



# Rockrohr News and Notes

www.rockrohr.net

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### Ministry Information:

Carl and Deborah Rockrohr are missionaries with

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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!



## In Jesus' Hands, On His Schedule

*Come now, you who say "Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit" — yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes. Instead you ought to say, "If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that." James 4:13-15 (ESV)*

The truth of St. James' teaching has been mightily felt by Deborah, Ted and Carl in these past weeks of late June into July. Deborah's health needs have changed our family and ministry schedules for the coming weeks. She is scheduled to have a hysterectomy in the U.S. on July 27, including a minimum of a four week recovery period before she can return to South Africa. Ted and Carl will return to the U.S. on July 23 so Carl can take care of her during recovery.

**Shifting Schedules**  
One year ago we knew



that Deborah needed to attend a one-week final doctoral course in July at Regent University in Virginia Beach, VA. We set a schedule for a one week personal vacation for her studies.

Three months ago it was determined that it would be good if Deborah lengthen her stay in the U.S. to do fundraising for still unfunded needs of our budget. In May, we reset the schedule for a four-week stay to include both fund-raising and academic tasks.

Two weeks ago it was determined that Deborah needed surgery while in the U.S. We reset the schedule again (and adjusted plane flights

accordingly).

Wow! We are in the Lord's hands. We don't know tomorrow, but He does.

### Past Four Weeks

On June 15<sup>th</sup>, the very day after Deborah arrived in the U.S., she had pain to the extent that our daughter took her to the Emergency Room in West Bend, WI at 3 a.m. To the husband back home in South Africa, this was of course trembling news. What was wrong? CAT scans from the ER showed several things, but nothing conclusive.

Doctors' visits in Michigan had already been scheduled due to

**Thank You's**

Deborah had 17 meetings, presentations, and/or Bible studies in June/July. Thank you to all who hosted her!

Thank you to those who provided Bed & Breakfast during Deborah's travels! Deborah's parents provided a vehicle and companionship, making tasks easier for her.

Continued thanks to friends at St. Paul's Lutheran in Northville MI, who mail our newsletter each month!

**Prayer Requests**

- Blessings on Deborah's surgery and recovery.
- Strength for Carl as he takes care of Deborah and missionary duties.
- Fun and safety for Ted.
- Many blessings upon LTS students and staff, especially in Deborah and Carl's absence for the opening weeks of the second semester.

**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](http://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**

**In His Hands, On His Schedule** (cont. from page 1)

symptoms in the past few months, but we did not expect an E.R. visit.

We are thankful that internet access in South Africa enabled daily emails and Skype phone calls to sort through the myriad new details as a medical plan and revised schedule was organized.

**The Schedule Now**

This is what our schedule looks like now:

- July 23 Carl and Ted return to the US.
- July 27- August 24 Deborah's surgery in MI and minimum four weeks recovery in the US; Carl stays with her, Ted visits grandparents.
- August 25-26 Lord willing, we return to South Africa.

**Plans for the Four Weeks**

During her recovery, Deborah will be on disability until doctor's approval to travel. No missionary work at all, she won't even take phone calls about missionary business. However, Carl will be working full-time with keeping seminary courses going in his absence (think distance education courses), fund-raising, correspondence, etc. It is a time of full-time recovery for Deborah and full-time work for Carl.

Retired Pastor John and Judy Meyer have graciously offered room in their house in Redford, MI during this time. Ted will visit grandparents in Wisconsin and Missouri. Ted's school has a one-

month holiday during our absence so he should miss less than two weeks of school.

**Preaching/Teaching Engagements for Carl**

Carl will be available to preach or give Bible studies in the Michigan area on Sundays, August 5 and 12, and surrounding weekdays. Contact him at [carl.rockrohr@lcmsintl.org](mailto:carl.rockrohr@lcmsintl.org)

**Lord Willing**

As all Christians, we and our plans are in the Lord's hands. We thank Him for the timely care of good doctors and the family and friends in both the US and South Africa who are praying and caring for us.

**Seminary Work and Events**

Lutheran Theological Seminary ended the 1<sup>st</sup> semester on May 25. There were then three weeks for final exams. June 18-29 Dr. Reed Lessing of Concordia Seminary in St. Louis gave lectures on Exodus and Old Testament Theology. July 2-20 has been Winter break at the

seminary. (Yes it is winter; on July 16 the wind-chill in nearby Johannesburg was 16°F!) Local students have visited their homes, while many students from other countries have stayed on campus.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> semester begins on July 24. Deborah and Carl are planning studies for their students that can

be done in their absence. Our LTS colleagues are also getting ready to teach their courses.

The seminary website is:

**[www.lts.org.za](http://www.lts.org.za)**

You are invited to download the seminary newsletter.