



**English is the language of education in Ethiopia. All classes are taught in English in upper grades and students must pass a series of exams in English before advancing to college preparatory studies.**

**Mettu high school students have a very low success rate on this National Exam, which is given after 10th grade and after 12th grade. This project is one way of responding to this need within the context of twenty years of partnership between Illubabor Bethel Synod and Shenandoah Presbytery.**

**American college students and parishioners partner with Ethiopian educators to teach English to 9-12th grade students for four to five weeks in the summer, encouraging them to practice English and teaching new study and test taking techniques. To find out how you can be a part of this project, just read on....**



**By Amanuel Sirika**

“When I entered the class I saw two girls they are very beautiful, one ask the name of the students and one sit around the table I entered the class and she asks me my name and I say “Amanuel” and she says “what is your last name?”

And I told her my last name and I sat around the corner. The first girl introduced herself. Her name is Teacher Jessica and the second girl also introduced herself. Her name is Telile Dagne. And they started to teach us we understand that Jessica is “farange” and Telile is Oromo. First I couldn’t understand Jessica’s pronunciation. Because she speaks fast but I can understand Telile’s pronunciation she speaks fast but clearly...

Jessica has a way to pick students who do not want to voluntary by throwing a ball and the students introduce themselves one by one. The first day I did not voluntary to introduce myself because I fear so much if she asks me any question how can I answer the questions? Her pronunciation is very difficult. I say to myself.

However, I speak without any fear when we had debate. I sat tight in the table and I started to debate with our anti group but we do not have more casting vote. Teacher Jessica and Telile supervise but the students give more casting vote to our anti group and they win us because of this I was very angry for few minutes.

I conclude that Teacher Jessica and Telile are decent girls who are voluntary to give us their knowledge they are perfect in English language and they wish if we are perfect in English language. I can remember this event in all my life. Thank you.”



***"You have to be your own job and work without (being) tired. Then if you change yourself, you are the change for your country."***

Biniam Esheu, student 2012



**Students at Mettu High School  
July 2012**

A program of the Ethiopia  
Partnership Committee  
Shenandoah Presbytery

## *English for Ethiopia*

### **Project Goals**

- 1) To improve the English language skills of Mettu High School students so there is a higher success rate on the National Exam. Students have to pass this exam to be able to continue on an academic schedule and have a chance at going to college.
- 2) To provide an opportunity for Americans from Shenandoah Presbytery to experience life and service in Ethiopia.
- 3) To embody our common calling be Christ for the world in partnership between Illubabor Bethel Synod and Shenandoah Presbytery.



## *How Can My Church Get Involved?*

### **Invite parishioners or college students to consider this opportunity to serve.**

Tell your pastor about the opportunity so that he or she can present it to those feeling called to short term mission service.

### **Recommend financial support** for this project to your church's session.

Churches who contribute financially to the project support the cost of teaching supplies, in-country expenses, and scholarships for participants.

**Donate supplies** for the project. Pens and dictionaries are used as rewards for students and churches find that collection of these supplies during Vacation Bible School and discussion about the project gives a worldwide perspective of the Church's work. Contact a member of the partnership committee for specific needs. Pray for this project and other projects of the IBS Shenandoah Presbytery partnership.



*“So you are no longer aliens or foreign visitors: you are fellow citizens with the holy people of God.”*  
Ephesians 2:19

## *Quick facts about joining the project as a "teacher."*

**\* No experience required!** Families are welcome!

Anyone who can speak English fluently can help students to practice conversation. Although generally trained educators can provide valuable instruction for students, children and young adults are more approachable for Ethiopian youth and an incredible amount of informal learning can take place.

**\*Teachers usually stay 4 weeks** in Ethiopia with 2-3 weeks of teaching.

**\*The cost per person is about \$2,400** regardless of the length of your trip (in country expenses are very low). *Please do not let cost deter you from applying to participate; financial aid is available.*

**\*Exact dates for the trip are not available** until we purchase plane tickets in the spring, but estimates are the month of **July**.

**\*Shenandoah Presbytery has been sending visitors to Mettu for 25 years.** This well-established relationship with Illubabor Bethel Synod makes us confident of our safety in their care and provides a wonderful context for mutual service in Christ's name.

**\*If you are interested in learning more,** please contact Pat Burslem - [pburslem331@comcast.net](mailto:pburslem331@comcast.net) (540-667-0172) to receive an application and more information.