

## Lumembo & Kalangu Sept-Oct-2019 Newsletter



*But those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength.  
They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary,  
they will walk and not be faint. (Isaiah 40:31)*

### Sept.15, 2019: A new step on the Tshiswaka Ethiopia Mission

Thank you to all our Prayer & Donor Partners!



Family and friends prayer before heading to the airport on Saturday Sept. 14, 2019



Agnes and Pastor Lumembo accommodation in the seminary compound, Aira

### **To all our Prayer and Donors partners**

Words cannot express all that Kalangu and I wish to say to you after what you have contributed for this ministry to be successful. We are so overwhelmed and speechless that all we can manage to say right this minute is, thank you, thank you and thank you! Your involvement in the Ethiopian mission does make a difference. Your continuous prayers and support will be even more important as we are now in the field with so many challenges. You will be receiving regularly our newsletters on your emails that will give you updates on the Tshiswakas and God's mission in Ethiopia. God bless you richly!



The inculturation process already starts with Agnes wearing the Ethiopian traditional dress.





A view of prayer and supporters during the fund-raising dinner at St. Matthew.

Tshiswaka's family and friends posing in front of St Matthew Lutheran Church after the fundraising event last year



### **Our first week in Addis Ababa: Sept. 15-22, 2019**

We arrived in Addis Ababa on September 15, 2019 after a long flight with Lufthansa from Toronto via Frankfurt at around 9:26 pm. While the flight was pleasant all the way from Toronto, it took us another four hours at the Bole International Airport to get through the immigration checking and collecting our luggages. By the time we reach the Bethel Synod Guest House, it was already passed 1:00 am. Thanks to Pastor Tadese Disasa from the Onesimos Nesib Seminary, we were able to get the accommodations and start implementing our plans.

We thank God as during this first week, God has put on our ways Missionaries that have been working in Ethiopia for several years. Agnes and I had the opportunities to chat with them on various challenges that are awaiting us such as learning the basics of the Oromo language, dealing with people, food supplies, weather changes, teaching, the importance of support, ministering to Seminary Students.



Talking with Rev. Tadese Disasa in Addis Ababa at the Bethel Synod Guest House.



A street view of the main road in the City of Aira near the Seminary Campus

## What about challenges?

The challenges of the ONS are no different from those of other theological institutions in the African continent. They are: access to the site and disruption of the internet, lack of resources, students' scholarship. The ONS Library needs more books for students. St. Matthew Lutheran Church has donated 118 NIV Bibles for the Seminary that are still kept in Toronto as the cost to ship them to Aira is very high. We are still looking for the cheapest way to ship these Bibles.

From our own perspective, Kalangu and I have been experiencing among others the following challenges before our arrival: Frustrating delays while seeking support, waiting for visas, seeking the interviews with Ethiopian officials in Ottawa that never happened, misunderstanding of people of our cultural background from which we were seeking support, while at the same time having to fulfill the family responsibilities and demands.



ONS Library with approximately 5000 books.

## MINISTRY UPDATE

Since Sunday September 15, 2019, Agnes and I are in the field in Ethiopia, though not at our final destination, which is the seminary campus in Aira, Wellega, Western Ethiopia. This first week has been very busy as in order to get our work permit, the Authorities have asked us for an additional document that we had not been told about before our arrival. Contacts have been established with partners in Canada, hoping that by next week we will be able to get the document.

We also are very excited that we will be sharing with them our gifts and talents that the Lord had given to us through teaching and social ministry.

We have received encouragement and have thanked our Donors at the Church of St Matthew Lutheran, mentioning how GLO through its Director Dr. Jim Tino and Mission field Supervisor Dale Talsma did manage time and energy to help us get out from Toronto to join the Mission field. A big thank to Pastor Tadese Disasa of ONS who put all the energy and efforts to renovate the house and help us with all the administrative procedures for the visas and work permits.

We thank God for Pastor Derek Pillay who has never stopped to mentor me during this crucial preparation time and the late David Mothersill, a member of St Matthew Lutheran Church who donated 118 Bibles (NIV translation) that we still keep in Toronto and Sister Toini Rua who donated a laptop and a projector for the mission.

Our hope was to arrive in Aira before the beginning of the academic year in September 2018. This has been a long preparation for two years with opportunities and challenges. We thank God for all the help we received and the people He touched to make things happen.

### In brief: Events that happened to the Tshiswakas in 2019



Our Son Alex Tshiswaka graduated from Centennial College in Computer engineering



Our daughter Lubuya wedded to Pastor Nana Tieku in June 2019



Agnes and I celebrated our  
40th wedding anniversary at  
St Matthew Lutheran Church



## PRAYER REQUESTS

- Pray for the Onesimos Nesib Seminary Staff and Students as they are about to start this new academic started this month September 2019. Pray that they are protected, not only as they teach, but also as they minister to the Students
- Pray for the TSHISWAKAS as they await the work permit since their arrival a week ago that the Lord will open the hearts of the various authorities to grant them this important document that will allow them to extend their entry visas which expire September 30.
- Pray the Tshiswakas as they start their missionary work at ONS this September 2019 and their Donors to support them financially and prayerfully so that he may fulfill God's mission in Ethiopia.
- Pray for the ONS students and their families as they sacrifice to attend his classes. Pray their hearts and minds are open to what their Professors are teaching them

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	<p><b>Or in US:</b></p> <p><b>Make checks payable to:</b> Global Lutheran Outreach <i>Write "Lumembo" on the memo line.</i></p> <p><b>Mail checks to:</b> Global Lutheran Outreach 6709 Ficus Drive Miramar, FL 33023</p>