



Mekane Yesus (“Place of Jesus”) University Under-formation Project Newsletter (MY-UUFPN)

Haragewen.kinde@missionofchrist.org

September/October 2019 Newsletter

As we conclude our summer activities in building new and strengthening existing partnerships, we **praise The Lord for opening many doors and blessing our efforts!** The academic year and related activities at the Mekane Yesus Management and Leadership College in Addis Ababa and Bishoftu campuses are moving forward to a good start. We continue to accept first year students at both campuses. The STEM academy is also getting ready to provide academic services to local high school students in the Bishoftu area. Thank you for your continued prayer as we serve in the area of education and impact the community in a positive way.

Relationships & Influence Even though this summer has been filled with surprises, I would like to share with you about one of my best surprise. That is, I ran into my former high school student while grocery shopping. Since we had not seen each other for a few years, we were surprised, laughed, hugged and exchanged contact information so that we can meet later to catch up about The Lord’s work in our lives.



However, in the short time we had at the store, we talked quickly and greeted her children (two boys and a girl). Then, while hugging her daughter from Ethiopia, she said, “.... you started me with love for Ethiopia while in high school and I now have Ethiopia in my life every day with my adopted daughter!” This was an amazing moment for both of us. The takeaway message here is that, we never know who and why The Lord brings individuals in our lives. Especially as educators when we work with young people it is a privilege and an

opportunity to positively influence their lives. This was a good reminder, as we begin this new academic year, that all students who will be in our programs are a gift to us and that we have the responsibility to do our best to positively contribute in their educational journey. In addition, I am reminded of Psalm 139:14 “I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well.” Please pray for us, as we begin the 2019/2020 academic year journey, while focusing on academics that we also keep in mind, the students we serve are “fearfully and wonderfully made” and that we proceed accordingly.

Partnerships.... Strengthening partnership efforts with the **Concordia University Irvine (CUI) leadership** continues. We had a special time discussing status of previous partnership activities and progress. The discussion continued with further exploration on varied education related venues to strengthen our current academic



partnership efforts. It is always good to come together to assess our progress, brainstorm for new ideas and outline possible next steps. At this meeting, we were honored by the attendance of **Mr. Craig Olson, Vice Chairman of Concordia University Board of Regents.** A special thank you to Mr. Olson for taking the time to join us and to learn the extent of the partnership efforts. In addition, we would like to extend our gratitude to **Dr. Peter Senkbeil, CUI Provost** for leading the charge in this partnership effort!

Lutheran Women’s Missionary League it was an honor to share and provide an update of the work through

this ministry at the first 2019/2020 Lutheran Women in Mission meeting held at Grace Lutheran church in Banning, California! The devotional part of the program was from John 4: 15 – 26, 39-42. However, the focus was on verses 39 – 41 “Many Samaritans from that town believed in him because of the woman’s testimony, “He told me all that I ever did.” So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay



with them, and he stayed there two days. And many more believed because of his word.” I was blessed with the message and the discussion centered around; “we are all like the Samaritan women where Jesus knows all about us and that we should not let circumstances of life hold us from serving the Lord.” In addition, it was a blessing to provide update of this ministry to **the Grace Lutheran church family.** We are grateful for the prayers and support of the entire church family. **THANK YOU!**

Please pray for –

- All activities of this academic year, for our faculty and students,
- Fundraising efforts to support this ministry,
- Renewed energy and health as we begin our 4th year journey of this ministry!

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Haragewen Abraham Kinde Mission Partner in Ethiopia work.
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P.O. Box 533
Concordia MO 64020

