

Pastor Kristin Engstrom
Senegal Young Adults in Global Mission Country Coordinator
August Newsletter Article

The rainy season has finally begun here in Senegal, after nine months of waiting. The farmers have sprung into action: tilling the soil, planting the seeds, and then eagerly waiting, and then eagerly waiting for their precious crops to sprout. It is a cycle of waiting and watching and tending that comes around every year.

I find myself in a place of active waiting as well during this summer season. On July 7th, the 2017-2018 Senegal Young Adults in Global Mission (YAGM) group said goodbye to one another, to their communities, and to Senegal; and then began the process of returning to the United States and their lives there. And now, those of us still in Senegal, have, like the farmers, begun preparing and waiting and watching for the next group of Senegal YAGM to arrive this coming week, on August 23rd.

The packing lists have been sent, and hopefully read thoroughly by the new YAGM, last minute questions and responses are still flowing through e-mails, and US families have started to say goodbye to their young adults and entrust them to their sisters and brothers on the other side of the Atlantic. Meanwhile, here in Senegal, supervisors are discerning how a young adult will best serve with them next year and new host families are preparing to welcome a young American into their home and into their lives.

Please keep the returning YAGMs and the soon arriving YAGMs, as well as myself and our Lutheran partners here in Senegal in your prayers as we wait and watch transition together. On est ensemble. (We are together.)



Returning YAGM (left to right in photo): Pastor Kristin, Casey, Kristian, Berkley, Lily, Grace, Hannah



New YAGM (left to right in photo):
Andrew, Zeb, Hannah, Abbey, Rachel H, Rachel O, Maddie, Pastor Kristin