

The Thirteen of Thirteen

Jeff Schulte

2018 Steinbeck Scholarship Recipients



First off, I am so grateful to learn that the LWML has chosen to support me once more with the 2018 Steinbeck Scholarship. Thank you all very much for your contributions that allowed for this scholarship to happen. It has had a big impact on my ability to keep pursuing my degree in the field that I love. I'm currently in the clinical phase and my last semester of Physician Assistant school at Missouri State University, and if all goes as planned, I will graduate with my Master's degree in mid-December. I have been very blessed to have your continued support through my education, and my family is very grateful for your continued support of mission work and spreading of the Gospel.

As a little bit of background--my name is Jeff and I am one of four children to my parents Gary and Stephanie Schulte, who are currently serving as missionaries overseas for the LCMS office of international missions in Burkina Faso, West Africa. My father is the Area Director of missions in West and Central Africa and my mother uses her background as a nurse to coordinate Medical Mission Trips to those same regions. My parents served originally as missionaries in Togo and the Ivory Coast during the late 80's through the early 2000's while raising me and my siblings who were all born in West Africa. This time around, they are entering their third year back in Africa since redeploying in 2016 and they are doing very different but equally important mission work. Growing up in Africa and being the child of missionaries has greatly shaped my life in ways that I would not trade for anything. Having that example in my life has bred a passion for travel and service work in me. In preparation for PA school, it led me to go on mission trips myself as well as pursue employment where I would have opportunity to serve others as a patient care technician and an EMT. It has helped me to understand how I can contribute to being a witness for Christ through my work and my time while I'm here on earth. When I graduate from PA school I plan to initially work for a "traveling" or "locum tenens" organization which will allow me to work as an independent contractor in a wide variety of environments. I plan to use this experience to serve others in areas across the country that are underserved. In addition, this will provide a unique opportunity to be a witness to my faith through my work. Not to mention the added benefit and blessing of being able to explore and appreciate God's creation as I travel to new places and see new things.

Although this will be my last Steinbeck scholarship, I hope and pray that you will continue to support all missionaries and their families as they strive to fulfill Jesus' great commission for us, and that you know that your support will continue to have a lasting and positive impact on Christ's church throughout the world.

God bless,
Jeff