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# The Lutheran Center for Theological Studies (CLET)

Dapaong, Togo  
\$94,680

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CLET Students With Staff And Visitors



Women's School At The CLET



Rev. Fluegge With Two Togolese Students

The Lutheran Center for Theological Studies (CLET) in Togo serves to educate pastors for Lutheran church bodies all through French-speaking Africa, including Togo, Benin, Guinea, Ivory Coast, Burkina Faso, Congo-Brazzaville and the Democratic Republic of Congo. While the first part of this training is done through theological education by extension (TEE) in the different countries, the last part of this training takes place on the CLET campus located in Dapaong, Togo. CLET's secondary purpose is to prepare students for higher theological training in a Lutheran seminary.

The CLET program includes two tracks—a novice (pre-seminary) track tailored for leaders who have little formal education, and a pastoral track leading to ordination. This approach was developed based on the realities of the fields –

where the people are and what they need – rather than trying to take a syllabus from the United States and transfer it to Africa. Many church leaders have had only five years of formal education, and therefore read and write at a low level. Courses are all contextualized; they speak to West African issues. Students at the CLET are involved in daily field work activities, including mentoring of students by professors, pastoral visits, evangelism at the prison and hospital in Dapaong, church planting efforts in the neighborhood around the CLET and chapel services. With an average of 12 students per class, the CLET is able to instruct a total of 35 students each year.

Upon completion of the pastoral program's academic cycle, the students return to their home churches and begin supervised vicarages. Some of the students have been at the CLET for two full years without having seen their families. A vicarage at the CLET is a pastoral internship that can last up to four years, depending on the vicar's church and support context.

Funding will be used for:

In past years, one large project was written to support sending students from various countries to the CLET. In order to try and help the school to function more independently, the funding parameters have changed for the 2011-12 school year. Beginning with the 2011-12 fiscal year, each student, along with his family, will be a "project" and will need to be funded as such. All costs will be built into the project, including the running of the school, transportation, medical emergency costs, visas, etc. These students will either be new students in their first year or students finishing their final year at the CLET. There is no longer one project labeled "CLET Support." The following is a list of students needing funding:

- Congo-Brazzaville – Two students finishing their studies this year and moving on to their vicarage. \$13,070
- Ivory Coast – Three students beginning their first year of study. \$24,418
- Democratic Republic of Congo – Two students beginning their first year of study. \$15,570
- Guinea – Two students finishing their studies this year and moving on to their vicarage. \$21,480
- Togo – Three students beginning their first year of study. \$20,141

Prayer needs:

- Pray for the students from the Ivory Coast as they travel through a war-torn country.
- Pray for the wives of the students as they attend a course on "Christian Family" with their husbands.
- Pray for the students who must be at the CLET for long periods of time without seeing their families.