

Ghana Partnership Committee Announcement

The Rev. Alphonse Kwadzo-Kuma will come from Ghana this fall.

The Ghana Partnership Committee of the Presbytery of Lake Michigan is pleased to announce that Rev. Alphonso Kwadzo-Kuma, Chairman of the Ho-East Presbytery, Evangelical Presbyterian Church, Ghana, has received a visa to come to Michigan later this fall. Dates for his visit are not completely firm, but tentatively, he will arrive here late in October and return to Ghana sometime after the middle of November. He will visit the Benton Harbor area during his first week in Michigan and the Kalamazoo area during the second week. He is scheduled to bring a report to the presbytery meeting at Grand Rapids Westminster on Saturday, 13 November. He will be available to visit congregations elsewhere in the presbytery during his remaining time in Michigan. The schedule for his visit will be announced in a subsequent e-bulletin.

If you are interested in having Rev. Kwadzo-Kuma visit your congregation, please contact John Petro, (269-342-6817), <john.petro@wmich.edu> as soon as possible.

Rev. Alphonse Kwadzo-Kuma, age 56, was ordained in 1982 by the Evangelical Presbyterian Church, Ghana and has received a Master's Degree in Christian Education from Union Presbyterian Seminary, Richmond, Virginia. Currently, he is the Program Officer for the Christian Education and Children's Ministry of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church and is the Chairman of the Ho-East Presbytery. Formerly, he was the chaplain and an instructor at the Mawuli Secondary School in Ho, Ghana.

Unfortunately, two women pastors and a laywoman, whom we had also invited to come to Michigan, failed to receive visas and will not be coming to Michigan at this time. Hopefully, there will be an opportunity at a later time for these dear partners to visit us here in Michigan.

Congregations within our presbytery have had partnerships with congregations in the Ho-Presbytery, Evangelical Presbyterian Church, Ghana, since 1980. On seven occasions, members of our presbytery have traveled to visit partners in the Ho-East Presbytery. Rev. Kwadzo-Kuma's visit here this fall will be the seventh occasion when partners from the Ho-East Presbytery have traveled to visit us. A five-year partnership agreement between the Presbytery of Lake Michigan and the Ho-East Presbytery was signed in Ho on 30 April 2005. This agreement is due for review and renewal this year. Over the years, five congregations in our presbytery have participated in the Ghana partnership. Currently, only Benton Harbor First and Kalamazoo First are actively participating in this partnership. The next visit from our presbytery to the Ho-East Presbytery is planned for June 2011.

– *John Petro, Convener, Ghana Partnership Committee*

