

**Erber Missionary Update**  
**Jos, Nigeria**  
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Dear Partners in Mission,

April Visit to Nigeria's National Universities Commission

On Monday, April 20, Rev. Christian Ekong, President of the Lutheran Church of Nigeria, Joyce and I visited Professor Julius Okojie and others at Nigeria's National Universities Commission (NUC) in Abuja. Going to Abuja is kind of like going to Washington DC. It's Nigeria's seat of government and there isn't any other place in Nigeria quite like Abuja! (They have big government buildings, wide roads, no motorcycles, street lights, almost constant electricity.)

The National Universities Commission, Abuja, Nigeria, April 20, 2009



Left to Right: David Erber, Pres. Christian Ekong, Prof. Dr. Julius Okojie, Joyce Erber, Dr. Kumo

During our previous visit to Abuja, we received a letter of 'approval for conducting MACO in

Nigeria pending a verification visit'. The purpose of our visit to Abuja on April 20 was to extend an invitation to the NUC for the verification visit. The NUC is ready to plan the verification visit but their initial estimate of expenses for the visit was US\$5,000 (This was about twice the amount we were anticipating. Presently we are waiting for a promised second estimate).

#### Unification in Liberia – May 10, 2009

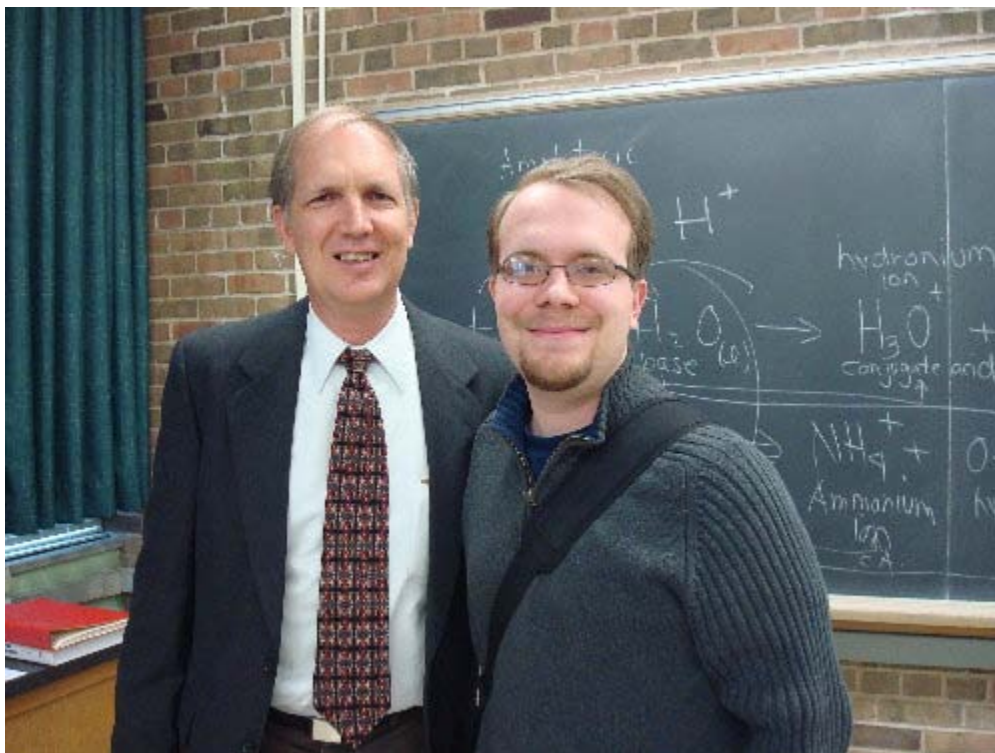
For the past few years, four different groups of Lutherans (ELCLS, UHP-ELC, EVLC and CALC) have been working through a process of unifying into one national Lutheran Church, the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Liberia. On Sunday, May 10, the various groups involved are meeting to sign an two year interim constitution and install interim leaders for the unified church. This is a major step forward for the church in Liberia! I will be in Monrovia, Liberia for this event.

Then the following weekend I will attend the national conference of Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church of Sierra Leone in Jembe, Sierra Leone,

I will be traveling with Dr. Mike Rodewald, our new LCMS Regional Director for Africa. This trip will be Dr. Rodewald's first opportunity to meet the church presidents and other leaders in Sierra Leone and Liberia as well as learn about the work of introducing people to Jesus Christ in these countries.

#### Family Notes:

Luke finished his second year at Concordia University Chicago last week and Jonathan celebrates his 18th birthday next week (May 12). Our family is really going up! (Photo below: David and Luke at Concordia Chicago, March 2009).



Request For Prayers! Please join us in prayer:

That God would provide the open doors and finances we need to obtain complete approval for program MACO. This unique program gives our pastors and church leaders in Nigeria better evangelism outreach training than most of our missionaries ever had!

...that God would bless the steps of Lutheran unification in Liberia.

...that God would bless the national meetings of Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church in Sierra Leone.

...that God would use Dr. Rodewald and myself as we travel and meet with church leaders and pastors in Liberia and Sierra Leone as well as watch over the Erber and Rodewald families as they remain in Soth Africa and Nigeria during our travels.

Thank you for your prayers and support!

Your partners in mission!

**The Erbers**  
**David, Joyce, Luke, Jonathan and Naomi**

**LCMS Missionaries**  
**Gambia , Ghana , Liberia , Nigeria , Sierra Leone , West Africa**

### **LCMS World Mission Purpose Statement**

Praying to the Lord of the Harvest, LCMS World Mission ,  
in collaboration with its North American and worldwide partners, will share the Good News  
of Jesus Christ with 100 million unreached or uncommitted people  
by the 500th anniversary of the Reformation in 2017.