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Teaching Students about the Love of Christ



Moses looking smart in his school uniform

NEW HOPE

Meet Moses, a student in secondary school who is being supported through the Christ's Care for Children: Kenya program. He comes from an area in Kenya that is known for pastoralism. His tribe, the Maasai, are nomads who live and move from place to place to support their cattle, sheep and goats. It is uncommon for Maasai boys, in particular, to attend school beyond class 8. Typically after graduating class 8, the Maasai boys are taught to take over the herding for their family and later marry and start their own families. Since Moses comes from this area, we are thankful that his family allowed him to further his education. With financial support from Christ's Care for Children: Kenya, he is now in his second year of secondary school and hopes to eventually be a pilot.



Pastor teaching a lesson on Lutheran theology to the students.

I have been involved with the Project 24 program for a few years now, and have observed steady growth and progress in the endeavor resulting from the partnership between the LCMS and the ELCK. Each new year seems to bring an additional feature that encourages the students to continue their spiritual walk with the Lord.

As I previously have reported in my newsletters, the younger students from each project 24 site, participate in two Catechetical Club events each year. These events provide opportunities for spiritual growth, training, team building and athletics. However, the secondary students who have graduated, are unable to participate as they reside at various boarding schools throughout Kenya. Following discussions with our Project 24 director, John Kissinger, the

ELCK committed to hosting a Bible Camp specifically for the secondary students in the program. The Bible Camp would be a three-day event during the month of November, after the school year had ended and the children would be free to attend.

This year, the evangelists or chaplains of each Project 24 site came together and planned the Bible Camp. Several ELCK pastors led morning instruction and teaching sessions on various topics. Afternoons were devoted to fun activities and games.

As we work together in partnership with the ELCK, we continue to strive for excellence and ensure that the students who leave the Project 24 program know and accept Jesus Christ as their Lord. I look forward to how this partnership will continue to grow and mature in this new year to benefit our students.



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PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- the students at Karama Academy and the students in the Project 24 program as they begin a new school year

GIVE THANKS FOR:

- 3 new baby girls who were born last month: one to Teacher Ruth at Karama Academy, one to my sister-in-law, Winnie, and one to my dear friend Ruth. As you can see, "Aunt Britt" loves to hold the newborns.

PRAISE GOD FOR:

- The many congregations and individuals who pray for us, encourage and support us



Moving On



Here is Dickens (in red) with the other boys who made the Kisii School Soccer team. We are very proud of him.

As our 8th grade class at Karama Academy has graduated and has taken their national exams, we wait in anticipation for the letters from the secondary schools to arrive. Here in Kenya, 8th grade students receive invitation letters from secondary schools throughout Kenya to join their school. These letters are usually based on national exam scores as well as a child's overall performance in academics and extracurricular activities. The top honor is to be invited to a national school where often times the school fees are waived or a scholarship is offered based on

the student's excellent performance.

We are delighted that one of our class 8 students this last year, Dickens Omondi, received an invitation to Kisii High School, a national school in Western Kenya. Dickens has received top awards for best soccer player in the sub-county level and for Best Debate and Speech Writer. Dickens attended Karama since class 4. When I was teaching English in that class, I clearly remember Dickens standing out as one of the top students. I continued to encourage him to work hard and keep walking in the faith. We thank God that Dickens has done well and can continue on with his education. But more importantly, we know that He will continue to share the love of Christ with those around him.

Our family would like to thank all of you for your kind notes and wishes over the holidays. It was wonderful to hear from so many of you. We pray that God continues to bless you and keep you!

Your missionaries in Kenya,

Britt, Micah, Rael and Silas



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

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

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
P.O. Box 66861
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or to: Mission Central - LCMS World Mission
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Make checks payable to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. Mark checks "Support of Britt Odemba." Gifts can also be given securely online through the LCMS website, on my online giving page at lcms.org/odemba.