



# MISSION NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2013

CHURCH OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSION



## East Africa Visitation Report

Part-time Missionary to Kenya/Uganda Summary from 2013:

The part-time missionary visit to Kenya this year revolved around a few main points of emphasis. With only three and a half weeks of total time in-country, there are fewer individual and congregational visits that can take place. The first week was dedicated to the training of seminary students and practicing pastors who attend the KCLC (Kenyan Church of the Lutheran Confession) temporary training institution located in Chotororo, Kisii land area. For the time being there are eight students enrolled who meet on a one-week-per-month basis. Their curriculum has been centered largely on Luther's Small Catechism in conjunction with a study of the fourteen pamphlets.

The Kenya/Uganda joint pastoral conference was once again held in Kisii Town, Kenya with 12 men in attendance. Everyone was given an opportunity to take an exam on the fundamental teachings of the Lutheran faith. The results of the test showed a great deal of improvement from past years and renewed dedication to study that these servants of the Word have practiced over the last few years. During the second day of the conference everyone presented a sermon for the benefit of all the pastors and for the missionary to have an opportunity to give input and critique their presentation of the Word. The final day of the conference was reserved for the planning session of the ongoing work in Kenya/Uganda. The leaders of these respective church bodies formulated short-term and long-term goals and implementation of a plan to accomplish those goals. We were blessed with safe travels and a wonderful time of fellowship and unity for those three days.

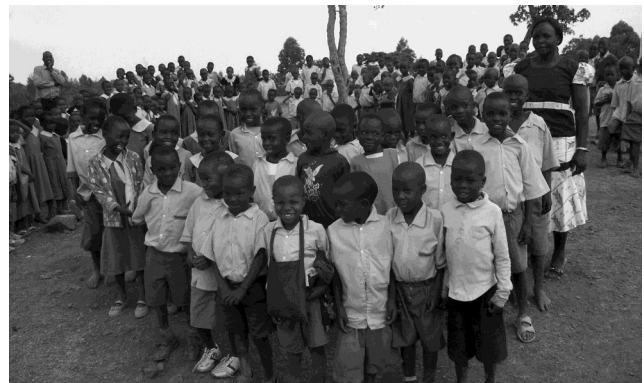


**Pastoral Conference in Kisii, Kenya**

The remaining time was dedicated to the two primary schools in Kenya that are supported by members in the CLC-USA. The issue of high teacher turnover was ad-

ressed at St. David's in Etago, along with seminars designed to familiarize the current faculty and staff with the teachings of the catechism. These sessions were received with great enthusiasm, as many of the teachers come from other church bodies and have not been exposed to a systematic presentation of doctrine. The new classroom recently built through KINSHIP sponsorship has been a tremendous blessing for the students of St. David's. It is well constructed, with ample space, and proper ventilation. This structure will serve as a place of worship, assembly hall, and multiple classrooms for many years to come.

Identical seminars were conducted at Emmaus Hill School in Milimani (Moi's Bridge). Two of the teachers cur-



**1st Grade Class in Emmaus Hill School**

rently serving this school are members of the church as well and have been confirmed in the catechism. The rest of the faculty also showed great appreciation for this opportunity to study the Word of God together.

In Christ, Pastor Michael Gurath

### **Thank You for Patrick Udo Memorial Fund**

Dear Pastor T. Ohlmann/the whole CLC,

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. I am writing this letter in respect of your brotherly love shown to the family of Late Pastor Patrick Udo. The CLC had done so much to contribute to the family. May God's blessings be upon you and continue to provide all your needs. My family is so grateful. The burial was successful.

As mentioned when you came, the money has been utilized in the following ways;

1. Part was put in the house that was put up.
  2. Part was kept for the upkeep of the children and I have been monitoring the account. Once again, thanks very much for your support. May God bless you abundantly.
- ...Nsikan Antia

## 2013 Mission Helper Trip to India

The 2013 CLC Mission Helpers spent three weeks this past summer in the South Indian states of Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh working along-side their brothers and sisters in Christ of the CLCI and BELC. Ten individuals (David Lueck, Nathan Noldner, Andrew Roehl, Jennifer Grabow, Becky Haddad, Lucas Brown, Melanie Halstein, Katherine Kazemba, Becky McKenney, and Pastor Todd Ohlmann) joined Missionary Matthew Ude and his wife Vanessa in Chennai where they began their work with a day of rest and fellowship. These twelve individuals



then traveled to Nellore where they were greeted and welcomed by the host pastors of the CLCI and BELC. Following the welcome ceremony they were then divided into three teams as they went in three different directions to visit and teach in some 40 congregations where they had the privilege of sharing the Gospel with nearly 2,000 children through a series of child evangelism lessons they had prepared. You can read of their experiences on the trip blog at: <http://2013clcmhtindia.blogspot.com>

Now, by the time this article is being read, the 2013 CLC Mission Helpers will be back to their daily routines of school, friends, home, worship, and work. But most every former Mission Helper will be quick to tell you that the memories and faces of India, the abundance of opportunities to serve the Lord by serving others, and joy of working along-side their newly acquainted brothers and sisters in Christ in spreading the Gospel are never far from their thoughts. Former Mission Helpers share stories of how the Mission Helper Trip they were on continues to impact their daily lives, even some 12 years later. A recent conversation with a former Mission Helper to India led to an explanation of how, this mother of two, thinks about India almost every day and hopes the Lord will provide her the opportunity to go to Africa or back to India again someday!

The 2013 Mission Helpers were asked to share, in one sentence, what they would like others in the CLC to know about the experience they had as a CLC Mission Helper. What follows are what some of the 2013 Mission Helpers want you know about their Mission Helper experience...

- *Summarize in one sentence? Wow, that's tough! I think of India every day; the incredible blessing it was to go, and the amazing*

- *work of our brothers overseas. But, to sum it up in one sentence (or two): I'll never forget the experience of the Mission Helper Trip to India; it was nothing I ever could have expected, but more than I ever could have imagined. The opportunity to work with our brothers and sisters in Christ "as they are going" was truly an honor.*
- *It is marvelous when to see the response of the children especially to our smile or hand shake and when they hear our words translated.*
- *The Mission Helper Program is incredible in how it gives you a different perspective and makes you realize the deep need for the Word abroad and at home.*
- *We thank the LORD for protecting us along the way. I'm truly amazed by the dedication the pastors have for the Gospel ministry. They are shining examples of how I should live my life.*
- *So I may have abused the use of commas to stretch out my one sentence as long as it could go...but it's hard to summarize such an awesome experience in just one sentence! "Working with and serving our Christian brothers and sisters in India was incredibly inspiring and moving as we witnessed their deep hunger for God's Word, their intense desire for prayer, their sincere joy in worshiping the Savior, and their overwhelming displays of love for us mission helpers."*
- *The work of the Gospel is endless, and our calling to bring the Word with us in all we do and reflect God's love to all humanity is a lifestyle, chosen by God, for us to thrive within. Seeing the work that the Christians in India are doing is empowering and encouraging, and further motivates us to bring the Gospel to those around us, as these faithful Indian Christians do in their communities.*
- *I think the only way it's possible to really know the need for mission work in India is to see it first-hand.*



### Missionary Commissioning Service

**On Monday, September 23, at 6:30 p.m. there will be a commissioning service held at Messiah, Eau Claire, WI, for Pastor Ed Starkey, who accepted the call to serve as a CLC foreign missionary in India.**