

THE MISSIONARY'S VOICE

SERVING THE LORD IN

GHANA

NEWS FROM THE SCHUMACHERS



October 2020

Steven.schumacher@lcms.org

Worship at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church



Luther by Lucas Cranach 1472-1553

WE BELIEVE, TEACH, AND CONFESS

"For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes."

Romans 1:16 (ESV)

"We believe, teach, and confess that the only rule and guiding principle according to which all teachings and teachers are to be evaluated and judged are the prophetic and apostolic writings of the Old and New Testament alone, as it is written, "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path" (Ps. 119:105), and St. Paul: "If an angel from heaven should proclaim to you something contrary, ... let that one be accursed!" (Gal. 1:8) Other writings of ancient or contemporary teacher, whatever their names may be, shall not be regarded as equal to Holy Scripture, but all of them together shall be subjected to it, and not be accepted in any other way, or with any further authority, than as witness of how and where the teachings of the prophets and apostles were preserved after the time of the apostles."

Formula of Concord Introduction, 1-2



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Photo by: Cynthia Schumacher

Rev. Dr. Schumacher, Rev. James Kombat, Patrick Sarfo and children of Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church gathering after Godwin's baptism.

Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church began as a mission church at the Lutheran Theological Seminary, Ghana. Though the establishment of the church, seminarians are provided with a local congregation, and given the opportunity for practical experience in leading worship. The students use their evangelism skills in witnessing to local people and inviting them to worship. Emanuel, one of the young seminarians, requested a catechism for a chemist (this is what they call a pharmacist) in the village. This allowed the man to read, to ponder the Biblical truths and then discuss it later with Emanuel. This opportunity gave Emmanuel a chance to put into practice what he had been learning.

On Sundays following worship the adults of the congregation join together to study Luther's Small Catechism. Godwin after his baptism joined the class in prepa-

ration for confirmation. Joining him are James and Peter who have been baptized and are wanting to be confirmed in the Lutheran church.

The seminarians alternate attending Bible Class and Sunday School to observe and gain an understanding of pastoral duties. Cynthia is able to mentor the seminarians while teaching Sunday School. By speaking the local languages of Twi, Ewe, and Ga, the seminarians are supportive in class, assisting students who may not understand a specific English word or concept used in the lesson.

The photos on the second page depict the joy of the children who come to worship and attend Bible studies at Shepherd of the Valley. Their enthusiasm in singing the liturgy and songs, brings a smile to our faces and puts joy in our hearts.



Photo by: C. Schumacher

Seminarian Adobason David Kewah reading the scripture lessons.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

The ELCG and seminary leadership as they plan for the future classes.

Ghana and the political process of voting for the president.

GIVE THANKS FOR:

Our continued good health allowing us to teach remotely and plan for future classes.

We give thanks for Hadley's, our granddaughter, continued health improvements.

PRAISE GOD FOR:

The many congregations and individuals who pray for us, encourage and support us, and have given Sunday School materials.

This month we give praise for:

*Grace Lutheran Church
Henderson, NV*

*Mountain View Luth. Church
Las Vegas, NV*

*Zion Lutheran Church
Fort Wayne, IN*

Bible Class and Sunday School at Shepherd of the Valley



Photos by C. Schumacher

The youth of the church singing the closing hymn (top), adult Bible Class with Rev. Schumacher (top right), and the Sunday School class (right).



Donated Sunday School materials to be sorted and taken to Ghana.

The photo on the bottom right shows some of the Sunday School materials that have been donated for the children and seminary students in Ghana. These materials are sorted and organized to be used in the Sunday School classes at Shepherd of the Valley. The extra materials are then divided among the seminarians. They will take them home and use them for Sunday School in their future congregations.

The seminary students take a teaching methods class in their academic preparation. This class enables the future pastors with the skills to lead Bible class and to instruct lay men and women to teach Sunday School in the local congregations.

Cynthia and I thank you for your time in reading our monthly newsletter. We thank God, for you and pray that you would, prayerfully, consider praying for us and, if possible, support us through a financial gift.

*May God bless you and your service to Him,
- Rev. Dr. Steven & Cynthia Schumacher*



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

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
P.O. Box 66861
St. Louis, MO 63166-6861

OR

Mission Central
40718 Highway E 16
Mapleton, IA 51034

Make checks payable to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. Mark checks "Support of Schumacher/Ghana." Gifts can also be given securely online through the LCMS website, on my online giving page at lcms.org/schumacher.