

Me? A Missionary?



Career missionary Rev. Shauen Trump (right) facilitated partners running a VBS program on the south coast of Kenya at two sites where the Gospel was shared with 500 children.



GEO missionary Lynette Lierman engages children at a Summer English Camp offered through The Lutheran Church—Hong Kong Synod, an LCMS partner church.

A missionary for The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod is a person called, that is, ordained or commissioned, or appointed (medical personnel, business, administrative, or other worker) by the appropriate sending agency (the Board for International Mission) who is sent to bear Witness (Martyría) to the Gospel of Jesus, to show Mercy (Diakonía), or to support those who do as we have a Life Together (Koinōnía).



Short-term team members from Church of All Nations in Hong Kong, an LCMS congregation, teach Bible stories and sing songs with students at a United Nations Karen Refugee Camp in north Thailand.



LCMS and partner church missionaries work together on global Lutheran mission teams — including Rev. Ed (far right) and Cherie (far left) Auger of the LCMS who serve on Grand Cayman Island, and Rev. Gustavo and Rosana Lavia and children of the partner church in Argentina who serve in Spain.

Yes, You! If not you, then *who?*

“For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them” (Eph. 2:10).



The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
Office of International Mission
Global Service Opportunities

Mercy Medical Team Volunteer



Name: Sharon Thomas

Locations of Service: Haiti, Indonesia, Kenya & Madagascar

Vocation: Nurse

Bible Verse: “Trust in the Lord with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths” (Prov. 3:5).

Hobbies: photography, golf, public speaking and mission volunteer work

Person who encouraged service: A mission speaker I heard when I was 12 years old (and later my friend invited me to join a team with her and her husband)

How has God prepared you to serve?

God has prepared me to serve by leading me into my current profession and giving me a passion for those in need. Whether in my nursing profession, or in the mission field, I have always felt His leading in my work. Acts 1:8 gives me the power to do what I know I could never do alone, “But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

I think that some of the places I have been could be described as “the ends of the earth!” I have been in situations in Haiti, Indonesia, Kenya and Madagascar and have learned that God cares about all people, no matter where you live.



Sharon Thomas provides medical care for a patient in Kenya on a recent Mercy Medical Trip.

1 - 2 weeks

Short-term Team Missionary



Name: Ethan Volzke (left)

Location of Service: Poland

Vocation: Student at Concordia University Nebraska

Who encouraged you to serve as a missionary?

Greg and Peg Volzke (parents), Louisa Mehl (friend), Aarin Fellows (friend), Jennifer Prophete (friend)

How did God prepare you to serve?

I feel that God prepared me to serve over many years. He put people in my life who taught me about the love of Christ and gave me a desire to share it with others. I was also challenged by friends and family to not be complacent with my faith, and put it into action. My friend, Aarin, would always tell me to do hard things, and “don’t get comfortable.”

How does/did your service connect to the proclamation of the Gospel?

I served in Poland this last summer. During the trip, our team shared the Gospel of Jesus Christ with 35 Polish children at a weeklong camp. My prayer is that they in turn had an effect on their parents, and that the Gospel would spread through them.

I personally had the privilege of sharing the Gospel with three boys who were at the camp. It wasn’t exactly with my words all the time since I don’t speak Polish, but your actions can often proclaim the love of Christ. I felt helpless sometimes because I wanted to tell them about Jesus, but they could not understand what I was saying. I had to rely on God since I couldn’t do it myself.

At the end of the week I got to write each of them a letter explaining the reason for my being there. I made sure that the Gospel was very clear in those letters. I wrote out Bible verses in Polish for them using my iPod, and hoped that someone would interpret the rest of the letters. I pray for them often and trust that the Gospel will do its work in their lives.

What is a fun fact we don’t know about you?

I have flown over the ocean, but have never been to it.

2 weeks - 6 months

For you

- Pray for God’s guidance.
- Talk with your pastor about your interest.
- Search our website for opportunities.
- Contact us with any questions.
- Send an application.
- Keep praying about serving God internationally!



Globally Engaged in Outreach (GEO) Missionaries



Name: Allen and Shirley Piepenbrink

Location of Service: Hong Kong

Vocation: Teachers

Who encouraged you to serve as a missionary?

We actually encouraged each other. We have been doing short-term (one to three weeks) trips with members of our home congregation since 1995. We have led most of those trips.

How did God prepare you to serve?

In 1995, Rev. Scott Benjamin invited us along with several others to travel to St. Petersburg, Russia, to talk to teachers about integrating the Word of God into their lessons. We also did a summer Bible camp with students.

Since then, we have traveled to many different places as God leads us.

How does your service connect to the proclamation of the Gospel?

We are teaching in The Lutheran Church—Hong Kong Synod schools where we can talk about the Gospel on a daily basis. We lead Sunday school for younger students and have a Bible class for teens on a weekly basis.

What is a fun fact we don't know about you?

Allen has begun to play the guitar again as he leads songs during Sunday school. Allen has also been losing weight due to much walking and eating healthy food. Shirley is really enjoying the school setting here in Hong Kong. She loves being with kids.



Allen Piepenbrink shares Gospel truths and engages with students of The Lutheran Church—Hong Kong Synod primary schools. A majority of these students are not Christians.

1 - 2 years

Career Missionaries



Name: Rev. Jon and Julie Muhly and family

Locations of Service: Russia and Central Asia

Vocation: Pastor

Who encouraged you to serve as a missionary?

Rev. Rick Blythe. He was our supervisor when we were long-term volunteers (now GEOs) in Poland from 2000 to 2002. When we finished in 2002, we didn't anticipate returning to serve overseas again, but he encouraged us not to close that door.

How did God prepare you to serve?

The largest influence on our desire to serve as career

missionaries was our two years of living and serving in Cieszyn, Poland. We had the opportunity of a first-hand experience, to be exposed to the larger church, to be God's workers in His mission, but to also know that we would return back to the United States. Initially, after our return to the United States in 2002 for my beginning of seminary at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, we didn't think that we would return to the international mission field. But, after only a few months in America, we understood how we had changed in our two years in Poland, and more importantly, how God was calling us to serve internationally.

How does your service connect to the proclamation of the Gospel?

Jon's role as area facilitator is to equip and support the work of missionaries, local pastors, deacons, evangelists and laity in their efforts to proclaim the Gospel. Sometimes this is through supporting their projects and efforts to share Christ; sometimes it is to oversee the translation of materials and resources which better equip them to understand, know and articulate their faith; sometimes it involves organizing educational training (whether in formal seminaries or in Bible schools or even in informal events); sometimes it is to teach and train on Gospel proclamation himself.

What is a fun fact we don't know about you?

I [Jon] told my now-wife, Julie, on our first date that I was going to marry her!

Career

For someone you know

- Pray for and with anyone who is interested in mission.
- Encourage them by meeting on a regular basis.
- Connect them with LCMS mission information in the following ways:

Blogs <http://blog.lcmsworldmission.org>

Browse our family of blogs to stay connected with God's mission around the world. Subscribe to the RSS feed or email notification tool.

Facebook www.facebook.com/LCMSWorldMission

Become a fan of LCMS World Mission on Facebook to stay updated with our latest news.

YouTube www.youtube.com/lcmsworldmission

View brief ministry videos from the mission field. Subscribe to our YouTube channel to watch more than 30 videos from around the world.

Picasa <http://picasaweb.google.com/lcmsworldmission>

Visit our Picasa Web albums site to browse photos from the global mission field or download individual photos for use in your ministry.

Contact Information

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blog.lcmsworldmission.org



Contact us about...



Service from one week to six months

Jennifer Prophete
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Service from one year to career

Erin Alter
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Office of International Mission Global Service Opportunities

Country/Region	Position	Openings	Length of Service
Cambodia	Evangelist	3	2 years
Cambodia	Short-term Mission Team	3	10-14 days
Cambodia	Service Coordinator	1	1 year
China - CWEF	EFL Teacher—University	3	10 months
China - CWEF	Service Coordinator	1	18 months
Czech Republic	Relationship Builder through EFL	1	1 year
Eurasian country	Short-term Service Team	2	10-14 days
Eurasian country	EFL Teacher	3	2 years
NEW! Guinea	Relationship Builder through EFL	2	1 year
Haiti	Mercy Medical Team	1	7-10 days
Hong Kong	Relationship Builder through EFL	4	1 year
Hong Kong	Service Coordinator	1	2 years
NEW! Hong Kong - CWEF	Website Designer	1	1-4 weeks
NEW! Hong Kong - CWEF	Database Developer	1	1-4 weeks
Hong Kong	Short-term Mission Team	20	10-12 days
Hungary	EFL Teacher	1	1 year
Hungary	Service Coordinator	1	1 year
Hungary	Short-term Mission Team	7	10-12 days
India	Mercy Medical Team	1	7-10 days
Kenya	Mercy Medical Team	1	7-10 days
Kyrgyzstan	Home School Teacher	1	1 year
Kyrgyzstan	Medical Van Volunteer	4	2-3 weeks
Kyrgyzstan	Short-term Service Team	5	10-14 days
Macau	Service Coordinator	1	2 years
Macau	Relationship Builder through EFL	8	1 year
Macau	Relationship Builder through EFL	10	5 weeks
Macau	Short-term Mission Team	12	10-14 days
Madagascar	Mercy Medical Team	1	7-10 days
Poland	Short-term Mission Team	10	12 days
Slovakia	EFL Teacher—Elementary	1	1 year
Slovakia	EFL Teacher—High School	2	1 year
Slovakia	Short-term Mission Team	5	10-14 days
South Korea	Relationship Builder through EFL	2	1 year
South Korea	Short-term EFL Teacher	2	3 weeks
Taiwan	EFL Teacher—Elementary	6	10 months
Taiwan	EFL Teacher—High School	8	10 months
Taiwan	Short-term EFL Teacher	5	1-4 weeks
Vietnam	Relationship Builder through EFL	6	10 months
Vietnam	Short-term Service Team	5	7-10 days

* EFL is English as a Foreign Language
** Learn about LCMS Youth Servant Events at <http://servantevents.lcms.org>



Learn more about these opportunities

Search the LCMS online service opportunities database to view the numerous opportunities that are currently available at www.lcms.org/searchopps.

Career? International Education?

Learn more about career service opportunities and international educator opportunities and start your journey today in becoming a missionary of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod by applying online at www.lcms.org/service.



Witness (Martyria)



Mercy (Diakonia)



Life Together (Koinonia)