



## Let's Go To Togo!

News from the Wildauer Family, serving the Lord in Togo and West Africa

### Time Flies

Time flies while one is on Home Service. We woke up in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso yesterday (August 10) and faced the reality that our four months in the States had come to a conclusion. What great anticipation we had to see family and friends! What great opportunities to reconnect with congregations, visit new ones, and see former Togolese missionaries! We knelt with you at the Lord's altar, sang from memory hymns ancient and new, and rejoiced in the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We have partaken in many potlucks, eaten plenty of brats, tasted the varieties of cheese, watched in awe of fireworks displays, and simply received the hospitality of many. My how the time flies! How blessed it was to share with you of the Lord's work taking place in Togo and throughout Africa.



Many people have asked us where home is when we are in the States. For Micah, this answer would be Bremen, IN. For Robin, Versailles, MO. We bookended our time with these two places, giving opportunity for the grandparents to immerse themselves in the lives of their grandchildren. Even with this, we spent a majority of our time in the Milwaukee area where most of our doctors are located as well as congregational support due to serving in Milwaukee for seven years. Oh, and Robin gave birth to Lydia Grace while we were there. So where is home? This is always the often unanswered question of the missionary.

Now our hearts and minds are beginning to readjust to the work which still lies before us in Dapaong, Togo. The school year awaits and students will begin gathering from the nations. Thank you for your support and prayers during our time in your midst. Time never seems like it is enough for us, but it was sufficient according to our Lord's time.



### Pray For:

- ✠ Our health while readjusting to Togo, namely some of the routine traveling sicknesses we're facing at this time
- ✠ Health of the students' and professors' families
- ✠ The adjustment for the new students
- ✠ A productive opening to the academic year
- ✠ The completion of the first part of our dorm project
- ✠ Fellow missionaries throughout the region, Francophone and Anglophone

### Give Thanks For:

- ✠ The safe and healthy delivery of Lydia Grace along with her baptism into Christ
- ✠ A safe arrival in Dapaong
- ✠ The students who have arrived for the next year
- ✠ The awesome hospitality received while on Home Service
- ✠ The freedom of the Gospel as it is proclaimed in many languages

## Any Questions?

Presentations at congregations would often give an opportunity for questions and answers. When a barbecue was involved, it was dubbed "Grill the Missionary." Here are a few of those questions:

### 1) What is the climate like?

*I generally classify the seasons as three: Rainy season, which is right now. Dry and dusty, known as Harmattan when the Sahara Desert winds blow southward and everything is always dirty and dusty. Finally, Dry with extreme heat, which is the end of February through the beginning of April.*

### 2) What do you miss most about Togo while being in the States?

*Have to begin with a food because we're American. We missed mango season this year. In reality though, we missed the slower pace of life. It appears that the daily life of Americans strives to always be busy, whether this involves productive activities or not.*

### 3) How well are the kids adjusting to the language and setting?

*The older kids, Sam and Liza, had the advantage of learning French (or certain phrases at any rate) while in France. Thus, I can tell that they generally understand French conversations and church services though they do not speak much. David is soaking in the language as he goes. Most of their friends are found among the student families of the CLET, though new friends from our neighborhood show up from time to time.*

### 4) How do the specifics of our Lutheran Confession fit within the context of African life?

*One of the challenges discussed within missiological circles is the place of contextualization. I have seen where many mission endeavors allow the context to dictate how one's confession will manifest. Unfortunately, the result is often a general form of Christianity or less. For us, our belief in who Christ is, and thus our theology and practice, must lead. From this, the timelessness of our Confession and the Church historic can be understood as the local context is assessed within this Confession. If done well, one will see that it is the people's lives in their context which begins to change rather than the confession to fit the context.*

### 5) What is one personal memory from the past two years?

*Within the realm of the mission field, baptizing a child by the name of Christ Immanuel along with many other children. In my personal life, being able to watch Game 7 of the World Series. Cubs win!*

**[See Robin's Q&A at www.wildauersgototogo.blogspot.com](http://www.wildauersgototogo.blogspot.com)**

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

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod  
P.O. Box 66861  
St. Louis, MO 63166-6861

[OR] Mission Central  
40718 Highway E-16  
Mapleton, IA 51034

Make checks payable to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (or "LCMS"). Please include "**Wildauer—Togo**" in the memo line.

Gifts can also be given securely through the LCMS website using my online giving page at [www.lcms.org/wildauer](http://www.lcms.org/wildauer). To give a gift over the phone, please call 1-888-930-4438.

To be added to or removed from this mailing list, or if you prefer to receive by posted mail, or if you think someone else might enjoy receiving this newsletter, send an email message to [mica.wildauer@lcmsintl.org](mailto:mica.wildauer@lcmsintl.org) with the word ADD or REMOVE in the subject line.

## While We Were Out

Classes didn't stop during our visit to the States. The third and final trimester of the academic year came to a close. Of the 19 students, 5 completed their three years of study at the CLET. They will return to their respective countries to begin their vicarage. 3 will return to the Ivory Coast while the other two return to Congo—Brazzaville. Four of them will have a joyful homecoming as they have not been home since their departure three years ago. One of them, Etienne (Stephen in English), was a student who returned two years ago to complete his studies which began years ago.

The closing service for the academic year took place on June 18, 2017.

People gathered from all over the region and a brass ensemble from a local parish was invited to participate. President of the governing board for the school, Rev. Guehi-Guehi Marc of the Ivory Coast, preached a sermon with a call to faithfulness during the trying times ahead. Christ, who has already given them salvation, will continue to see them through. The first-year students displayed their unity in wearing shirts made of the same fabric, as did the wives from the Ladies' School. The departing students opted for a unified purple and received their diplomas with joy. Thus began a time of celebration and a season for goodbyes.



*Photo courtesy of Rev. Fred Reinhardt*

### Attacks in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso

During my trip to visit folks in Utah, my friend, Rev. Al Borchert, took great comfort when I said we lived a fair distance from terrorists. Just days after our arrival in Ouagadougou, the capital of Burkina Faso which is 6 hours north of where we live, jihadists attacked a local Turkish restaurant and killed 18 people. We happened to still be in Ouaga at the time, but a fair distance from the attack. Though our town of Dapaong, Togo is relatively safe, atrocities like this happen all over the world and even in our region. The LCMS constantly monitors regional activity and keeps us up-to-date on any necessary exit strategies. We are safe now in Dapaong and continue to pray for ongoing peace here, as well as the multitude of Burkinabé affected by the attacks. Know as well that we often pray for your well-being in the States.

After seeing some of these students in my presentation, my wife noted, with a tinge of sadness, that we won't be seeing some of these students (and their families) again. And yet, God willing, we will reunite in Christ on the Last Day.



*Photo courtesy of Molly Christensen*

Address in Togo:  
Rev. Micah Wildauer (or other name)  
B.P. 53  
Dapaong  
TOGO



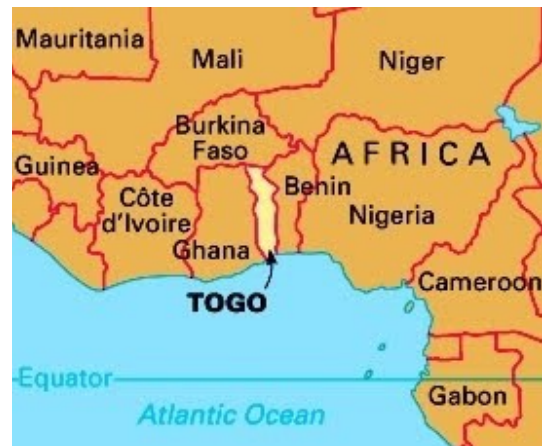


Missionary Pastor Micah Wildauer  
Theological Educator in Togo on behalf of the LCMS  
% Mount Olive Lutheran Church  
5327 W. Washington Blvd.  
Milwaukee, WI 53208

### On the Road Again: Home Service USA

When it comes to Home Service, time is limited and visits are often brief. We want to visit with many, yet at the same time, take the chance to be refreshed in the Gospel with family and friends. Here are a few stats from the road:

- Nearly 14,000 miles traveled by van
- 35 congregations visited
- 3 Lutheran School visits (and many home schools!)
- 5 other presentations or visits
- 14 sermons preached in English, 1 in French
- 1 Baby born



THE  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
Missouri Synod

**Witness Always**