



## LEADERS OF THE CHURCH

Did you know that the Evangelical Lutheran Church is led by bishops who oversee individual dioceses? Unlike in the United States, where we have district presidents, the church here in Kenya is structured a bit differently. We have an archbishop who serves as the head of the church, a general secretary who works alongside him, and bishops who lead and represent each diocese (region) throughout the country.

This structure helps maintain unity in doctrine and mission while also allowing each region to address the unique needs of its communities.



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## A Proud Moment



With Project 24 now over ten years old, it is truly wonderful to see the fruition of the work that has been invested in this program. Last year, we celebrated an important milestone as four students graduated from university. They are the first group to complete their formal education through Project 24 and will be entering the workforce this year.

All four chose to pursue bachelor's degrees in education and will be serving in schools across the country. Two graduates specialized in mathematics and business studies, one studied chemistry and physics, and the fourth focused on special needs education at the secondary level.

They each hope to work in local secondary schools.

Of course, the fact that they are all becoming teachers — including one who will serve as a learning support teacher — is especially close to my heart. I could not be more proud of them and their dedication.

Those of us who have been part of Project 24 for so long are excited to see how these graduates will serve not only in their communities but also within the Lutheran Church in their areas. The potential is great. We applaud their hard work and pray for God's continued blessings as they step into this new chapter.



### PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- Our family as we mourn the loss of my mom
- The ELCK and their leadership

### GIVE THANKS FOR:

- The recent graduates of Project 24
- Rael's 10th birthday

### PRAISE GOD FOR:

- The many congregations and individuals who pray for us, encourage and support us



# A Tribute to My Mom

My mom was a truly beautiful person who faithfully lived out her vocations as a nurse, wife, mother, and friend. She was a servant of the Lord and a wonderful example of what it means to live a life rooted in faith.

This past December, she passed away after a long battle with pulmonary fibrosis. I am so thankful that I was able to fly home a few weeks before she died and spend those precious final days with her — and with my dad, who had been lovingly caring for her at home. That time together was a true gift.

One of the most meaningful moments in the midst of loss was her memorial service. It truly felt like a family reunion. Former church members — people who had become our “local family” over the years — gathered to celebrate her life. Speaking with them reminded me of how our childhood shapes who we become. Living far from my biological extended family, our church family became my

“grandparents,” “aunts,” and “uncles.” Though time and distance had carried many of them elsewhere, they had remained faithfully connected to my parents. The love and support they showed — both to me and to my parents — has been a steady source of strength throughout the years.

One of the qualities I most admired in my mother was her steadfast support for my mission work. She never once doubted my calling, even when it meant living far from home. She willingly embraced her role as the mother of a missionary, continuing to encourage me and pray for God's work around the world.

I am profoundly thankful for her life, her faith, and the legacy she leaves behind. She will always remain a part of me and continue to influence who I am today.

*Thank you all for your love and support. May God continue to bless you and keep you all.*

*In His Grip,*

*Britt, Micah, Rael and Silas*



*There are many opportunities to serve as short-term or GEO missionaries. Check out the current list and download an application at [lcms.org/service](https://lcms.org/service). Click on “Service Opportunities.”*

Prayerfully consider partnering with the LCMS to support the work of Britt Odemba. Make checks payable to:

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