



National Flag



Did you know . . .

The green stripe stands for land and hope; the yellow stripe is for church; the red stands for power and faith. The star in the center has rays all the same length showing that all of Ethiopia's people are equal. The blue behind the star is for peace and democracy.

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stinnettsinethiopia@outlook.com

with the word ADD or REMOVE in the subject line.

The Evangel in Ethiopia



Ethiopian Pastor's Conference

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia—By the grace of God, Eric was able to attend the conference in Ethiopia last month. It was a very uplifting experience to see so many faithful servants of Christ gathered in one place to tend to His work. It was also a great benefit to meet many of his coworkers.

Pictured (left to right): Rev. Shauen Trump, LCMS East Africa Area Director; Rev. Dr. Albert Collyer, Director of Church Relations / Regional Operations; Rev. Eric Stinnett & Rev. Mark Rabe Theolog-

Mekane Yesus Seminary: Book of Concord Given to all Pastors

There were so many positive aspects of my trip to Ethiopia. One in particular, though, really stands out for me. During the national pastor conference held by the Ethiopian Mekane Yesus church on the seminary campus, the Lutheran Heritage Foundation gave copies of the Book of Concord in Amharic to all 3,500 pastors attending the conference.

The Book of Concord, our Lutheran confessions, is **foundational and indispensable to our Lutheran identity**. It was compiled in 1580 and accepted as the definitive explanation of what the Bible teaches and therefore, what Lutherans believe. This book is so important, that in the LCMS it is used as a primary text book in our seminaries from the first semester of the first year all the way through to graduation. At ordination, LCMS pastors make a vow that all they teach and preach will be in accord with this book. The LCMS constitution declares this book to be “a true and unadulterated statement and exposition of the Word of God.” Simply put: if you believe what the book of Concord teaches, you are Lutheran. . .if you do not believe the teachings of the Book of Concord, you are not.



Pastors receiving their Book of Concord—photo courtesy of Witness, Mercy, Life Together blog

The Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus is committed to being a confessional Lutheran church body. Every pastor in the EECMY now owns a personal copy of the confessions, when few of her pastors had the opportunity to own or study a copy of the confessions in the past. This is a big step in our church bodies walking the confessional road together. It is a huge blessing for the EECMY, the LCMS and the Lutheran world as a whole, as we strengthen and uphold one another with the Gospel in all its fullness and purity.





PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- Mekane Yesus Seminary faculty and students
- a smooth transition to Ethiopia
- Eric's work permits/and our family's official paperwork
- safe travels during network and support building

GIVE THANKS FOR:

- Eric's safe trip to Ethiopia
- a safe move

PRAISE GOD FOR:

- the many congregations and individuals who pray for us, encourage and support us

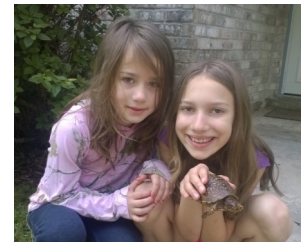
Amharic—this is the language we will be learning. To say “hello” you say “tena yste'lle'gn” (tuh-yay-naw ih-stuh-eel-een-yuh). Written in Amharic it looks like this: ጤና ሄስጥልኝ

Learning Louisiana—Our Temporary New Home

We moved to Louisiana this month with a 40-hour trip from Montana. Thanks to all who helped us move out of MT and to those who helped us move into our new house.

The kids have caught tadpoles and a turtle since we've been here and have enjoyed living just minutes from family.

Luke was excited about the tadpole excursion in this photo on the right



Rachael and Naomi holding a Box Turtle that was in our yard—they released him back to the wild

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

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:

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

Make checks payable to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. Mark checks “Support of Stinnett-Ethiopia.” Gifts can also be given securely online through the LCMS website, on my online giving page at lcms.org/stinnett.