

## **Two Low-Cost Mission Opportunities in Ethiopia**

Our partners have outlined two particular needs they are facing. They ask for your prayer that these plans might go well, and they invite you to contribute if so moved.

**The first** is supplying worship material to congregations. Many congregations use the Bench language because their members do. For years, their liturgy has had to be translated from sources in Amharic – the Communion service, the call to worship, the prayer of confession, the affirmation of faith, etc. South West Bethel Synod completed a translation of the liturgy into the Bench language, and it has now been published in a durably bound printed book that can serve for generations. This will free up worship from a lot of tedious translation. The printing cost changed, catching the Synod in a dilemma. The price they must charge to repay the debt is still a hardship for some congregations.

A gift of \$35 will supply a liturgy to an impoverished congregation. Please consider opening up this opportunity to individuals in your congregation or consider making a gift of mission funds.

**The second** need is much like sponsoring an orphan. There are three men who are able and ready to earn a bachelor's degree in theology at the Mekane Yesus Seminary, but they need us to help them. Together the Synod and Washington Presbytery congregations found the funds to let these men complete their first of four years. This was accomplished through generous gifts by Upper Buffalo Presbyterian Church, Center United Presbyterian Church of Midway, First Presbyterian Church of Monongahela, and Center Church of McMurray.

Why did the Synod help them to start if they can't finish? This is what Rev. Tatek Kifle, the synod president, says: "It is important to make the future work and service of the Synod better and to produce successor ministers. That is why we are sending many students at once, even though it is difficult financially."

The course is four years long. One year is complete.

Would you consider taking one or more of these annual expenses and committing to covering it for the next three years? If not three years, even a single year makes a difference:

\$11 for the registration fee

\$27 for stationery costs

\$37 for medical insurance

\$73 for a bed in the dormitory

\$191 for tuition

\$218 to travel 300 miles from home six times over the year

\$727 for meals

The \$46 needed annually for three years for books has already been covered for all three through a gift of the Center Church in McMurray.

Even committing toward any portion of the cost for meals would be a help. Likewise other costs can be partially covered. With many congregations and individuals chipping in, and the Synod and her presbyteries finding the rest somewhere, we might be able to keep these “orphans” in school. Every amount counts, no matter how small.

They are all men, because the women candidates received scholarship help from the seminary. Their names are:



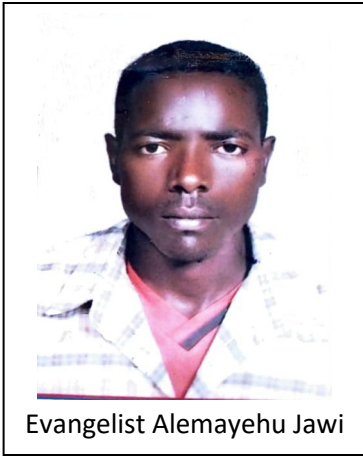
Rev. Habtamu Gayins, from the Dachabas congregation in the Andinet Presbytery

Rev. Getnet Bediru from the Hufa congregation in the Tinsae Presbytery



Mr. Misiker Eyasu from the Garikin congregation in Mizan Zuria Presbytery

Thomas Presbyterian Church has committed to covering the meals and dormitory costs for Mr. Misiker Eyasu for the remainder of his time.

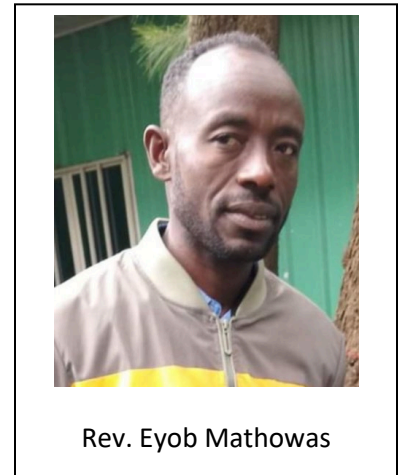


Evangelist Alemayehu Jawi

Evangelist Alemayehu Jawi from the Kumeta congregation in the Lidet Presbytery.

Mount Pleasant Presbyterian Church has already covered the total costs for Mr. Jawi.

Canonsburg Presbyterian Church has resolved to fully support a fifth orphan, Rev. Eyob Mathowas, from the Tamatin congregation in the Oibi Presbytery.



Rev. Eyob Mathowas

A sixth orphan, Mr. Tekle Koy from the Gola congregation in Bethsaida Presbytery, had to drop out of school to care for family members seriously ill with cerebral malaria. He won't be able to think of returning to school for a long while yet.

These men are equipping themselves to serve their people, their presbytery, and their synod.

Thank you for considering this need. Send any contribution, small or large, to the presbytery office at P.O. Box 146, Eighty Four PA 15330. Any checks should be made out to "Washington Presbytery" with a note in the memo line or accompanying note specifying the intention for "Ethiopia Liturgy" or "Ethiopia orphan" (or the orphan by name, if you like to know who is on the other end of the gift).