

MADA MATTERS

Happy Malagasy Independence Day!

What I do

I coordinate the YAGM (Young Adults in Global Mission) program of the ELCA in Madagascar. This means programmatic, logistical and pastoral support for 7 volunteers in all corners of this country. I travel a ton to see them and to support the accompaniment part of our church to church work. I am constantly being refined and renewed, learning things about the world and myself while challenging and cultivating my faith.

Questions/ Communication

Pastor Kirsten Laderach -
YAGM Country Coordinator -
Madagascar

Blog:
madagascarvaovao.wordpress.com

Email:
kirsten.laderach@elca.org

Facebook: YAGM Madagascar

Mailing: BP 880, Isoraka 101
Antananarivo, Madagascar



Old and new..

One of the most interesting ministries (to me) here in the FLM (Malagasy Lutheran Church) is their Printing House, *Trano Printy*. It's been around for many decades and it prints all the materials needed for the church; bibles, hymnals, devotionals, magazines, education materials and more. It prints for the the Lutheran church as well as other churches and secular educational resources.

I have been there a number of times as we place a volunteer there nearly every year. (The volunteer usually teaches English and often writes articles for the Youth Magazine which get translated





Ways to support me

As always I thank you for your thoughts, prayers and support. It takes a lot to sustain our work here in Madagascar and around the world. Ways you can help:

- Pray - for me, our work here and for Madagascar
- Communicate - through email and snail mail
- Sponsor - myself or Global ministries in Madagascar at: <https://community.elca.org/Madagascar>



Prayer Requests -

The political uncertainty continues but election dates have been set. Pray for the elections to be fair, transparent and well accepted.

The volunteers as they end their year of service in mid-July.

into Malagasy.) Every visit is just as fascinating as the one before. Trano Printy uses technologies 5 years old and technologies 100 years old, all in tandem and doing their specific work. On a recent visit I watched workers handset type in one area, hand collate a glossy magazine in another, all while a contemporary press printed endless bible pages.

Pictured above is Pastor Haja, (he works with our volunteers), me and my sister who came for a wonderful visit! Another interesting note about Pastor Haja, he is a wonderful church musician, he is currently editing the entire hymnal for a new reprint to come soon!

Independence Day

Every June 26 we celebrate Independence Day in Madagascar. Independent from French colonization since 1960, Madagascar recognized 58 years with an amazing fireworks display over Lake Anosy in the middle of Antananarivo. It was a rather crisp and spirited night! I watched the fireworks with fellow missionaries representing the Norwegian Mission Society and DanMission. They are wonderful colleagues who have become great friends.

