



# In Jars of Clay

## A GLObal Missionary Mobilization Newsletter

December 2013

Issue 6

*"But we have this treasure in jars of clay,  
to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us." 2 Cor 4:7*



### As God leads...

...we reach the end of another year!

We wish you all a

### Merry Christmas!

I recall a large billboard I once saw in Guatemala at this time of year:

**\_\_LIZ NAVIDAD**

**(Sin la FE  
no es FELIZ.)**

The play on words only works in Spanish, but it says that without faith (fe), Christmas is not truly happy (feliz). It may seem happy, but the real reason worth getting excited about is missing.

*But "how can they believe if they have not heard the message? And how can they hear if the message is not proclaimed?" (Rom 10:14)*

May your Christmas be celebrated first and foremost in worshipful gratitude to God who loved us so much to send his only Son.

And may we all this Christmas seek to carry forward the heaven-sent message

**"For unto you is born this day a Savior, who is Christ, the Lord!"**

*Dale, Cheryl and Jason Talsma*

## A LITTLE Christmas LOGIC

**If A:** "A voice called, "Call out!" ... "Go up a high mountain, Zion. Tell the good news!" ... "[announce.] 'Here is your God!'" (Is. 40:6-9 GW)

**and If B:** "How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces the good news, "All is well." He brings the good news, announces salvation!" (Is 52:7 GW)

**and If C:** "And how can the message be proclaimed if the messengers are not sent out?" (Rom 10:15 TEV)

### THEN WHAT?

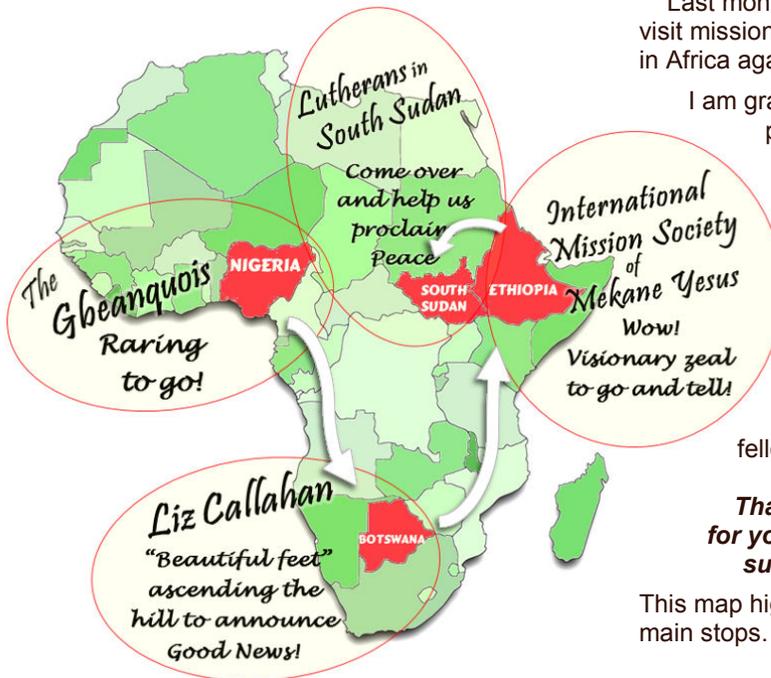
That "Silent Night" calls forth Rousing Messengers!

Not only "the herald angels" singing,  
but herald men and women bringing  
the Christmas message of Peace  
to everyone in every place.



**"from everywhere to everywhere"**

## Mission development around Africa



Last month I was able to visit missionaries and work in Africa again.

I am grateful for God's provision and protection during the travels (6 countries, 19 flights) and for the privilege to interact with so many mission-minded fellow Lutherans!

**Thank you for your prayer support.**

This map highlights the main stops.

(cont'd)



**REMEMBERING WHAT HE HAS TOLD US**

"This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him!"

(1 John 4:9)

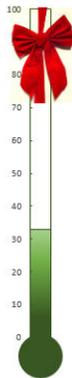
**Contentment**

(Phil 4:12)

I have to confess: God is faithful! He has never forsaken us. He has strengthened and upheld us "with his righteous right hand!"

And I have to thank you all who have been His instruments of grace to help supply our needs so I can continue to serve where He has led, helping mobilize Lutheran missionaries "from everywhere to everywhere."

As 2013 comes to a close, we have received about 1/3 of our target support. We are content with this gift—God's supply is always sufficient! (His supply comes also in other ways -- like health, guidance, scholarships, etc. -- that are not counted into the funding thermometer.)



And too, the year is not over yet -- who knows if God might still be moving others to support GLO and this ministry in 2013?

But as we enter 2014, and are praying for God's provision, we would like to ask you to consider supporting us from what God has entrusted to you. (Please don't subtract, though, your donation from other mission ministries -- in GLO we are hoping to EXPAND mission outreach!)

**To support the Talsmas in this mission:**

- \* Please include them in your prayers!
  - \* To contribute financially:  
Tax-deductible donations can be made through GLO's website or by mail. Checks can be mailed to:  
Global Lutheran Outreach,  
6709 Ficus Drive, Miramar, FL 33023.  
(Make check out to "Global Lutheran Outreach" with "Talsma" in the memo line.)
- To donate online, go to [www.globallutheranoutreach.com/Talsma](http://www.globallutheranoutreach.com/Talsma) and click the "Give" button. Automatic withdrawal is available.

**Asante! Sosongo! ¡Gracias! Thanks!**

**Mission development around Africa**

**The Gbeanquois: Raring to go!**

Dixon and Christiana had to change plans from their first mission location and are now awaiting God's further guidance. They are indeed raring to go, but in this time of patient waiting on the Lord, they continue to grow, pray and work on cross-cultural mission preparation.

*Pray with us for God's direction -- in God's time.*



**Liz taking her first steps**

Liz Callahan, an intern from Concordia Univ. Texas, arrived in Botswana in November to begin language learning (Setswana) and getting acquainted with people and culture. Liz will (most likely) be living and beginning her service in the town of Kanye, but is getting started in the capital city of Gaborone.

*Pray for Liz's adaptation and language learning and for God to bless her in a special way this Christmas spent far from home.*



Liz visiting the home of a couple (Lame and Ttsidi) with pastors Mosenogi and Phenyo near Lutheran church in Kanye.

**Ethiopian International Mission Society**

The Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus has grown from Lutheran missionary work from Europe over a century ago to more than 6 million members today. I met with Wondimu Mathewos, director of the International Mission Society within the church. With much success in evangelizing within Ethiopia, they now are moved by God's Spirit to look to the nations (especially neighboring countries) and send missionaries in the hundreds! The challenge is great, but their faith is firm. We were discussing ways in which GLO can help them move this vision forward.

*Pray for our Ethiopian brothers and sisters as they step out in faith, and as the IMS leaders encourage their members to take up this challenge.*



Wondimu Mathewos with 3 IMS staff members.

**Ev. Lutheran Church of Sudan/South Sudan**

One of the newest and fastest growing Lutheran churches in the world is in the newest country of the world, South Sudan. After years of civil war, devastation, and people uprooted, the challenges are daunting. But as the church is growing, both in outreach and internally gaining strength and maturity, they welcome Lutheran brothers and sisters who are willing to join and support them. I was grateful to meet with Bishop Noah Wilson (second from left) and other leaders in the ELCS/SS. GLO is eager to help where God opens doors and raises up missionaries.

*Please pray that God would provide missionaries and mission supporters bold enough to respond to these needs in South Sudan.*

*And please pray that God would continue to guide the leadership of GLO so as to be faithful and responsive as He leads and guides by His Spirit and Word.*



**Let us know if you would like to schedule a MISSION VISIT to YOUR congregation, school or missions group.**

We would love to help arouse greater enthusiasm about global needs and exciting opportunities for Lutheran outreach—worshiping, praying and sharing God's Word with God's people! [datalsma@gmail.com](mailto:datalsma@gmail.com), (260)804-8460