

# ***St. Stephen Lutheran Church***

Member congregation of the Church of the Lutheran Confession (clclutheran.org)

320 Moorpark Way - Mountain View, California 94041-1600



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Julia Bernthal (Administrator), Pastor Luke Bernthal (Principal)

School Office: (650) 961-2071

School Website: [ssls.org](http://ssls.org)

**August 6, 2023 † Pentecost 10**



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**We Welcome Our Visitors** who are with us this morning.

We hope that you are uplifted by the Gospel at our worship service.

We invite you to join us every Sunday.

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† Preparation for Worship: Read Psalm 25 (Lutheran Service Book or Pew Bible) †

**Our Worship Services will be Posted to Our Website Each Sunday Evening.  
To Watch our Worship Service Online Please Click This Link:**

**<https://www.sslcwest.org/worship.html>**

## Opening Hymn: 779 *Come, My Soul, with Every Care*

LSB 779



1 Come, my soul, with ev - 'ry care, Je - sus loves to an - swer prayer;  
2 Thou art com - ing to a King, Large pe - ti - tions with thee bring;  
3 With my bur - den I be - gin: Lord, re - move this load of sin;  
4 Lord, Thy rest to me im - part, Take pos - ses - sion of my heart;



He Him - self has bid thee pray, There - fore will not turn a - way.  
For His grace and pow'r are such None can ev - er ask too much.  
Let Thy blood, for sin - ners spilt, Set my con - science free from guilt.  
There Thy blood-bought right main - tain And with - out a ri - val reign.

***5. While I am a pilgrim here, Let Thy love my spirit cheer;  
As my guide, my guard, my friend, Lead me to my journey's end.***

***6. Show me what is mine to do; Ev'ry hour my strength renew.  
Let me live a life of faith; Let me die Thy people's death.***

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt.  
Tune: Justin H. Knecht, 1752–1817  
Text and tune: Public domain

## Invocation

*We invoke ("call upon") the name of the one true God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.*

**P** In the name of the Triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

## Confession and Absolution

*We come before our Holy God recognizing that we are sinful and daily need His forgiveness.*

**P** God is light and in Him is no darkness at all.

**C** If we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.

**P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**C** If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (1 John 1:5, 7-9)

**P** Let us pray...

**C** **Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer:**

**We confess that we are sinful by nature, and have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and actions. We have not loved You above all things. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. Have mercy on us, and, for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ, forgive us our sins.**

**P** Jesus Christ is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. We are forgiven! With boldness and confidence we may approach the throne to find grace to help in time of need. In the joy and peace of forgiveness let us praise the Lord...

**"From All That Dwell Below the Skies" LSB 816 v. 1**

1 From all that dwell be - low the skies Let the Cre - a - tor's  
praise a - rise; Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
Let the Re - deem - er's name be sung Through ev - 'ry land by  
ev - 'ry tongue. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748  
Tune: Geistliche Kirchengesäng, 1623, Köln  
Text and tune: Public domain

## Prayer of the Day

**P** We pray:

Heavenly Father, though we do not deserve Your goodness, still You provide for all our needs of body and soul. Give us Your Holy Spirit that we may acknowledge Your gifts, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience. Help us through that same Spirit to know what to pray so that we ask for things that are truly good for us and in accordance with your good and holy will. We pray this through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**G** Amen.

## First Reading

## *Psalm 25 (RESPONSIVE – selected verses) (NKJV)*

**P** To You, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

**G** **O my God, I trust in You; Let me not be ashamed;  
Let not my enemies triumph over me.**

**P** Indeed, let no one who waits on You be ashamed;

**G** **Let those be ashamed who deal treacherously without cause.**

**P** Show me Your ways, O LORD; Teach me Your paths.

**G** **Lead me in Your truth and teach me, For You are the God of my salvation;  
On You I wait all the day.**

**P** Remember, O LORD, Your tender mercies and Your lovingkindnesses,

**G** **For they are from of old.**

**P** Do not remember the sins of my youth, nor my transgressions;

**G** **According to Your mercy remember me, For Your goodness' sake, O LORD.**

**P** Good and upright is the LORD; Therefore He teaches sinners in the way.

**G** **The humble He guides in justice, And the humble He teaches His way.**

**P** All the paths of the LORD are mercy and truth,

**G** **To such as keep His covenant and His testimonies.**

**P** For Your name's sake, O LORD, Pardon my iniquity, for it is great.

**C** Turn Yourself to me, and have mercy on me, For I am desolate and afflicted.

**P** The troubles of my heart have enlarged; Bring me out of my distresses!

**C** Look on my affliction and my pain, And forgive all my sins.

**P** Keep my soul, and deliver me;

**C** Let me not be ashamed, for I put my trust in You.

**P** Let integrity and uprightness preserve me,

**C** For I wait for You.

**C** Redeem Israel, O God, Out of all their troubles!

## Gospel Reading

*Matthew 13:24-30; 36-43 (EHV)*

**P** The Gospel reading is from Matthew 13:24-30; 36-43.

**C** Sanctify us by Your truth, O LORD. Your Word is truth!

*<sup>24</sup> He presented another parable to them: "The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field. <sup>25</sup> But while people were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and went away. <sup>26</sup> When the plants sprouted and produced heads of grain, the weeds also appeared. <sup>27</sup> The servants of the owner came and said to him, 'Sir, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where did the weeds come from?' <sup>28</sup> He said to them, 'An enemy did this.' The servants asked him, 'Do you want us to go and gather up the weeds?' <sup>29</sup> 'No,' he answered, 'because when you gather up the weeds, you might pull up the wheat along with them. <sup>30</sup> Let both grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, "First, gather up the weeds, bind them in bundles, and burn them. Then, gather the wheat into my barn."'"*

*... <sup>36</sup> Then Jesus sent the people away and went into the house. His disciples came to him and said, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds in the field."*

*<sup>37</sup> He answered them, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man. <sup>38</sup> The field is the world. The good seeds are the sons of the kingdom. The weeds are the sons of the Evil One. <sup>39</sup> The enemy who sowed them is the Devil. The harvest is the end of the world. The reapers are angels. <sup>40</sup> Therefore, just as the weeds are gathered up and burned with fire, so it will be at the end of the world. <sup>41</sup> The Son of Man will send out his angels, and*

**they will pull out of his kingdom everything that causes sin and those who continue to break the law.<sup>42</sup> The angels will throw them into the fiery furnace where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.<sup>43</sup> Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Whoever has ears to hear, let him hear.**

**P** Here ends our Scripture readings.

**“Eternal Are Thy Mercies, Lord”** *LSB 816 v. 2*

2 E - ter - nal are Thy mer - cies, Lord; E - ter - nal truth at -

tends Thy Word. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Thy praise shall sound from shore to shore Till suns shall rise and

set no more. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748  
Tune: Geistliche Kirchengesäng, 1623, Köln  
Text and tune: Public domain

**Nicene Creed** *We boldly confess what we believe.*

*LSB 206*

**C** I believe in one God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of His Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God,  
begotten, not made,  
being of one substance with the Father,  
by whom all things were made;**

who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven  
 and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary  
 and was made man;  
 and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.  
 He suffered and was buried.  
 And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures  
 and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father.  
 And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,  
 whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life,  
 who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
 who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,  
 who spoke by the prophets.  
 And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,  
 I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,  
 and I look for the resurrection of the dead  
 and the life of the world to come. Amen.

### **Hymn of the Day: 615 *When in the Hour of Deepest Need***

LSB 615



1 When in the hour of deep - est need We know not  
 2 Then is our com - fort this a - lone That we may  
 3 For You have prom - ised, Lord, to heed Your chil - dren's  
 4 And so we come, O God, to - day And all our

where to look for aid; When days and nights of  
 meet be - fore Your throne; To You, O faith - ful  
 cries in time of need Through Him whose name a -  
 woes be - fore You lay; For sore - ly tried, cast

anx - ious thought No help or coun - sel yet have brought,  
 God, we cry For res - cue in our mis - er - y.  
 lone is great, Our Sav - ior and our ad - vo - cate.  
 down, we stand, Per - plexed by fears on ev - 'ry hand.

*(hymn continues on next page ->)*

**5. O from our sins, Lord, turn Your face; Absolve us through Your boundless grace.  
Be with us in our anguish still; Free us at last from ev'ry ill.**

**6. So we with all our hearts each day To You our glad thanksgiving pay,  
Then walk obedient to Your Word, And now and ever praise You, Lord.**

Text: Paul Eber, 1511–69; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.  
Tune: Louis Bourgeois, c. 1510–61  
Text and tune: Public domain

### **Sermon Text: Romans 8:26-27 (EHV)**

<sup>26</sup> In the same way the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we should pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that are not expressed in words. <sup>27</sup> And he who searches our hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints, according to God's will.

### **Sermon Theme: When You Don't Know What to Say, Pray!**

✝ Can you think of a time when you didn't know what to say in a given situation?

How do you feel when this happens? Helpless? Frustrated?

✝ What two important promises does our text remind us of when we don't know what to say to God?

**1. The Spirit... (v. 26)**

**2. The Spirit... (v. 27)**



## Offertory

LSB 956



Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new  
a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way  
from Thy pres - ence; and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it  
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va - tion;  
and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

Public domain

**Offering** *We offer our gifts to the Lord, remembering that He has first given to us that we might have to give to Him.*  
(† *If you have an offering to give today, please place it in the plate in the church entryway.* †)

**Prayer of the Church / Prayer Requests** *We bring our prayers to God.*

## Lord's Prayer

- ☐ Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name,  
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven;  
give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

***1. In holy conversation We speak to God in prayer,  
And at His invitation Our deepest thoughts we share.  
We come, His will obeying, As children bringing needs;  
And to support our praying, His Spirit intercedes.***

***2. These holy conversations Begin in childlike ways;  
We bring our supplications And words of thanks and praise.  
With care our Father listens To ev'ry thought expressed,  
Then answers our petitions In ways He knows are best.***

***3. As holy conversation, In silence or by word,  
In ev'ry situation Through Jesus, we are heard.  
So let us pray securely, Expressing hopes and fears  
With confidence that surely Our Father ever hears.***

Text: Gregory J. Wismar, 1946

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## **Service of the Sacrament**

*Now we approach the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper in which Jesus comes to bless us with His very body and blood.  
We move toward the Sacrament with prayers of thanksgiving and songs of adoration.*

### **The Words of Institution**

*The words spoken by Jesus the night He instituted the Lord's Supper, by which our Lord assured to His Church the real presence of His body and blood in the Sacrament.*

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always!

**C** Amen.

### **Prayer Before the Lord's Supper**

*Adapted from The Lutheran Hymnal, p. 4*

**C** Dear Savior, upon Your gracious invitation I come to Your altar.  
Let me find favor in Your eyes that I may approach Your table in true faith  
and receive the Lord's Supper for the forgiveness of my sins and the  
strengthening of my faith. Amen

## Hymn of Preparation

### “Feed Thy Children, God Most Holy”

LSB 774

Feed Thy chil - dren, God most ho - ly; Com - fort sin - ners  
poor and low - ly. O Thou Bread of Life from heav-en, Bless the  
food Thou here hast giv - en! As these gifts the bod-y nour - ish,  
May our souls in grac - es flour - ish Till with saints in  
heav'n - ly splen - dor At Thy feast due thanks we ren - der.

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941

Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598–1662

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Tune: Public domain

## The Distribution

Note to our Guests: We are so glad you are worshiping with us this morning. The Word of God treats the Lord's Supper with great care. The Word of God considers the Lord's Supper to be a wonderful Means of Grace – a way in which Christ forgives and blesses. It is also considered an opportunity for congregations to express unity and oneness (1 Corinthians 10:16-17) – that is, to say to the world “This is what we believe!” But God's Word also warns against taking the Sacrament to our judgment (1 Corinthians 11:27-30). For these reasons our congregation asks that you fully understand our teachings before partaking. We respectfully ask that those who have joined this congregation through public confession of faith, or who are members of another congregation of the Church of the Lutheran Confession (CLC) approach the altar at the usher's direction. Speak to our pastor anytime and he will be glad to provide the information you would need – and want. We look forward to communing together, Lord willing, in the future.

## Prayer After the Lord's Supper

*Adapted from The Lutheran Hymnal, p. 4*

**C** O blessed Savior, Jesus Christ, You have given Yourself to me in this holy Sacrament, keep me in Your faith and favor. As You live in me, let me also live in You. May Your body and blood preserve me in the true faith unto everlasting life! Amen.

**P** Go in peace. Serve the Lord with gladness!

## The Thanksgiving

**"My Heart Has Now Become Thy Dwelling"**

*LSB 619 v. 5*

5 My heart has now be - come Thy dwell - ing, O bless - ed,  
ho - ly Trin - i - ty. With an - gels I, Thy  
prais - es tell - ing, Shall live in joy e - ter - nal - ly.  
*Refrain*  
Lord, may Thy bod - y and Thy blood Be for my soul the high - est good!

Text: Friedrich Christian Heyder, 1677–1754; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, abr.

Tune: Emskirchner Choral-Buch, 1756, Leipzig

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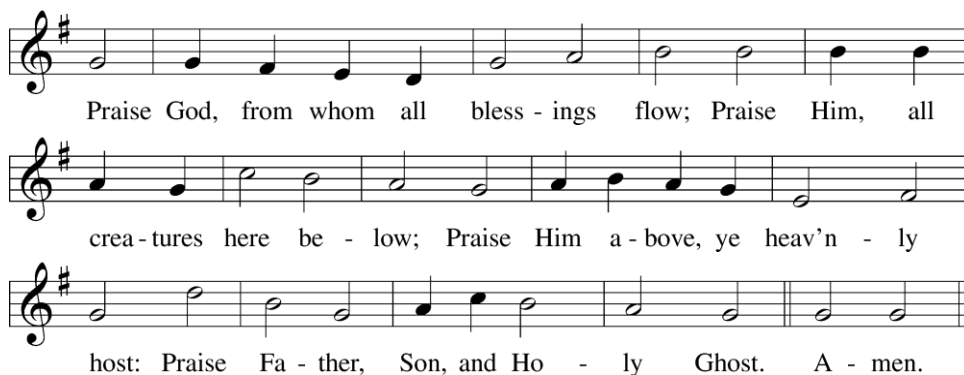
Tune: Public domain

**Benediction** *The blessing given by God for the blessing of His people (Numbers 6:24-26).*

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.

## The Doxology

LSB 805



Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise Him, all  
crea - tures here be - low; Praise Him a - bove, ye heav'n - ly  
host: Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

Public domain

## Closing Hymn: 770 *What A Friend We Have in Jesus*

LSB 770



1 What a friend we have in Je - sus, All our sins and griefs to bear!  
2 Have we tri - als and temp-ta-tions? Is there trou-ble an - y-where?  
3 Are we weak and heav - y lad - en, Cum - bered with a load of care?

What a priv - i - lege to car - ry Ev - 'ry-thing to God in prayer!  
We should nev - er be dis-cour-aged— Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Pre - cious Sav - ior, still our ref - uge— Take it to the Lord in prayer.

Oh, what peace we of - ten for - feit; Oh, what need-less pain we bear—  
Can we find a friend so faith - ful Who will all our sor-rows share?  
Do thy friends de-spi-se, for-sake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer.

All be - cause we do not car - ry Ev - 'ry-thing to God in prayer!  
Je - sus knows our ev - 'ry weak-ness— Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
In His arms He'll take and shield thee; Thou wilt find a sol-ace there.

Text: Joseph M. Scriven, 1819–86  
Tune: Charles C. Converse, 1832–1918  
Text and tune: Public domain

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today: **St. Stephen – West (Mt. View): Worship – 10am**

**St. Stephen – East Bay (Hayward): Worship – 1pm**

**St. Stephen – South (Ontario): Worship and Bible Study-6:30pm**

This Week: Tuesday – **Sacramento Worship Service** (rescheduled) – **4pm**

(Stockton Worship rescheduled for Tues. Aug. 29<sup>th</sup>)

Wednesday – **Board of Education Meeting** (Mt. View) (Zoom) – **6pm**

Thurs. – Sat. – **SSLS School Storage Room & Classroom Re-Organization**

Next Sunday: **St. Stephen – West (Mt. View): Bible Study – 9am**

8/13/23

**Worship – 10am**

**Women's Auxiliary Meeting – 11:15am**

**St. Stephen – East Bay (Hayward): Worship – 1pm**

**Bible Study – 2pm**

**Online Worship Services - <https://www.sslcwest.org/worship.html>**

### **Coming Up:**

**-Education Sunday / Installation of Teacher Isaac Schmitt / Reception – Sun. 8/20**

**-Joint Mission Festival Worship & Fellowship Meal/Mission Presentation – 8/27**

**Southern California Worship and Bible Study – TONIGHT Sun. 8/6 @ 6:30pm**

Our Southern California Worship Service and Bible Study will be held **TONIGHT Sunday, August 6th @ 6:30pm**. We will be meeting in the conference room at Kevin Fossum's workplace. The location is near the Ontario airport. Here is the address:

**Total Transportation & Distribution**

**9278 Charles Smith Ave.**

**Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730**

### **School Storage Room & Classroom Reorganization – Thurs. 8/10 – Sat. 8/12 –**

We are looking for volunteers to help our teachers clean out and reorganize the school storage room and do some classroom and library rearranging.

Moving stuff in and out of the closet will obviously require physical labor, but the sorting and consolidating doesn't need to involve lifting and can be done sitting down.

We will spread the work out over 3 days (**Thurs. 8/10 – Sat. 8/12**) to make it easier for people to drop by without schedule conflicts and will make the job less overwhelming.

At least one of the school staff will be there from 11am-6pm all three days working on this and/or other school stuff. People can come by at whatever times or days work for them and only stay for as long as they feel like. Thank you for your help and support of our school! - The SSLS Staff



Dear St. Stephen Members and Friends,

You are invited to join us on **Sunday, August 20<sup>th</sup>** for a special worship service and celebration at St. Stephen-West in Mountain View! Please join us as we welcome our new teacher, Isaac Schmitt, and celebrate the recent marriage of our teachers, Mikkela and Isaac Schmitt.

**Sunday, August 20<sup>th</sup>**

✝ **10am -Education Sunday Worship Service  
w/ Installation of Teacher Isaac Schmitt**

✝ **11:15am - Reception for Isaac & Mikkela**  
(Fellowship Hall)

Please RSVP so we know approximately how many to plan for - **Leslie Horrillo (408) 891-3325**

Hope to see you then!

**Myanmar** (Southeast Asia) – Pastor Kham recently sent a sad and troubling report that after eight days of ground combat between the Myanmar military and People's Defense Force (PDF), two villages in Chin State, the military Junta sent in bomber and fighter jets carpet bombed several villages in the area. Many houses of CLC-Myanmar members have been burned, damaged, or destroyed. These families have left their home villages in search of safety and shelter. This has also caused many conflicts between tribes as they blame each other for the harsh treatment they receive from the Junta. On top of this, the Military Junta has [dissolved all political parties](#) and recently announced that they have [postponed the August 2023 elections](#) they have been promising since they took over the country by force in [February of 2021](#). **Continue to Pray** for justice and peace for all the people of Myanmar. **Pray** especially for our brothers and sisters in Christ that our Savior will give them strength, comfort, courage, and boldness during these difficult times and that He will provide for all their needs. **Thank the Lord** for moving the hearts of His children to give generously to the needs of others through their offerings and prayers.

**CLC Mission Helper [Trip to Nepal](#)** (Southeast Asia) – The 2023 CLC Mission Helpers to Nepal returned home safely on July 14th. While in Nepal, they had the privilege of working alongside pastors and leaders of the Himalayan Church of the Lutheran Confession of Nepal (HCLCN) to teach the Good News of Jesus to nearly 1,500 children. **Thank the Lord** for giving the love, compassion, patience, wisdom, and safety to the Mission Helpers that was necessary to speak the truth of His love to so many children. **Pray** for the pastors and church leaders of the HCLCN who continue to labor daily among the sheep of our Savior Nepali flock.

**The Philippines** (Southeast Asia) – [Typhoon Doksuri](#) recently hit the Philippines. Pastor Palangyos reports that those he serves are safe as they continue to assess and repair damaged homes and property. Pastor Andrew Schaller (CLC Bd of Doctrine Secretary) continues the colloquy with Pastor Jordan Palangyos and the Lutheran Autonomous Mission in the Philippines (LAMP) via email correspondence. **Thank the Lord** for keeping the sheep of His LAMP flock safe, and ask for His love, provision, and mercy as they rebuild. **Pray** that the Lord will bless the colloquy and that this will lead to a God-pleasing unity of faith and teaching. **Ask the Lord** to provide opportunities and all that is necessary for Pastor Jordan to continue to proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ!

**Pakistan** – Pastor Tim Daub continues to teach online video Bible lessons to two groups of Christians who are eager to start a Lutheran church in Pakistan. The Board of Missions has authorized Missionary Ohlmann to accompany Pastor Daub on a visit to Pakistan in early 2024. **Pray that the Lord will continue to bless** the teaching and learning of His word.

**Thank our Savior** for this opportunity and the technology to proclaim the truth of His word in such a way.



**Uganda** (East Africa) – Through individual sponsors, [Kinship](#) has begun to provide support for the orphans and children in need that Pastor Daniel Mugeni and his wife Ida care for. **Thank the Lord** for this opportunity to serve Him by serving these orphans and children in need. **Pray for** the Lord's provision and blessings that these children may continue to be brought up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

**India** (Southeast Asia) – Immanuel Lutheran Seminary of the Church of the Lutheran Confession (CLCI) graduated seventeen men on June 15<sup>th</sup>. [These graduates](#) have all successfully completed four years of Biblical seminary training. They will be assigned to both newly established and existing CLCI congregations. Seventeen students graduate from the seminary each year; most go on to serve new congregations. Kinship sponsorship allows these men to continue supporting their families while at the seminary. **Thank the Lord** for these new, faithful, and well-trained pastors, and **ask the Lord to bless** their preaching and teaching of His saving Word.

**Kenya** (East Africa) – The CLC Bd of Missions (BoM) recently sent MDF Grant funds to assist with much-needed classroom repairs and new building construction at the Kinship-supported schools in Etago and Moi's Bridge. Construction is almost complete, and the buildings are already being put to good use. Pastors Mike Gurath and Del Maas, along with Ted Quade (Kinship Christian School Instructor Supervisor and Kinship Chairman), are planning visits to Kenya in the not-to-distant future. **Give thanks to the Lord** for the privilege of assisting our brothers and sisters in Christ in training so many young souls through the two schools. **Pray for the Lord's continued blessings** upon the teachers, students, and staffs of St. David's Kinship School and Emmaus Millimani School as they grow in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. **Ask the Lord** to bless the trip preparations for Pastors Gurath and Maas.

**Missionary Bruce Naumann** (Tanzania-East Africa) – Missionary Naumann has been on furlough in the U.S. for the past few weeks. His wife Paula will accompany him when he returns to Tanzania on August 20<sup>th</sup>. The new semester at the Wittenberg Lutheran Theological Seminary will begin soon after his arrival. While in the States, he has been blessed to visit family and a new grandchild and to preach/present at a few CLC congregations. You can keep updated on things happening in Tanzania at: [clc-tz.blogspot.com](http://clc-tz.blogspot.com) **Ask for the Lord's blessings** and safe travels for Missionary Naumann and Paula as they make their way to Tanzania in August and that the Lord will continue to bless the work of training pastors, teachers, and leader in Tanzania.

**Missionary Peter Evensen** (Togo-West Africa) – Missionary Evensen recently returned to Togo following a one-month furlough in the States. He will be making plans to coordinate a visit to the D.R. Congo with Missionary Ohlmann in early 2024. **Thank the Lord** for his safe travel back to Togo and **ask for our Savior's blessings** on his work of helping to train faithful preachers, teachers, and leaders for the Gospel work in Togo and other French-speaking African nations.

**Missionary Ohlmann** – is scheduled to be working overseas most of October, November, and December with visits to West, Central, and East Africa. He is also making plans to visit Thailand and Laos in early November. **Pray for** all that is necessary for these trips to be planned and take place. **Ask for the Lord's** blessing on the D.R. Congo visa application and approval process again this year. **Ask the Lord** to keep his wife Beth and their family safe while he is away. **Pray for** the Lord's love, wisdom, patience, and zeal during these visits that His name be glorified as the truth of His saving word is proclaimed, and pastors are trained. You can read his blog at: [missionaryohlmann.blogspot.com](http://missionaryohlmann.blogspot.com)

**Ongoing Opportunities** – **please continue to pray** for all of our brothers and sisters in Christ around the world, who, by God's grace, are dedicated to proclaiming the truths of God's saving word for the salvation of souls as they trust the promise of our Savior that His Word will not return to Him void but will accomplish that for which He sent it.

*That Your way may be known on earth, Your salvation among all nations. Psalm 67:2*