



Standing with our friends Rev. Dr. Gibson and his wife, Kathy

“IT’S OKAY. GO”

I have been blessed by numerous people in my life who have helped mold me and shape me into who I am today. I had the privilege to work with now District President Rev. Dr. Mike Gibson at Christ Lutheran, Costa Mesa, CA for a number of years before leaving for Kenya. At Christ Lutheran we believed that the whole world, including our community is the mission field. Pastor Gibson stressed that our mission was to reach out to our neighbors, our school families, the people within Orange County and throughout the world. When I informed him that I was considering a new ministry across the world, he said it was okay and that I should follow God’s calling. He even helped connect me to other missionaries who were already serving in Kenya. It was a great joy to visit once again with him and his wife Kathy during our home service. I thank God for the mentors whom he has strategically placed throughout my life to guide and encourage me.



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The Next Generation



Visiting with students from Concordia University, Austin, TX

Visiting Lutheran school classrooms during my home service has always been a spiritually uplifting experience and an opportunity to encourage this next generations of missionaries. This past home service was no exception , and in fact offered a new opportunity for Micah and me to meet with college-age students at Concordia University, Austin. From the preschool chapel in Georgetown, TX (yes, even four year olds can share the Gospel) to the elementary classroom in Walburg, TX to the youth group at Trinity, San Rafael, CA, pointing out that they are missionaries right where they are is so important. Questions like: have you ever invited someone to church? have you ever prayed with someone before a meal or when they were hurting? have you ever invited someone to Vacation Bible School? almost always bring positive responses and an opportunity to tell them that they are missionaries.

They are listening to and observing God’s command to go and make disciples of all nations.

Several pastors have shared with me that the word “go” in the well known verse in Matthew 28 actually means “as you are going”. So, I encourage you, during this season of extra time, that you share the love of God. You may not be traveling very far due to the present health crisis, but in your new daily routine, seek out those who need to hear the Good News of Jesus Christ. We have a lot to share with others, so let’s start doing it now...from babies all the way to our seniors.





PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- the school children in Kenya who are no longer in school as well as school children around the world
- our future missionaries

GIVE THANKS FOR:

- a wonderful home service that was filled with joy and great fellowship
- for our gracious hosts: my mom and dad, my sister and brother-in-law, Leah and Chris Tornow in Southern California and Jacob and Christy Youmans in Texas. Thank you for welcoming our family into your homes during our furlough

PRAISE GOD FOR:

- safe travels back to Nairobi
- our church leaders who shepherd us throughout our lives



One more visit



Visiting the children in Class 2 at Karama Academy. Teacher Ruth helping a student. Teacher Ann teaching a lesson on filtering water to her Class 3 students.

Before I go on home service, I always like to pay one more visit to the school in Kibera. During my furlough preparations, I tend to reflect more on my ministry here in Kenya. Being able to visit Karama Academy really shows me how the Lord has blessed the ministry. This school that once was a home for 25 students now serves 300 students. A school that once had 2 teachers, now has 15. It has grown immensely by God’s grace and through the commitment and

extraordinary efforts of the local staff.

As I work on new and wonderful projects like Project 24, I am often reminded of where I started. I use that experience at Karama as a base for the new things that I encounter on a daily basis and I am grateful for the staff at Karama Academy who have helped teach me their cultural ways, guiding me every step of the way.



We are so grateful for the time that we had in the states to visit many of you. In the light of the current world-wide suffering and anxiety, I thank God for these treasured moments that He gave us before we went back home, including the hugs and one-on-one conversations. Thank you all for your support!

In Christ,

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."

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