

## **The Rev. Viking and Marissa Dietrich**

“Viking is on the road a lot with his job as General Secretary of JCMWA.” JCMWA, the Joint Christian Ministry in West Africa, is a network of churches and mission groups across West Africa working among the Fulani people. In 2008, Viking and the JCMWA coordinators were on the road for 25 weeks, almost 6 months, visiting church leaders among the Fulani in 11 countries. Viking finds hope in “the constant witness of Fulani Christians throughout West Africa, who continue in their faith despite economic difficulties and social persecution.” Marissa teaches English at the International School of Dakar, directs school plays, and volunteers at a number of school activities and committees.



Viking and Marissa are among the 268 ELCA missionaries serving across the world. For 164 years, the ELCA and its antecedent church bodies have been sending missionaries around the globe. Today, there are 68 million Lutherans worldwide and 140 churches affiliated with the Lutheran World Federation. With its 80 recognized ‘companion churches’, the ELCA seeks to practice the accompaniment model of mission, in which companions build up each other’s ministry by sharing knowledge, insights, personnel, resources, and experience. For more details about the accompaniment model of mission and the ELCA’s global mission work, request a free copy of the 2009 Global Mission Annual by calling (800) 638-3522, ext. 2642.

Viking and Marissa can serve because congregations like yours support them through prayer and financial gifts. If your congregation supports an ELCA missionary, we express our thanks to you! If you do not support an ELCA missionary, we encourage you to contact us and begin supporting the missionary of your choice. Please contact Pastor Twila Schock by email: [Twila.Schock@elca.org](mailto:Twila.Schock@elca.org) or call her at (800) 638-3522, ext. 2641.

[www.elca.org/globalmission](http://www.elca.org/globalmission)

## ***Hand in Hand Around the World***



## **Lent 2009**

## **Ash Wednesday**