



Rockrohr News and Notes

www.rockrohr.net

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Ministry Information

Rev. Dr. Carl & Deaconess
Deborah Rockrohr, and Ted

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www.lts.org.za

Look for us on Facebook too!



Deaconess Insights: Gaining Confidence through Serving

Recently the deaconess students requested and received copies of a tri-fold brochure on the LTS deaconess programme, so they could share these with family and friends over the Christmas holidays as they talk about their training and their hopes of soon becoming deaconesses in their respective churches. These women came to LTS ten months ago saying, "I want to become a deaconess. ...What's a deaconess?" They can now confidently answer that question as they visit with family and other church members.

One photo in the brochure shows the practical lesson at the end of the first-semester course on Worship and Altar Guild. We met at nearby St. Paul's together with a pastor, and practiced handling the communion vessels and setting up/clearing the altar. On that day, none of the women previously had any expe-



End of Year Tea Hosted by Ladies of our Local Lutheran Congregations

rience with altar guild duties and they were very nervous as they practiced handling the vessels and approaching the altar with reverence.

Since August the deaconess students have worked in pairs, setting up and cleaning up the communion vessels for worship at the English-language Lutheran congregation that meets on the seminary campus each Sunday. They have seen the normal range of experiences in this work, including dealing with missing lin-

ens and last minute discovery of no communion wine. Although at times they have asked the pastor or myself, "what do we do about...?" they have at all times approached their service with joy and devotion.

Looking at the photo in the brochure brought a light-hearted chuckle as together we reflected on the nervousness that has now been replaced with confident joy in service.

The Deaconess Training Brochure is available at www.lts.org.za.

End of the 2012 School Year

To support our work financially, you may send a tax-deductible gift to:

LCMS
P.O. Box 790089
St. Louis, MO 63179-0089

Make checks payable to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. Sign check memo “Support of Rockrohr Family.”

Gifts can also be given securely online through the LCMS website, on our online giving page at www.lcms.org/Rockrohr.



On Nov. 20 final exams concluded. After end-of-year activities the academic year drew to a close with worship and “prize-giving” – the giving of awards for academic achievement, most improved, and good fellowship. On Friday, Nov 23 we said good-bye to the students as they all returned home to see family and friends, many for the first time in 10 months or more.

The week was a bitter-sweet time for us. We are thankful to have successfully completed our first year of teaching here, and have enjoyed getting to know students from a diverse array of countries. But we also said good-bye to quite a number of students who will not be returning in 2013. In many



Carl in class with his LTS seminary students.

cases the reasons are financial and not academic or family-related. The seminary budget has been carrying much of the cost of some students and it cannot do so next year. We pray that the Lord will open the doors for these students to complete their training as pastors and deaconesses.

We have also had the pleasure of Concordia Theological Seminary

professor Rev. John Pless as our house guest for two weeks. Rev. Pless taught in the capstone Ordination Course which the LCSA men take at the conclusion of vicarage.

May the Lord grant our students safe travels and happy reunions!

Many activities of LTS are noted in the seminary newsletter, LTS NEWS, available at www.lts.org.za

Thank You, St Paul! ...and Help Needed!

Our heartfelt thanks to St. Paul Lutheran Church, Northville, MI for printing and mailing our newsletter in 2012. Your labor of love, and financial support in this way have been deeply appreciated.

NEEDED: Congregation or Group to Mail our Newsletter in 2013

It is critical that we continue to mail our monthly newsletter with the help of friends. Would your group be willing to help? We anticipate that our next newsletter will be

published in late January 2013.

Please contact us at carl.rockrohr@lcmsintl.org if you would like more information or are interested in helping in this way.

A Good Year for Ted

Ted will finish his 2012 school year at Waterkloof House Preparatory School (WHPS) on December 7th. He has done well in academics and sports. He has made friends and had some unique South African cultural experiences. Ted will be confirmed as a Lutheran church member in December as well....

All while adapting to living in a new country. Well done, Ted!



Ted's Last Cricket Match at WHPS, November 6



Batting in a Cricket Match



Learning to Braai, July 4

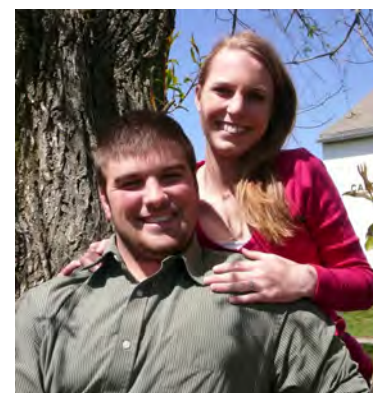


Tuning for a Trumpet Recital



Ted received an award for a creative writing contest sponsored by the South African Council for English Education, Pretoria Branch. His essay was entitled "Freedom of a POW."

We look forward to being with Paul, Jim, Becky and the rest of the family in Wisconsin for the wedding of Paul and Stacy Menzer on December 16th!



Annual Report Coming Soon!

Look for our Annual Report in your email or mailbox shortly before Christmas. This report will recap some of the activities of 2012; display some photos of our missionary work and life in South Africa; and share our vision for Lutheran missionary work in Africa.

It is not always easy to fully relate the details of our work or events here in South Africa in shorter monthly newsletters. So we plan to use a larger annual report to bring greater insight and a fuller perspective to you.

We hope that you will find the annual report both informative and interesting. Please share it with others who may be interested in learning about, praying for, and supporting the LCMS missionary work that we have been called to here in South Africa.



Pray for

REV. DR. CARL AND DEACONESS DEBORAH ROCKROHR
THEOLOGICAL EDUCATOR AND ACADEMIC ASSOCIATE
& DIRECTOR, DIACONAL PROGRAM IN SOUTH AFRICA



Rev. Dr. Carl and Deaconess Deborah Rockrohr serve the Lord through the LCMS in South Africa. Carl teaches at Lutheran Theological Seminary (LTS) in Pretoria and also assists the rector with administrative tasks. Additionally, he assists the bishop of the Lutheran Church in Southern Africa (LCSA), an LCMS partner church, with various tasks as needed. Deborah is director of the deaconess training program, teaching and mentoring the women students at LTS.

LTS is a seminary dedicated to training Lutheran pastors and deaconesses for all of Africa. It is operated by three partners in full fellowship with the LCMS: Lutheran Church in Southern Africa; Free

Evangelical Lutheran Synod in South Africa; and Mission of Lutheran Churches, the mission outreach of SELK, our partner church in Germany. The LCMS supports the efforts of these partners at LTS through missionaries and some project funding. Students come to LTS from Liberia, Ethiopia, Nigeria, Uganda, Zambia, Botswana, South Africa and other countries. LTS has a partnership with the University of Pretoria (UP) which allows pastoral students who qualify to receive a degree from UP while completing their courses at LTS.

Carl is a graduate of Concordia University Wisconsin, and Concordia Seminary, St. Louis. Deborah received her deaconess training at Concordia University Chicago. She holds a master's degree from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis. The Rockrohrs have four children: Paul, Jim and Becky, who reside in the U.S., and Ted, who lives with Carl and Deborah in South Africa.

Please pray for Carl and Deborah as they serve in South Africa. Pray that God would provide them with prayer and financial supporters in the United States; bless LTS and its supporting churches; grant strength and wisdom to the current seminary students; and bring to the seminary those students whom He wants to be trained as pastors and deaconesses. To learn more about the Rockrohrs and their ministry, visit www.rockrohr.net.

• BIRTHDAYS: Carl – May 30, Deborah – Aug. 26, Ted – April 23

• ANNIVERSARY: May 23 • HOME DISTRICT: Michigan

LEARN

- Learn about LCMS mission work at www.lcms.org/international.
- Read good news from the field stories at blog.lcmsworldmission.org.
- Support and adopt a missionary. Call 888-843-5267 or visit www.lcms.org/rockrohr.



“Here am I... send me!”

LEARN • PRAY • GIVE • TELL • SEND • GO • CELEBRATE

My personal support for: **Carl & Deborah Rockrohr**

- Pray daily for **Carl & Deborah** and how you can support their ministry.
- Tell others about **Carl & Deborah's** ministry and other opportunities to serve.
- Give securely online at www.lcms.org/rockrohr or fill out the form below.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

A **recurring gift** of \$ _____ for the duration of Carl & Deborah's service. (Please choose a payment method below.)

An **annual pledge commitment** of \$ _____ each month for the next 12 months. (You will be contacted in one year to consider renewal of your pledge. Please choose a payment method below.)

I would like to make my monthly gifts by:

- Check
- Automatic withdrawal (Please include a canceled check.)
- Credit card (Please provide information below.)

- A **special gift** of \$ _____
 - My check is enclosed. (Designate for **Rockrohr** support on memo line.)
 - Please charge my credit card:

Card Number: _____ Security Code: _____

Type:

Name on Card: _____ Exp. Date: _____

Questions? Call 888-843-5267 or send an email to mission.giving@lcms.org.

Make checks payable to and mail to:
THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD
P.O. Box 790089 • St. Louis, MO 63179-0089

Gifts received for LCMS missionaries are deposited in an account restricted for the support of eligible missionaries. Any gifts received in excess of a missionary's requirement for a given year are held for that missionary until needed. Should a missionary's service conclude for any reason, the funds remaining in the restricted account will be transferred to one or more eligible LCMS missionaries who fulfill the restrictions of the original gift. With documented donor permission, a restricted gift can also be utilized to support missionary-related work authorized by the LCMS. Your gift is tax deductible to the extent permitted by law.

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