



Sawubon: "I see you"

Sharing a love of sports, they bring teamwork to their ministry. Pastor Brian and Kristen Konkol are ELCA missionaries in South Africa where they coach a team of 11 ELCA Young Adults in Global Mission. "We are complementary in our work," says Kristen.

"Kristen's more of a shooting guard, and I'm a point guard," laughs Brian. More seriously, he adds, "When a young adult missionary is sick, my pastoral side kicks in. I ask, 'How are you doing? Will you be OK?'" Kristen asks the more clinical questions, "What are your symptoms? Do you have a fever?"

The Konkols moved from missionary service in Guyana two years ago to Pietermaritzburg, South Africa. Together, they mentor young adult missionaries serving in education, social justice projects, community development, health and wellness, music, the arts and children's ministry.

"As a team, we try to model healthy routines and patterns for the young adults. We want them to engage South Africans in their ministry holistically," says Kristen. "Here we greet each other with the word *sawubon*. It means, 'I see you.' We want them to see the whole person."

Brian and Kristen are two of nine ELCA missionaries mentoring young adults serving in Mexico, United Kingdom, Malaysia, Slovakia-Hungary, Jerusalem-West Bank, South Africa and Argentina-Uruguay. Through your support of ELCA missionaries, you make a world of difference! Thank you!



Pastor Brian and Kristen Konkol, ELCA missionaries in South Africa, model healthy routines and teamwork for the young adult missionaries they mentor.

Twila

The Rev. Twila Schock is director, Missionary Sponsorship.



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