

**SEEKING MISSIONARIES**

Over my 13 years serving as a missionary, we've seen many wonderful missionaries come and go throughout our Africa region. Some joined us for a short season, others stayed longer, and all eventually returned to the States for various reasons. Because of this natural ebb and flow, our missionary team here is quite small. While a small team brings the gift of closeness and strong relationships, it also means the work is great and the laborers are few.

To help strengthen our team, we are launching a mission recruitment campaign for the Africa region. If you—or someone you know—might be interested in serving overseas as a missionary, please reach out to Rev. Mark Rabe at the LCMS main office in St. Louis. You can contact him at [mark.rabe@lcms.org](mailto:mark.rabe@lcms.org).



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

**Mission Formation Team**

The LCMS has launched Mission Formation teams to give people a hands-on introduction to mission service. These short-term groups are made up of individuals who feel called to explore serving overseas and want to learn more. Their time in the field allows them to see ministry up close and gain a realistic picture of what long-term mission work entails.

This past week, I had the privilege of leading the very first Mission Formation team for Africa here in Kenya. We visited several of our partner ministries, including the Lutheran seminary, three Project 24 sites, and a rural congregation out in the village. The team also joined in home visits with families in the communities of Kiriti and Kibera.

It was a meaningful week for everyone involved. The team got to experience the work firsthand—along with the travel, the food, the culture, and the warm hospitality of the Kenyan people. Our prayer is that God will continue to guide them, and if it is His will, stir in them a desire to serve overseas and be part of His mission in the world.





#### PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- New missionaries to enter the four LCMS regions
- Britt's mom who is in hospice care

#### GIVE THANKS FOR:

- For the safe travels of our first Mission Formation Team in Kenya
- Rael and Silas's first swimming competition and their friends who cheered them on

#### PRAISE GOD FOR:

- The many congregations and individuals who pray for us, encourage and support us

# Old Stomping Grounds



I recently had the joy of taking our Mission Formation team to the very first ministry I served with in Kenya. My work here began in 2013 at Karama Academy, in partnership with Springs of Life Lutheran Church in Kibera.

Serving in Africa's largest informal settlement came with its challenges, but I was blessed with a wonderful team of local teachers who encouraged me, taught me new ways to care for our students, and helped shape my early years in mission

work. I'm still so grateful for that season and all I learned from them.

While my work has since shifted to other ministries and I don't visit Karama as often, every time I return I'm reminded of how far the school has come since those early days. It's always a joy to see the growth and the impact God continues to bring through this ministry.

*Thank you for your love and support over the years. We are thankful for each and every one of you.*

*May God continue to bless you and keep you.*

*In His Grip,*

*Britt, Micah, Rael and Silas*



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

Prayerfully consider partnering with the LCMS to support the work of Britt Odemba. Make checks payable to:

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

Mission Central  
40718 Highway E 16  
Mapleton, IA 51034

On the memo line include *Odemba - Kenya*

Give securely from any device: [lcms.org/odemba](https://lcms.org/odemba)

Call a donor care representative: 888-930-4438