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January/February 2024 Newsletter

Praise the Lord for His endless love and guidance as we work towards building capacity of Christ centered educational institutions in Ethiopia!

Greetings in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

It is our prayer that 2024 is progressing well for all our partners. **Thank you for your continued prayer and support in 2024!** As we begin the journey in 2024, below are status highlights of activities and developments accordingly.

Building Capacity...Ending 2023 and Beginning 2024 ... As we reflect on our personal, spiritual, professional and ministry journey in 2023, we say "Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! ..." 1 Peter 1:3, for the fruition of all activities as planned. Below are highlights of major learning experiences and accomplishments during 2023.

-> **Partnership ...** working closely with the leadership team of **Concordia University Irvine**, in particular with Dr. Michael W. Schulteis, Professor of Science Education, the planned seminar series focused on pedagogy as presented below have been completed.

Seminar 1: by **Dr. Michael Schulteis** -on "The Concept Development Model of Teaching.",

Seminar 2: by **Dr. Eugene P. Kim** on "The Workshop Model of Teaching for Higher Education - Using Design Thinking Principles",

Seminar 3: by **Dr. Belinda Karge** on - "Student Engagement Techniques."

Seminar 4: by **Dr. Catherine Webb** – on "Getting to Know Your Students."

We are thankful for the presenters' dedication, willingness to share their knowledge and commitment to serve brothers and sisters in Ethiopia. In particular, we were blessed to listen/observe and participate in the application of research-based teaching techniques focused on student centeredness. We are truly blessed to facilitate these types of seminars in building the capacity of current and future leaders who have a great role in shaping and preparing youth for the Church and for the country. Serving in this capacity, utilizing both spiritual and professional experiences in equipping brothers and sisters

who know The Lord is rewarding and humbling. Currently we are in the process of finalizing the spring 2024 series of professional development seminars.

-> **Personalized one – on – one mentoring/coaching** sessions to individuals who are serving in leadership roles have been progressing well and this service will continue in 2024. In addition, planning of associated exercises and duration of sessions for spring 2024 are in progress. Your continued prayers are greatly appreciated.

-> **English Language Support Program (ELSP)...** As a follow up to the June 2023 faculty development seminars conducted in the area of "Sheltered Instruction", in October 2023, the MCN team led by **Dr. Vicki Anderson, Professor at Concordia University Nebraska, and Mission of Christ Network Partner**, had a very productive time assessing the impact and level of application on materials and techniques presented in June. During the three day assessment workshops the **MCN team, composed of Vicki Anderson, Ph.D.** Professor at Concordia University Nebraska and MCN Partner, **Cindy Rodewald**, Director for Mission Care and MCN field lead for East Africa and **Haragewen Abraham Kinde, Ed.D.**, MYS Vice President of International Relations and MCN team member, met with representatives from the College of Theological Studies, Mekane Yesus Management and Leadership Colleges Addis Ababa and Bishoftu campuses, and School of Music and Media respectively.



Furthermore, discussion on feasibility of a **one-year intensive English program** to be piloted through the College of Theological Studies were successfully conducted.

Please keep this project and the June 2024 ELSP professional development program offerings in your prayers, as there are more details and coordination efforts that need to be worked out. We are grateful to **Dr. Vicki Anderson** for sharing her experiences and

commitment in being part of building the capacity of our faculty in the area of developing an English Language Support Program, mission mindedness, and **student-centered outlook!**



The MCN team also had the opportunity to attend Sunday morning church service and safe travels prayers at the "Amist Kilo church the original Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus in Addis Ababa established on January 21, 1959.

As we move forward into 2024 we confidently say, "I can do all things through him who strengthens me." Philippians 4:13! We praise The Lord for our partners, for using us to serve Him in this capacity and for continuing to open new ministry opportunities to serve our brothers and sisters in Ethiopia!

Please pray for:

- > The People of Ethiopia,
- > One-year intensive English program,
- > June 2024 ELSP professional development offerings and logistics,
- > Income generating projects to at MYMLC-B,
- > Coordination of Spring 2024 Leadership Seminars and mentoring/coaching efforts.
- > Leadership team, faculty, and students at MYS, MYMLC-AA and MYMLC -B,
- > New partners to support his ministry and fund-raising efforts,

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Haragewen Abraham Kinde Mission Partner in Ethiopia work.

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