

## *The Glories of God in Ghana*

*Psalm 87*

News from the Kastors, Serving the Lord in Ghana

Email us: [dale.kaster@lcmsintl.org](mailto:dale.kaster@lcmsintl.org)



*The LCMS Africa team, from all parts of the continent, at the Medina Palms resort, Watamu, Kenya.*

### *A Needed Rest*

Everybody needs a rest from time to time, the overworked employee in an office, the harried parent, and, yes, the missionary here in Africa. Jesus even saw that His disciples needed a rest. When there were so many people coming and going around them that they hadn't time even to eat, He said, "Come away by yourselves to a desolate place and rest a while." (Mark 6:31) We all need to be reminded of that from time to time. Sometimes we push, push, push ourselves even into the night hours that God has clearly given to us for our needed rest.

This year was the year for our "All Africa Retreat" (April 29-May 4), a gathering of LCMS missionaries serving in various positions (lay and clergy alike) and in various ministries (theological educators, medical missionaries, seminary librarians, etc.). Our gathering spot was the wonderful Medina Palms resort in Watamu, Kenya, right on the coast of the Indian Ocean. Since it was the off-season, we were able to secure our rooms at a reasonable rate and to enjoy all the wonderful amenities of this wonderful place. But one of the great blessings was that they gave us plenty of time just for rest. That allowed us to go snorkeling, see some nearby ancient ruins, and to have the monkeys climb on us while we fed them bananas.

But the rest we really needed – and got! – was the rest that flows from the Word of God and from the Sacraments. Opening up the Gospel of John and slow-walking our way through it, we heard of the recreative work of God in Christ Jesus, our Lord. That is spelled out so beautifully by John, reminding us that Christ was a part of creation and that through Him, by water and the Word, we are all recreated as we are born again in the divine washing that is Holy Baptism. We are at rest! We are at peace!



As I write this, Americans are getting a little rest with the Memorial Day weekend. But we would encourage you to know the rest that is and from Jesus Christ alone. The writer to the Hebrews exhorts us: *So then, there remains a Sabbath rest for the people of God, for whoever has entered God's rest has also rested from his works as God did from his. Let us therefore strive to enter that rest, so that no one may fall by the same sort of disobedience.* (Hebrews 4:9-11) In Christ we have come to the fullness of rest – there is nothing more to be done in the cause of our salvation. Our Lord said, "It is finished." (John 19:30) But still there is coming a fulfillment of that rest when Christ returns. Do not let anything or anyone lead you astray, as the Israelites did in their wandering. The author of Hebrews calls us to immerse ourselves into Christ, into the rest that He alone gives, and not into the ways of darkness. So may every day be a memorial day, a day when we remember Christ, His cross, and His rest. Be at peace in Christ! Amen.



## Prayer Requests, Praises, and Thanks

- Praise God that our training is fully scheduled!
- Pray for our team here in Ghana – Rev. and Mrs. David Erber, Rev. and Mrs. Steven Schumacher, and Rev. and Mrs. Doug Thompson, as well as Rev. and Mrs. Mark Moss.
- Pray for the McDermott and Schulte families, raising funds for their work in West Africa.
- Pray for Bishop Fynn, head of the ELCG.
- Praise God for the work being done by our co-workers in Togo: Rev. Gaugert, Rev. and Mrs. Wildauer.
- Ask God to help Dale as he prepares to teach at the seminary.
- Pray for Pastor Konbat's healing.
- Ask God to bless our Tamale congregation with a spirit of outreach.

You can write us at:  
Rev. Dale and Suzanne Kaster  
TL 375  
Tamale, Ghana  
West Africa

There are many opportunities to serve as short-term or GEO missionaries. Check out the current list and download an application at [www.lcms.org/service](http://www.lcms.org/service). Click on "Service Opportunities."

## A Prayer Schedule

We (Rev. Mark Moss and I) have all our teaching for this year set. And we would love for you to pray along with us. If you could add this list to your daily prayers, we would be so grateful.

- July 5-July 15 – Dale will be teaching at the seminary, outside of Accra
- August 1-12 – Dale and Mark training in Bawku
- August 22-September 2 – Dale and Mark training in Bunkpurugu
- September 12-23 – Dale and Mark training in Gbintiri
- October 3-14 – Dale and Mark training in Bakpaba

## Home Service Planning

As network-supported missionaries we need to come home from time to time to report to donors about our work and to see new prayer partners as well as donors. We are in the process of scheduling our service for mid-October through mid-December this year. If you are in the eastern Nebraska or western Iowa area, we are already scheduled for a presentation at Mission Central (Mapleton, Iowa) on November 5<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m. We also will be at Our Savior's Way, Ashburn, VA, on Sunday, November 20<sup>th</sup> (all three services!). If you are in these areas, come and see us and pray for us. We will keep you informed of other visits we are still working on.

## Home Prayers Requested

This month we have some prayer requests for our children back home.

Our youngest child, Jonathan (right, with his nephew), ships out tomorrow, May 31, for Air Force basic military training. Pray for his strength in body, mind, and faith.

Also, we give thanks that our daughter, Gretchen, was just engaged to Thomas Hull, a very nice young man. Pray that their marriage might reflect Christ and His Church and that they might love each other more each day.

Also give thanks that our oldest, Joshua, and our daughter-in-law, Sarah, have landed new jobs and started their new life in Colorado. They have already found new friends and are loving the Denver area. And Sarah has already gotten a promotion! Yea, Sarah!



We truly offer prayers on behalf of all our donors, supporters, and prayer partners. We thank the Lord for you and we ask Him to hear your prayers on our behalf and for our work. We ask God to help you to share the Gospel where you are because there are so many who need Jesus and the time is short!

We commend you and yours to Christ Jesus, our Lord,  
Rev. Dale and Suzanne Kaster

*Your Missionaries in Ghana, West Africa*

To support the LCMS through the work of the Kasteters, you may send a tax-deductible gift to:

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod **OR** Mission Central  
P.O. Box 66861 40718 Hwy E16  
St. Louis, MO 63166-6861 Mapleton, IA 51034

Make checks payable to The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod or LCMS. Include "Kaster – Ghana," in the memo line. Gifts can also be given securely online through the LCMS website at [www.lcms.org/kaster](http://www.lcms.org/kaster).

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