



LATEST NEWS

- During the Christmas break Robyn and Walter traveled to Nairobi for a needed break and a special meeting.
- We enjoyed Christmas Eve service at the cathedral church in Kisumu, joining the local community to celebrate our Saviour's birth.
- Walter traveled to Shinyanga, Tanzania in January to teach. See the article on this page.
- While in Shinyanga, he met with the Diocesan leadership for intense discussions about the new seminary.
- We ask your prayers for Walter as he leads a Partners' Council, coordinating LCMS efforts to support this work.
- Robyn worked steadily, keeping up her professional qualifications while he was gone. He was gone, so she got it done!



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

Teaching in Tanzania



BIBLE TEACHING AT TANZANIA TRAINING CENTRE

During the Christmas break, Walter taught 43 students of the Southeast of Lake Victoria Diocese, in Tanzania. Over several weeks, he lectured on the Five Books of Moses and on Isaiah, Jeremiah and Ezekiel. The courses are part of a series of classes training pastors and deaconesses in Bible, theology and practical ministry. This programme is in conjunction with Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Indiana.

The challenge of teaching this cohort of students was that all instruction was in Swahili. So, with the assistance of a translator, and with what language knowledge he has, he engaged the students in the Word of God. They learned the books and they learned how to see Jesus in the Old Testament!

The Bishop Makala Training Centre, where he taught, is about an hour's drive from the town of Shinyanga in the northwest part of Tanzania. Walter had to fly to the city of Mwanza, on the shores of Lake Victoria, via Nairobi, Kenya and Arusha, Tanzania, which is close to the base of Mount Kilimanjaro.

While in the region, Walter visited a site for the construction of a new seminary in Tanzania, tentatively named Shinyanga Lutheran Seminary. He also visited a children's home for albino children—a very needy group in the country. See a story about that visit on the next page.



Students gathered with Dr. Steele after the course



DEEP THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION

During the Fall semester, Walter has been assisting in a new programme providing advanced theological education for African pastors. These men are studying so that they might earn a Master of Arts in Theology from our Saint Louis Seminary.

Most of the courses are online, with Walter and two other missionaries tutoring alongside. But in January, the men met in-person with Dr. Joel Elowsky in Nairobi. It is a joy to work with these men at this level of teaching.

MINISTRY TO ALBINO CHILDREN IN TANZANIA



Ancient superstitions die hard. Albino people in Tanzania are socially alienated and discriminated against. Some have even been killed, with their body parts used in pagan rituals.

The Lutheran Church stands against this sin. In response to the need, the Shinyanga Diocese has, with assistance from LCMS, built a children's home in Mwadui to care for and to educate these children. The home is on the grounds of the church-sponsored secondary school, so to adulthood, these children receive loving Christian care. The children live in groups of 16 in a home-like environment, with a house mother. During school breaks, the children are reconnected with their biological families.

While in Tanzania, Walter toured both the home and the schools. It is a joy to partner with fellow Lutherans who demonstrate the love of Christ in such a concrete way.

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

lcms.org/givenow/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. 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.