SERVING THE LORD IN NAIROBI, KENYA NEWS FROM THE ODEMBA FAMILY





Pastor Isaiah Obare officiating the Easter Service at Uhuru Lutheran Cathedral in Nairobi (photo courtesy of Shara Osiro)

WORSHIP AROUND THE WORLD

Have you ever wondered what a church service is like here in Kenya? Well, there are actually a variety services which you will find within the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Kenya. Just like in America, each parish has a different style of worship. The church that my family attends is very similar to a traditional Lutheran service in America. We use the Lutheran Service Book and the hymns we sing are accompanied by an organ. Once in awhile the Kenyan choir will sing a song that is more traditional to the Kenyan culture and sung in the Swahili language.

What remains the same in all of these services are a confession of common faith, confession of sins, absolution, a law and Gospel sermon and prayers.

What always amazes me is how people of all tribes and nations can come together to worship the one and only true God.



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New Smiling Faces



A group photo of the new students on their arrival at the new Project 24 site in Lurambi. Below: The girls standing in their new dormitory. (photos courtesy of Hillary Omodhi)

We have anticipated this moment for over a year now, when a new group of students would arrive for a new school year.

The construction of our newest Project 24 children's boarding facility began last year. Throughout the year, prayers were raised for both the project and for the new students who would be blessed by this program.

The day is now here when the 25 students entered the new site, the place they will call home as they go to a neighboring school nearby. When they are not in session, they will return home to their families, who will eagerly be waiting to see them and hear how they have been taken care of by the church and site staff.

Our hope is that the children will also share what they have learned

about their loving Savior with their families and be young witnesses to those who remain at their homestead.

Through this amazing mercy work, these children not only receive a good education but experience God's love for them through their daily interactions with the Project 24 staff and church workers. May they share these experiences with others.





PLEASE PRAY FOR:

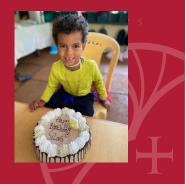
- our upcoming travels to the states (mid-July -Sept)
- the Project 24 students who have begun a new school year
- The new students at P24 Lurambi, that they will transition well and bond as a new family

GIVE THANKS FOR:

- Silas's 5th birthday, for my family's health and growth
- the Project 24 students who finished well on their national exams

PRAISE GOD FOR:

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



Advanced Trauma Competent Care



Ann Smith, alongside another presenter, talking to the attendees about caring for those who have been through trauma. Afterward, we received certificates for participating.

At the end of March, I was able to participate in a three day conference on caring for children who have suffered some form of trauma. It is very common here in Kenya for children to have gone through some significant hardships within the first 10 years of life.

As someone who works with these children it is important for me to understand how trauma can

We look forward to seeing you all during our home service this summer. We will be posting a schedule very soon so you can be sure to see us in person for hugs, laughs and wonderful talks.

Love from Kenya,

Britt, Micah, Rael and Silas

affect a child's behavior and eventually their future. As a caregiver, what are some ways that I can help the children see that they are important in God's eyes? How can I make them feel valued once again?

This conference helped open my eyes to new ideas and tactics to help such children. Over 100 attendees participated in

this special conference. My hope and prayer is that through this training each one of us is better prepared to recognize and provide support and care for that one child in need, so that the child moves on from the trauma and comes to know that they are loved by their Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.







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