



Did you know . . . ?

Ethiopia is the only country in Africa with its own alphabet. Actually it uses an abugida, also known as an alpha-syllabary. This means that the alphabet is based on a consonant-vowel combination.



FACEBOOK: We are on Facebook! However, it is unavailable to us right now in Ethiopia. We'll start posting again when we are able to do so. Thank you for your continued prayers.

The Evangel in Ethiopia

Reaching Out & Reformation



***Mekane Yesus:**
Pictured here is the Year I Masters Class posing on the Mekane Yesus Seminary Compound. Photo by: Rev. Dr. Robert Roethemeyer*

Mekane Yesus Seminary—In our July newsletter I wrote about the far-reaching effects of our teaching efforts here at the seminaries. In that article, I talked about two students that I was beginning to advise and how we are teaching the teachers of the next generation of pastors for the EECMY. I was excited about those opportunities in July, but now that classes are in full swing and I have gotten to know my students better, I am truly amazed at the incredible opportunity the Lord has given us. It is much, much greater than I realized before.

In my first-year MA class, twelve of my students were full or part-time instructors at EECMY regional seminaries or Bible colleges. Two were Bible College directors and one was Dean of Academic Studies. I also have two Synod Presidents (equivalent to our District Presidents) in this class. All of these men are expected to return to their previous positions (or higher positions) when they complete their MA degrees.

In addition to the classroom, I was also given the privilege of being one of the two main speakers at a Reformation Conference put on by the EECMY Central Office on Reformation Day. I had the opportunity to lecture on Luther's Life and Theology to EECMY officers, the staff and faculty to Mekane Yesus Seminary and other leaders of the EECMY community.

Our Lord is allowing us to help shape the Lutheran identity of the church leaders and educators of an over 8 million member church body. There is nowhere else in the world we could have an impact so large. As I said in July, it is truly humbling and exciting to think about the amazing opportunity and great responsibility our Lord has placed before us here. Thank you for choosing to be a part of it. We are truly grateful that you are partnering with us to carry out the Lord's work in Ethiopia.

Engaging Ethiopia



Right: First year MA students holding Lutheran Study Bibles. The LCMS has been providing these Bibles and Books of Concord for every member of each MA Class. This year, the Book of Concord was given to Bachelors students too. *Left:* We found ice cream close to home! It is sold for about \$20 USD for a half-gallon.



Amharic—this is our language. If someone is sick, you would say: ሞህረቱን ያምጣልህ (məhərätun yamṭalləš). This means, "May His (God's) mercy come for you."





PLEASE PRAY FOR:

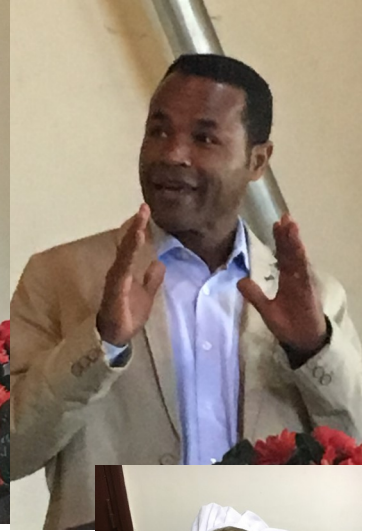
- our country of Ethiopia
- that the Lord will meet the need to train 10,000 new pastors for MYS
- for the needed work visas for professors who come to teach—difficult to obtain
- Eric and Dr. Rabe as they are now halfway through the first semester
- that MYS will achieve its accreditation standing
- needed Amharic catechisms from LHF
- for continual improvement in our Amharic
- Ethiopian hymnal project
- for good health & spirits

GIVE THANKS FOR:

- Dr. Robert Roethemeyer who is teaching an intensive
- the safe visit of Rev. Gary and Stephanie Schulte

PRAISE GOD FOR:

- the many congregations and individuals who pray for us, encourage and partner with us - it means so much to us to know that you are praying
- the leaders of the EECMY and LCMS who work together to the glory of God



Clockwise from top right: Naomi and her Amharic teacher, Tigist; Eric and Dr. Biruk at the Reformation festival; Naomi as a chef; Reformation pumpkin painting; Luke and a puppy born on our compound; furniture being loaded on our car



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

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:

Mission Central

c/o Gary W. Thies
40718 Highway E 16
Mapleton, IA 51034-7105
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