

# Musings from Matongo

## Rev. Dr. Walter & Robyn Steele

### Theological Educator & Nutrition Educator

### *Serving the Lord in East Africa*



January 2025

[SteelesInAfrica.com](http://SteelesInAfrica.com)

## The Philippines? Yes.



### Latest News

Walter will be presenting a paper on Worship and Witness for the Exegetical Symposium at the Fort Wayne Seminary on Wednesday, January 22.

Robyn has completed her first full quarter in the Fort Wayne Seminary deaconess program and will begin her residential quarter in January.

Since we will be traveling, please pray for safety in the air and on the winter roads in the USA.

We trust you had a blessed Christmas and we pray that 2025 will bring you many opportunities to share the Gospel with others.



To be added to or removed from this mailing list, send an email message to [Walter.Steele@lcms.org](mailto:Walter.Steele@lcms.org) with the word ADD or REMOVE in the subject line.



### *Leading a Discussion on Church Relations*

As soon as the semester ended at Matongo, Kenya, Walter traveled to The Republic of the Philippines to meet with the church leadership and with the faculty and students of Lutheran Theological Seminary, Baguio. While there, he preached and lead a Bible class at St. Stephen Lutheran Church and taught two classes at the seminary.

Our overseas partner churches are faced with many challenges. The Lutheran Church of the Philippines is dealing with the issue of the proper way in which to respond to membership in organizations which have drifted off course. They strongly desire to be faithful to Christ and his Word.

Walter was asked to lead a seminar addressing proper church relations, church fellowship, and being faithful as we Lutherans live among those whose understanding of the Gospel is, at the best, less-than-faithful.

Missionary work is not limited to one geographical location. The call extended to us, by you—the LCMS, is to the world. Much like the apostles and evangelists before us, we go where the Lord calls us. It was a joy for me to be there as we confessed our common faith together.

In Christ,

*Walter*

[Walter.Steele@lcms.org](mailto:Walter.Steele@lcms.org)

## A New Building for the Deaconess Students



Walter with Paul Nelson, LCMS Area Facilitator and President Antonio Reyes of the Lutheran Church of the Philippines

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod began work in the Philippines in 1946. The Lutheran Church in the Philippines (LCP) became an LCMS partner/sister church in 1971 and is a member of the International Lutheran Council. The LCP has over 23,000 baptized members in 190 congregations and preaching stations and a national staff of 301 pastors, evangelists, lay preachers and teachers. The church operates the Lutheran Theological Seminary in Baguio City, a preschool, six primary schools and a secondary school. In addition, the church is involved in Bible translation work and media work in cooperation with Lutheran Hour Ministries.



*As soon as the semester ended, construction began on a new building, funded by The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, to serve the growing deaconess student population at the Matongo Seminary.*

*This new building will house a Home Economics laboratory, which will better facilitate the teaching of nutrition, sewing, and embroidery. In addition, it will give the campus an additional classroom—one specifically set aside for the deaconesses. This is a welcome addition.*

*Not shown is another construction project—a new eight-room deaconess dormitory to meet the needs of our increasing enrollment.*

*We are looking forward to the return of our students later this month. Please pray for them, as, for many of these ladies, the trip to Matongo is long and dangerous.*

*In Christ's care,*

*Robyn*

Robyn.Steele@lcms.org

Remember, you can help us continue to teach future church workers here in Africa by your prayers and financial support at:

**[www.lcms.org/Steele](http://www.lcms.org/Steele)**

Or at the **world-famous Mission Central**

**MISSION CENTRAL**

**40718 Highway E-16**

**Mapleton IA 51034**



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](http://lcms.org/service). Click on "Service Opportunities."

To support the LCMS through the work of Walter & Robyn Steele, you may send a tax-deductible gift to:

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod  
P.O. Box 66861  
St. Louis, MO 63166-6861

Make checks payable to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. Mark checks "Support of Walter & Robyn Steele." Gifts can also be given securely online through the LCMS website, on my online giving page at [lcms.org/Steele](http://lcms.org/Steele).