



# Borneo Briefings

## April 2016

---

*Newsletter from the Trozzo family,  
Serving the Church in Sabah, Malaysia*

Greetings, friends and supporters!

It's April, which means that Eric has shifted from research/writing about using the pastoral aspects of Martin Luther's theology as a guide for mission-oriented theology and practice (he has just finished an article that will be coming out soon in the Norwegian Journal of Mission on the topic), and begun teaching more classes that he will lead until



June, when we come to the USA for home assignment. Here you see Eric in the Lutheran Study Centre, teaching about how to find both Law \*and\* Gospel in any and every Scripture passage. There's been a lot of student talk in the halls, as what Eric is teaching is a new perspective for them, and so can be challenging not only academically, but also spiritually. [Elder brother in parables story]

Eric has also arranged for Rev. Dr. Bill Russell, an ELCA pastor/academic, to come from Minnesota and give additional teaching support, as well as leading a seminar for local pastors and graduates of STS. He will be leading a continuing ed seminar for pastors in Kuala Lumpur on "The Contemporary Relevance of the Lutheran Confessions," and then joining Eric in Kota Kinabalu to lead a seminar for English-speaking pastors about Reformation understandings of justification. They will also co-teach a pair of two-week intensive courses for advanced students.

## International School Term Break



The boys are back at school after a 3 ½ week term break. During break, Dante and Wendolyn worked hard (and conquered some fears) to earn their certification in Scuba Open Water diving.

The boys spent a lot of time in the kitchen learning to cook and clean (the cooking is one of their favorite hobbies!). (As Wendolyn typed this,

Caedmon's class was suspended for a week due to an outbreak of Hand Foot & Mouth. Out of the last 40 days, Cade has only had 5 days of school. This is part of why Wendolyn can't hold a more significant job – in the developing world, things come up often, and Wendolyn fills in the gaps. It's an adventure!)

## Good Friday service project

On Good Friday we were blessed to spend the day at Jireh Home, an orphanage on the edge of town that is funded by the BCCM (Lutheran Church) and run by Seminary staff. We helped the kids practice speaking English through songs and games from Maryland's Camp Mar-Lu-Ridge. The kids actually know English very well but are shy about speaking.



The 32 kids at Jireh Home are a wonderful group, taking care of one another and welcoming us for a day of mutual learning.

## Preaching at BCCM Sinagang village





On Sunday, March 13, Wendolyn preached for the first time in the local language (Bahasa Malaysia). In the picture you can see the Dean of the BM conference in the blue clergy shirt, the village elder in the green shirt, and their pastor in the black shirt. The service was wonderful, having songs in 4 languages and a festive lunch

afterward. Wendolyn is looking forward to more preaching, especially at congregations without pastors and in harder-to-reach locations.



### **Boys Brigade**

Eric and Wendolyn have joined the boys in Boys Brigade – similar to Boy Scouts, but with a strong focus on faith development and military/marching formations. One of their main leaders recently moved to Princeton, NJ to work on a Master of Theology degree, so Eric and Wendolyn are lending a hand with mentoring and Christian education for the middle/high school boys. Dante earned his Blue Award, the 6<sup>th</sup> badge one can get, and Caedmon is part of the Anchors, similar to Tiger Cub Scouts.

### **Home Assignment**

We continue to make plans for this summer's Home Assignment. Though our Sundays are mostly full, mid-week events can still be arranged! We will be on the East coast from June 11-August 16 and in California from August 16-23. We will have to figure out a good exercise plan, as we have plenty of hours in the car and a favorite ice cream place in each town!

## **You can contact us by:**

Email: [eric.trozzo@elca.org](mailto:eric.trozzo@elca.org) and  
[wendofish@yahoo.com](mailto:wendofish@yahoo.com)

Mail: Sabah Theological Seminary, P.O. Box  
11925  
88821, Kota Kinabalu  
Sabah, Malaysia

## **We are grateful for your support!**

Two easy ways to give: 1.) online at [Community.ELCA.org/Malaysia](http://Community.ELCA.org/Malaysia) (takes you directly to our page,  
or

2.) By cheque, made payable to ELCA Global Church Sponsorship, with Trozzo MSG0715 in the  
memo line. Mailing address is: ELCA Gift Processing Center, P.O. Box 1809, Merrifield, VA 22116-  
8009

If you have any questions, please call 800-638-3522, ext. 2657, or contact  
[globalchurch@elca.org](mailto:globalchurch@elca.org).

# Thank you for being such a blessing to us! The peace of the Lord be with you!

---