



# Lutherans IN Africa

FORMING AFRICAN LUTHERANS TO BE TEACHERS OF THE FAITH

[www.lutheransinafrica.com](http://www.lutheransinafrica.com) | January 2019

## A Month of Volunteers

*"And I will lead the blind in a way that they do not know, in paths that they have not known I will guide them. I will turn the darkness before them into light, the rough places into level ground. These are the things I do, and I do not forsake them." (ISA. 42:16)*



The Lutheran School of Theology is still having a school break. The students are coming back in the beginning of February. While the students have been away, we have tried to be efficient in other fields of work.

### BOOKS AND LIBRARY

This January we have had many volunteers coming to help us. Pauliina Heikkinen, from Finland, arrived to help us catalog the library books. She has studied to become a librarian and knows how to organize the library books in a proper way. The Lutheran School of Theology aims to be a University one day. One requirement from the Ministry of Education of Kenya is that we need to have at least 30, 000 books in our library. At the moment we have around 10, 000 books. Books need to be organised properly so that we have a functional library for the students to use.



On top of the library books, we have a vast amount of Lutheran books that Lutheran Heritage

Foundation (LHF) has funded. For the readers, who do not know, the Lutheran Heritage Foundation is an American Christian mission organization dedicated to translating, publishing, distributing and introducing Lutheran materials around the world. Before Lutherans in Africa (LIA) was formed, the work we are now doing, was started by LHF-Africa, the African daughter office of LHF. Due to the global financial crisis, reorganization was done in 2010. LHF-Africa kept its focus on translating and publishing and LIA was founded to concentrate on teaching and forming the future pastors at the soon to be built Lutheran School of Theology (LST). LIA and LHF-Africa work in very close collaboration. Rev. May is the Director of both organizations. LHF generously gives grants, LHF-Africa translates and publishes and LIA teaches the content of the books. Together LHF-Africa, LIA and the students of LST, distribute the books to the congregations in need throughout Africa.

### BUILDING AND GUIDING

The books, that are waiting for distribution, are stored at the Lutheran School of Theology in a shipping container. When multitalented



volunteers Duane Smith and Lyle Honebrink from Minnesota came, one of the many tasks they were given was to build a roof for the book storage. The hardworking men were not afraid of the heat of the burning sun, and the roof was quickly done.

With the help of these incredibly tireless men many things have gone ahead.

Another important aspect of their work has been to guide a few of our students who have been working with us during their holiday. They do not have much experience with construction work, especially with tools. This was a great opportunity for the student to learn practical skill from the American volunteers which will be useful to them in the future.



been an option, but then we could not have utilized the water that God provides. Water is very vital in Africa. The trees and plants need water, but also we can share it with the community. The Maasai people, who live around us, get their daily bread from their cattle. The dam makes it possible to offer life-giving water to their goats and cows during the hard dry season.

## VOLUNTEERS - TRUE GIFT FROM GOD



We would not be this far if it was not for the help of the numerous volunteers who God has always sent at right time with the right talents. The contribution of volunteers is very remarkable, and we thank God for everyone of them!

## THE DAM AND COMMUNITY AID PROJECT



There is a seasonal river that runs through the property of LST. It divides the Mission Center and house from the site where all the school related buildings are. When it rains, the river overflows with water. That makes passing from the residential area to the school impossible. That is why we are building a dam. The dam allows access from one side of the property to the other. A bridge would have also



Pauliina, Duane and Lyle are returning volunteers. It is encouraging to see volunteers returning. Being here for the second or third time makes the volunteer period easier, as one knows what to expect. It also means that adjusting to the surroundings happens quicker, making the time spent here more effective.

Last week more volunteers from America arrived. They are helping with curtains for the library, wooden cabinets for the Mission Center and house and a lot more. After them we will have another group coming, this time from Finland. What a blessing to have so many volunteers!



## PRAYER REQUESTS

### *Refreshing holiday and smooth transition back to school*

We pray that the students will enjoy the rest of their holiday. We pray that everything goes smoothly for them and their families when they are heading back to school.

### *The construction work*

We pray that the construction work goes forward efficiently. We pray for safety on the building site.

### *Safe travels*

We thank for all the volunteers who you have sent to us and pray for safe travels for all the volunteers coming here or going back home.

## OUR MISSIONARIES

*Mission work is collective work. Some people send, some people are sent. Without your prayers, commitment, work and donations, the mission work is not possible. We are thankful for all the support you are giving us. And we ask that God may give us the strength and wisdom to be good stewards of His work here in Africa.*

### *May Family*



### *Simojoki Family*



For no one can lay a foundation other than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.  
1 CORINTHIANS 3:11

## SUPPORT OUR WORK

### ONLINE

To make a donation online, visit our website [www.lutheransinafrica.com](http://www.lutheransinafrica.com).

### BY CHECK

1. SEND your check made payable to *Lutherans in Africa* noting in the memo field one of the below:
  - *Lutheran School of Theology*
  - *Daily Mission Work*
  - *May Family*
  - *Simojoki Family*

2. MAIL the check to:
 

*Lutherans in Africa*  
c/o *Bethlehem Lutheran Church 7500 State Road*  
*Parma, OH 44134*