

Dear Members of Trinity Lutheran Church,

Greetings to you from Dapaong, Togo!

It has been a while since I have sent a newsletter, or communicated with you. I apologise. Pastor Ron Youngdale, Dave Wallace, and Doug Kirkpatrick from Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Turlock, came to Togo for a short visit, and I returned to California with them for two months. Preparing for their visit here, visiting the village churches with them, and then returning to California pretty much consumed my time. I am back in Togo now. LCMS is now sending out increased numbers of missionaries all over the world including Togo. Rev. Jacob Gaugert and Rev. Micah Wildauer, along with his wife and three children, have already arrived and are serving here. Another couple, Rev. Gary and Steph Schulte will be arriving sometime next year. With all of these new missionaries, LCMS invited me to once again serve as an LCMS OIM missionary. I will continue to do many of the same things that I've been doing since my return in 2011, and will also help the new missionaries as needed. I can help them become adjusted to life in Togo with my years of life experiences here.

I have attached the newsletter that I just finished for LCMS. Though I am now sent by LCMS, my home church in Turlock, is still very much involved, and has committed to supporting me as fully as possible. On my newsletter, I have included information about sending contributions to either LCMS or Good Shepherd. ALL funds that are received by Good Shepherd will be sent to Saint Louis for the support of my work here or in some way used to support the Togo Mission. I just received a message from the church secretary at Good Shepherd, informing me that Trinity had just sent in a large one time gift. I am very thankful for your generosity and for your continued encouragement, support and prayers. I often think of the years I spent at Trinity, as a young person, and also as a teacher. A firm foundation was laid for the path the Lord has given me and lead me down.

May the Lord continue to bless you as you serve Him!

Valerie Stonebreaker
Lutheran Missionary in Dapaong, Togo