (Psalm 91:1-2 ESV)



A New Normal...

Christ is Risen! He is Risen indeed! Alleluia! We pray that you had a wonderful Easter. For the first time in our lives we have celebrated Easter in a “new” way. Our East Africa team gathered together by Zoom to celebrate our risen Savior and congregations streamed services online. Things have changed. We are living a “new normal.” This new normal may bring fear, anxiety, and loneliness yet we can take comfort and trust in our risen Lord to be our refuge and our fortress. Let us abide in the shadow of the Almighty. He is with us through these trying times.

How does ministry look in this “new normal”? I have been working from home; one half of my dining table has become my new office. Our team continues to communicate regularly, meeting for daily devotions and Sunday services by Zoom. It is difficult being in God’s mission and not in the field in community with those we serve, building and nurturing relationships. We are doing our best to continue supporting the work of the church bodies we serve alongside. Social media platforms have been essential tools. We have been sharing stories on the LCMS international website and Facebook in addition to sending messages of encouragement by email and through phone calls. Some church bodies have been able to use the radio to share the Gospel and encourage their congregations. Others are streaming daily devotions and Sunday services online. Many are involved in food distribution to support the communities they serve.

What does this “new normal” look like in Kenya?

Travel restrictions, curfews, wearing masks, and embracing the social distancing guidelines are part of the “new normal”. Day laborers, street vendors, “mama mbogas” (women who sell vegetables and fruits) struggle with these changes due to the difficulty in finding work and making enough to provide food for their families. Nairobi streets have since become deserted with business restricted only to essential services.

With Kenya currently experiencing the long rainy season, some parts of the country have been severely affected by floods. Lives have been disrupted and people displaced.

Our home service has been canceled. We are sad that we will not be able to visit with you in person. We will continue to send our newsletter and updates. Thank you for your prayers and know that we are praying for you.

Yours in Christ... Shara & Michael



Prayers & Praise

- Pray for God's strength and guidance as Michael and I serve in Eastern and Southern Africa.
- Pray for God's peace in the midst of the fear and panic due to the coronavirus.
- Pray for the frontline workers and essential personnel.
- Pray for church leaders, world leaders and institutional leaders.
- Pray for all affected by the floods in Kenya.
- Praise God for all of the love & support that you give to me and Michael.

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To support the work of Shara Osiro - give online at www.lcms.org/osiro

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