

## My Response

☐ Individual

☐ Congregation

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State: \_\_\_\_\_

Pastor: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount of Pledge: \_\_\_\_\_

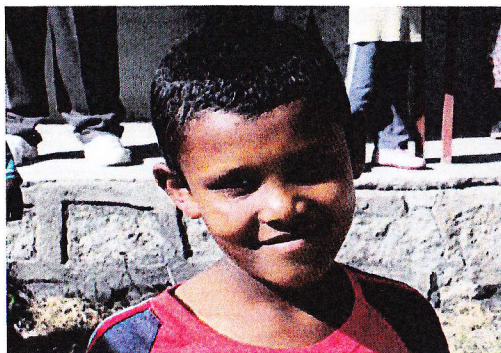
Amount Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

Please cut off this panel and make checks payable to:

St. Paul's Lutheran Church  
C/O Mekane Yesus Open Doors Campaign  
1700 Carrisdale Street SW  
Decatur, AL 35601

Yes! I'm interested in going in 2015. Here is my information:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



"And the King will answer them,  
'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to  
one of the least of these my brothers,  
you did it to me.'"

Matthew 25:40



**ENGAGE IMPACT TRANSFORM**

*Jesus Boldly Advancing His Mission*

### SOUTHERN DISTRICT MISSION COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES

**Pastor Jason Scheler**

[pastorj@hopeonthebeach.org](mailto:pastorj@hopeonthebeach.org)

850-267-0322

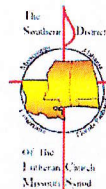
**Pastor Eddie Scheler**

[eddies@stpaulsdec.com](mailto:eddies@stpaulsdec.com)

256-353-8759

100 Mission Drive  
Slidell, LA 70460-5221

Southern District Missions Committee  
LCMS



"And the whole city was gathered  
together at the door." Mark 1:33

*Open Doors  
Capital Campaign*

*To build 15 church  
buildings in Ethiopia*





*Pastor Eddie Scheler is the Sr. Pastor of St. Paul's in Decatur, AL.*

## Southern District Pastor's visit

Friends of Jesus,

When I was in Ethiopia, I witnessed God opening doors through the lay leadership of Mekane Yesus Church. The 6.5 million member church body is on the move, sharing the gospel with people who have never heard the name of Jesus! As exciting as that is, there is more. People have radically committed their lives to Jesus and are hungry for God's Word and for sharing the gospel with their friends and neighbors.

Sadly, there is opposition from those who want to shut the doors of the church. Many have died and those who proclaim Jesus are risking their lives and suffering persecution. However, these passionate and highly committed Christians are planting churches exponentially and raising new leaders. One man has already planted ten churches and has asked the District Supervisor for permission to attend seminary. The District Supervisor responded, "Call me when you have planted twenty churches." God is opening doors and we have an opportunity to participate.

In Christ's Peace,

Eddie Scheler, Pastor  
St. Paul Lutheran Church  
Decatur, AL

# OPEN DOORS IN ETHIOPIA, BUILD 15 CHURCHES

*"At the same time, pray also for us, that God may open to us a door for the word, to declare the mystery of Christ, ..." Col. 4:3*

## The Need >>>

When the Church is on fire for Jesus and experiencing exponential growth, there are growing pains and more needs than one group can meet. The first need is for prayer. We long for God to keep opening doors and for the church to continue to work in faith. However, they need the Lord's protection and guidance. They need resources to build churches and more Biblical training. We, in turn, need to learn their best practices of evangelism and discipleship.

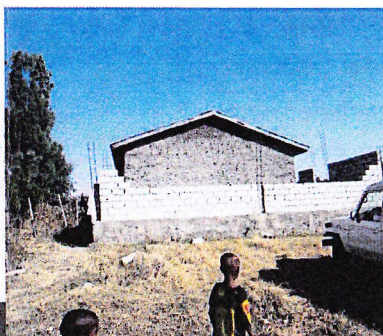
## The Vision >>>

Open Doors in Ethiopia that Open Doors in America:

- Praying for God's Kingdom to grow exponentially there and here among us.
- Raise \$180,000 to build 15 Church buildings by each circuit raising \$12,000, by each congregation raising \$1000.
- Sending teams once a year to Ethiopia to learn together God's Word, Lutheran Doctrine, and best practices.

## Our Response>>>

- Pray for the Mekane Yesus Church privately and corporately.
- Share the ministry with different groups/ministries in your church and identify those who have a heart for this ministry.
- Make a goal as a congregation to raise \$1000.
- Work with your circuit on fund raising ideas. Maybe the VBS offering can be a great start.
- Plan on going or sending a leader from your church or circuit to Ethiopia to witness God's work in the Mekane Yesus Church in 2015.



## Southern District President Kurtis Schultz >>>

Our Lutheran brothers and sisters in Mekane Yesus face two major challenges to their faithfulness in fulfilling Jesus' call to make disciples: persecution by those who burn their churches as they murder their leaders, and financial resources to provide shelter for the growing numbers estimated in the thousands who gather to hear the gospel. God has blessed us so we may meet those challenges with them.