

Togo (Ghana/Benin)

Mission Église Évangélique Luthérienne au Togo (MEELT)

STATUS

In Fellowship ☒

STATISTICS

Ordained Pastors	<u>6</u>	Congregations	<u>6</u>
Pastors in Training	<u>7</u>	Preaching stations	<u>6</u>
		Congregation in Ghana	<u>1</u>

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

In 2017 four men graduated from pastoral training and were ordained. Seven new students began studying for the Gospel ministry. The CLC KINSHIP Committee provides financial assistance for these new students through KINSHIP sponsors.

Pastor Kossi and his wife have registered a humanitarian NGO with the government and received government approval to provide care for orphans and children in Togo. The CLC Kinship Committee now provides financial assistance for the orphan care and a new "Children in Need" program that provides financial assistance for school fees, uniforms, and supplies, weekly nutrition, and Bible lessons for thirty-nine children.

SCOPE AND FOCUS OF MINISTRY

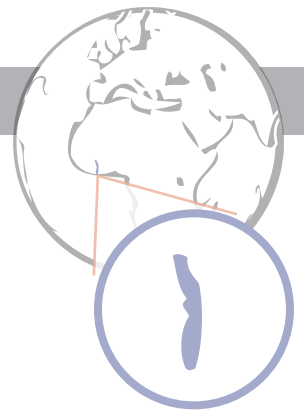
Pastor Kossi is a very dedicated minister and is constantly looking for new ways to do evangelism. He spends a lot of time with his home congregation in Varipariso. Here he has classes and meetings almost every day. He also travels as much as possible to the preaching stations most of which are villages just outside Lome. When he can't go himself he will often send one of his students to teach, preach, and do evangelism in these areas.

PERSONNEL

Pastor Kossi is the lead pastor of the MEELT, he is currently training six men who help him with the various churches and preaching stations in Togo.

FUTURE PLANS

An MDF grant has been approved for the purchase of land outside of Lome'. Initially the land will be farmed with the proceeds being saved to eventually provide partial funding to build the Mt. Horeb Lutheran Bible Institute.



HISTORY AND BACKGROUND

In 1999, Elinore Gbedey was returning to the US from teaching in the country of Benin. She came through Lome, Togo to visit there, since she is married to a Togolese. While in Lome, she came across a Lutheran, Amegan Kwaku Kpello (Mike) and explained our church to him. He seemed to have some interest, so she contacted Missionary David Koenig who had previously been her pastor at Peace Thru Christ in Middleton, WI. Email correspondence resulted. Literature was sent but Mike decided to remain with his Lutheran church which is affiliated with the LC-MS. However he did put Missionary Koenig in contact with Kossi Blewu and Gideon Abussah.

Kossi Blewu was a school teacher and a member of a Baptist church. Missionary Koenig began correspondence courses with Kossi in September of 2001. The next year in March, when Missionary Koenig visited him, he could see from the Word of God that the Baptist teaching concerning the sacraments was incorrect. He had not yet received Baptism, and asked for it at that time. On April 3, 2001, Missionary Koenig baptized him in his house.

In April of 2004, Kossi registered his small church with the Togolese government.

In December of 2008, Pastor Matthew Ude, while visiting West Africa, publicly ordained him.

Throughout the decade since his first contact with Missionary Koenig, Pastor Kossi has continued to work diligently at both his secular teaching job as well as his ministry. Quite soon, by the grace of God, Pastor Kossi had established two congregations and two more preaching stations in and around Lome, Togo.

In 2009, he began teaching five men from his own congregation to be ministers in God's church.

Nearly five years ago the CLC Board of Missions agreed to help Pastor Kossi buy land for his church. While the CLC couldn't pay the entire amount for the land, we agreed to pay a certain amount every year and in this way eventually pay off the land. The land owner eventually grew tired of waiting for the full amount to be paid off and returned all the money Pastor Kossi had paid him so far. With this sum he was able to buy a different, less expensive parcel of land which was still more than large enough for his church. The Lord provides.

