



Did you know . . . ?



There is not a way to say the word “no” in the Amharic language.

You must make a negative statement, such as, “I don’t want any”, or “There are none.”

FACEBOOK:

We are on Facebook, although consistent internet is a struggle. See our archived newsletters and feel free to share the work God is doing here with others. God is good!

The Evangel in Ethiopia

Mekane Yesus Seminary Master’s Graduating Class—2017



Top left: Masters of Theology graduates; bottom: Eric preaching at graduation

Mekane Yesus Seminary—This month was graduation at MYS. I was honored to be asked to preach at the graduation service. I was also very pleased and proud to see my students graduating and preparing to go out to teach in the regional Bible schools and seminaries, to lead at the synodical and parish levels and the BTh students, many of whom will be congregational pastors. It was truly an exciting and joyous day. I intended to write my article this month on graduation, but as I was doing my final semester grading, many of the essays reminded me clearly of why I was sent here. I decided to share a couple excerpts with you. One student wrote, “When I joined the Bible School, I encountered some challenges...in the Bible Schools

and seminaries there were instructors from different mission organizations, even different Lutheran churches, some liberals, some conservatives. Their different opinions and interpretations of the Holy Scriptures has created confusion...some were teaching that the Bible is words of God, words of men, even words of non-believers. The Hermeneutics course this semester, and the conservative historic traditional Lutheran position on Scripture has created a great impact on me to renew my former belief and strengthen my attitude...I am a Lutheran pastor...I do have a firm foundation in the Lutheran identity.”

Speaking on the same subject, another wrote, “I accept and appreciate the Bible-based and confessional stand of the traditional, historic Lutheran church. This understanding helps me to continue to serve God in this church. God send the Missouri Synod today to sustain the understanding of the EECMY...God bless the Synod!!!” If we were not here teaching, these classes would still be taught by professors from other church bodies who would still be teaching the students to doubt their Bibles and look for answers other than Jesus. This is why our Lord used you to send us here. This is why we pray the Lord will allow us to continue serving at MYS for many years. This is why we are so grateful for the support He gives us through you to keep us here. Thank you, may the Lord bless and keep you always.



Always Tell of Christ



too! Thanks be to God for his timing and His grace in all things.

I (Johanna), have been meeting with some doulas and an RN for a while now. (I was an OB nurse for 14 years in the U.S.) One doula was telling me about a prostitute who had come under her care. During this time, the doula was kind to her and, at one visit, had the opportunity to tell her about Christ. The woman was so thankful for the respectful care and Gospel message from her doula, that she brought her friends (also prostitutes) to hear

Amharic—this is our language. To say: “Thank God!” you would say, ተመሰግናለሁ (temesegen no-w).





PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- the students returning home to their preaching and teaching
- Eric's preparations for the next school year's classes
- our friend (who's life is in danger) to get a job and stay safe with her two girls
- peace and safety in northern Ethiopia
- the Young family- Krista's mom went to be with Jesus
- our family: our kitten died
- continued good health
- our travels this next week as we vacation and visit outlying seminaries in southern Ethiopia

GIVE THANKS FOR:

- the children being safe from the sick dog, the ability to receive vaccinations and for a great pediatrician
- the end of the first year of teaching at the seminary

PRAISE GOD FOR:

- the opportunity to work with the doulas/nurses
- all who uphold the Lord's work here with prayer and support
- our continued progress in language classes over the summer

What Have We Been Doing & Seeing Lately?



Clockwise from top left: two of Eric's students at the graduation ceremony; Eric & Dr. Rabe posing with graduates and their families; Dr. Bruk, the Mekane Yesus Seminary president; our kids, the Rabe children and one other little girl from our compound following the series of rabies shots they got after interactions with a potentially rabid dog; Eric with the girls on Father's Day; Luke enjoying ice cream from a shop we recently discovered



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:

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