



Rockrohr News and Notes

www.rockrohr.net

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Ministry Information:

Carl and Deborah Rockrohr are missionaries with

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Websites:
www.rockrohr.net
www.lcms.org/rockrohr
www.lts.org.za

Our website has the latest news of our work and family. Look for us on Facebook too!

How to Give Support:

To donate by phone call:
1-800-433-3954 (Designate your gift "for the Rockrohrs.")

You can find the links for online giving at:
www.lcms.org/rockrohr

Or, make checks payable to LCMS World Mission with "Rockrohr" noted on the memo line and mail to:
**LCMS WORLD MISSION
P.O. Box 790089
St. Louis, MO 63179**

Rockrohr Family News

There are a lot of interesting things happening at LTS, much in which Carl and Deborah are involved. If you have not yet seen the April issue of *LTS News*, we invite you to visit www.lts.org.za to see the latest newsletter.

For this brief newsletter we have two topics we want to share, family news (fun) and a budget update (challenging).

The big news is that our eldest son, Paul, is engaged to Stacy Menzer of Sheboygan, WI. They got engaged over the Easter holiday.

Paul and Stacy met as students at Concordia University Wisconsin where Stacy is in the Doctor of Pharmacy program. Stacy is now in her 2nd year of the four year program. Paul is a 1st year seminary student at Concordia Theological Seminary in Ft. Wayne.

They have been dating for several years and we got to know Stacy well before we left for South Africa. She is a great lady!

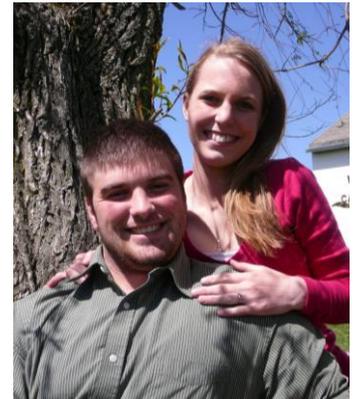
Paul and Stacy will be married December 16, 2012 – yes, in about 7 months! Right after a honeymoon, Paul will have to return to seminary and Stacy to CUW for spring 2013 classes. But the plan is that starting in summer 2013 they can be together for Paul's vicarage and Stacy's pharmacy internship.

Family Visits

Our second son, James, visited us April 5-18. Ted was not in school at the time, so they got to hang out together. Jim helped with some moving tasks at our new apartment, and he got to see Pretoria and other parts of South Africa as well. It was good to see him.

In May we will receive both our daughter, Becky, and Carl's mother, Jane Rockrohr, for visits though the middle of June. Becky is in the deaconess program at Concordia U. Chicago and she is eager to help out a bit at the seminary while she is here.

With Becky here, it is also a good time for Carl's



mother to visit so they can be together. Carl's father, David, was diagnosed with Alzheimer's in 1993.

They were never able to visit us when we were missionaries in Ghana 1993-1998. Dad is still at home, and Mom has plans for his care during her trip.

Deborah's Doctoral Work

Deborah has completed all course work for a Doctor of Education at Regent University in Virginia Beach, VA. She is now writing her dissertation. She has one last week of residency this summer. Very conveniently she is able to be away in July because our seminary is on the winter schedule.

Great news! We thank God for our family!

Way to Support our Work:

1. Pray for us in your personal and congregational prayers. Daily there are new challenges and things to learn. Daily we need His grace in our lives. Pray that we always continue to rely upon Him.

2. Read our newsletters and share them. If they are not posted in your church, maybe they can be. Follow the recent news on our website and "friend" us if you use Facebook.

3. Keep posted about Deborah's visit this summer as we publish the schedule. If you can see her, take along a friend that might be interested in the work.

4. Sign up for our newsletter if you aren't already! You can sign up with email or postal address at www.rockrohr.net, on the newsletter page.

5. Bring our missionary work to the attention of the persons in charge of budgeting for your church, church group or other organization. If your Christian group does not have a regular overseas mission project, consider supporting us.

CONTACT US: Invite Deborah to visit this June-July.

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Budget Challenges – Donors Needed Now

Now on to the more challenging item of financing...

As our regular readers know, all new LCMS career missionaries going out must now raise 75% of their budget before moving to the field.

(I explained in detail how this works in our January 2012 newsletter, on pages 3 & 4, available on the newsletter page at www.rockrohr.net)

Deborah and I worked for 6 months and we did raise the required 75%. We arrived in SA in January, just in time for the start of the new academic year at LTS.

However, since LCMS missionaries are their own primary fund-raisers, who raises funds once they move? Well, that is the challenge.

The LCMS International Center assists us in budgeting and handling our budget legally and reliably, but the home office does not have full-time fund-raisers for missionaries. Some money has been raised in our absence, but not nearly enough. And since we are new missionaries, our donor base is not yet big enough.

With the fiscal year now 75% done, we are now past what we raised. As of

March 31 we are about \$14,000 in the red, and we continue going in that direction.

We continue to receive our salaries and support, but we are responsible for getting the budget balanced.

Fund-Raising Trip

Thus, Deborah and I proposed to our field authority that since she was already planning to come to the US in July, she would come for an extra 3 weeks of fund-raising. It is not usual to have to return to the U.S. to fund-raise only 5 months after arriving on the field. But it was agreed we need to do this.

Dear readers, this is a critical test for our work. The future viability of Deborah's work training Lutheran deaconesses for Africa and my work at the seminary is not certain unless we have many more individual and congregational donors come on board.

We also need past occasional donors who would like to continue their support to contact the mission board with pledges for future gifts, even if they can't be given for a while.

Many thanks to our monthly donors, we really depend upon you!

Invite Deborah to Speak; See Her This Summer; Add Us to Your Budget

We anticipate Deborah's travel will be about June 14 to July 18. Contact her to visit if you are considering supporting us. We need her fund-raising time to have lots of contacts with interested people!

Your Donation Goes 100% to Our Work

1. Money you designate to us goes to us 100%. All donations go completely to our salaries, field support, expenses, etc. Your support goes nowhere else.

2. When we hear of your donation we contact you by letter or by email. You will always hear that your support has reached us. (Occasionally it may take up to two months, but you will hear from us when we learn of your donation.)

3. Deborah and I understand worthwhile, effective and faithful Christian ministry. If something in the ministry is not heading in a good direction we speak up! We value your support and we use your gifts as best as we can; we will not use it ineffectively. When our mission work is complete or needs to change, we adjust and will always keep you informed of progress and changes.