



Lutherans IN Africa

FORMING AFRICAN LUTHERANS TO BE TEACHERS OF THE FAITH

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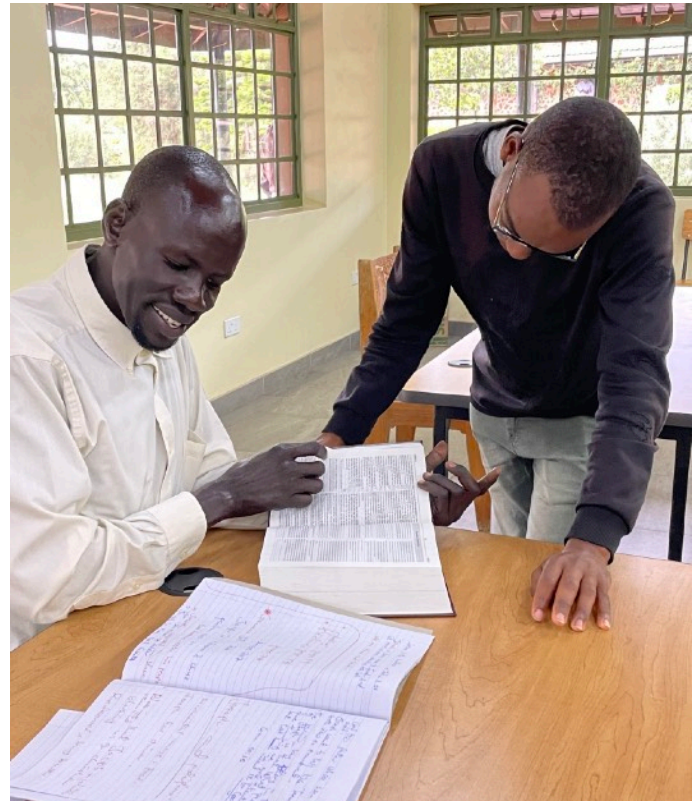
Another Year in God's Hands Begins

Blessed New Year, Dear Friend!



New Semester

The spring semester of 2024 has begun in exceptionally wet circumstances! It is unusual to receive heavy rains in January. Now, the LST's dam overflows as water rushes down from the Ngong Hills and floods the roads and paths in its wake. We marvel at the scenery with bright shades of green dotted by various different color flowers. Roads may be impassable at times, but it sure is beautiful around here!



The school opened for a class of diploma students and a large group of pre-certificate students. Some of the last year's certificate students graduated from their program in December and have now moved on



to study at a diploma level. Dr. Ristau teaches them the Pentateuch. Professor Joseph Matheka helps the other class with their English language skills so that they will be better equipped to manage the upcoming certificate level studies.

Get to Know a Student



A student, Disan Olweny, participated in the certificate course last semester. He comes from South-Sudan. However, he has lived in a refugee camp in Uganda for many years with his wife, three sons, and one daughter. When he was young, Disan was baptized in the African Inland Church. Later, in 2005, he was influenced by discussions with a now retired Lutheran bishop that led him to join the Lutheran church. "Through teaching I slowly began to understand how the Lutheran service is conducted. I got more training by the general secretary of the church and the late Bishop Wilson Noah and started to work as an evangelist in 2017. I

learned about liturgy and how to lead the service. Now in Uganda, I continue to serve as an evangelist. I help in the church, reach out to people, and teach the Small Catechism."

"It has been a nice time for me here at the Lutheran School of Theology and I have learned a lot. During the previous term, I worked as a chapel assistant at the LST's Luther chapel. The duties included making sure that everything in the chapel is arranged well and the vestments are clean. Also, I helped directing the students how to lead morning and evening devotions."



"One of the professors this past semester was Bishop Amayo. He discussed the challenges that the evangelism faces on the field. We learned how to reach out to the people to share the Gospel with them, invite them to the church, and then how to apply the Law and the Gospel correctly in our preaching and teaching."



"We also studied the Pastoral Ministry with Bishop Amayo. Pastors are the stewards of the Means of Grace. They serve the people, who are in different situations in their life. It is important for a pastor to understand these situations by getting to know the individuals, the families, and the communities he serves. St. Paul writes about the attributes of a pastor in 1 Timothy chapter 3. These are the qualifications a pastor should have. Pastors do face problems. We see how pride, love of money, or women outside of marriage can affect the pastor and the church ministry. In the class, we were learning skills that open our minds to analyze problems and

to find Christian solutions for them. A servant of Christ should remember that he is performing a dignified task and therefore he should present himself in a dignified manner."

"The saying is trustworthy: If anyone aspires to the office of overseer, he desires a noble task. Therefore an overseer must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, sober-minded, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, not a drunkard, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money. He must manage his own household well, with all dignity keeping his children submissive, for if someone does not know how to manage his own household, how will he care for God's church?"

1 Tim. 3:1-5



We wish Disan God's blessings as he continues to help out Christ's church in Uganda. Please pray also for all our other students as they learn the Scriptures, Lutheran theology, and the vocation of a pastor.

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