

Comments on Our Savior's Oconomowoc 2023 Delegation trip.

Overall

Our Savior's partners with Kikatiti and Kitefu Parishes in the Southern District

Six travelers with five on their first trip.

Excellent to have two members in their early/mid-twenties

Focused on building relationships and ministry

16th year of active partnership and 6th OSLC delegation trip

Added Kitefu Parish as partner about 18 months ago.

Signed partnership covenant at celebration ceremony

We each stayed with two host families - one from each parish

Made typical education, medical, coffee, diocese visits

Two celebrations of legacy gift projects

Sundays were very busy – Sunday afternoon home visits are powerful

Two partnership visits in one trip - made for full and busy days

Pastoral connection with female pastor/support

Smooth traveling

Ethiopian Airlines worked well

On time flights, Addis Ababa Airport remodeled nicely, & lower cost

Daytime arrival & departure is especially good for our hosts

Online visa and yellow fever waiver (over 60 yrs) both worked well

App for US costume - upload passport, etc - made entry very quick and easy.

Helps to have completed data info before departure.

General comments about Kikatiti & Kitefu

Membership growing

Combined total of 8 preaching points

Total of 16 worship services each Sunday with first service starting at 6 am

Three pastors and eight evangelists have a heavy load and getting 50-70% pay

Crops are very poor again especially in Kitefu Parish

In Summary

Our relationship and cultural understanding continues to mature - openness, trust, and the joy of being together. Witnessing the tireless good work of the church to bring healing, care, and hope is inspiring. Seeing the challenges and devastating impact of climate change, hunger, and poverty is sobering