

**The Seventh of Twelve  
2016 Steinbeck Scholarship Recipients**



I was born in Nalerigu, Ghana and lived in Togo, West Africa until I was 7 and the Ivory Coast until I was 9 years old. Following a coup d'etat in the Ivory Coast in 2002, however, we moved back to the states and settled into the St. Louis area. I attended a Lutheran grade school there before moving to a small town about an hour south of St. Louis called Hillsboro, where I attended all 4 years of high school. After graduating in 2011, I spent the next four years earning my BA in Biochemistry from Depauw University in Greencastle, Indiana. Some of the highlights of my time at Depauw were when I played soccer during parts of my first two years, and when I spent a semester of my Junior year studying abroad in Cape Town, South Africa. Since college, I have spent just over the past year in preparation to attend Physician Assistant School. To do this, I've been taking prerequisite courses and working as a Patient Care Technician at Barnes Jewish hospital in St. Louis to gain experience in healthcare. I was also blessed last fall to be able to take an individual mission trip for three months to the country of Guinea, in West Africa, where I helped to restart a small clinic offering simple medical services to the community of Siguiri. In just over a week, I will be taking a similar trip (this time with a group through an LCMS Medical Mission Trip) to Madagascar for about a month. When I return from Madagascar, I'll be beginning my Master's in Physician Assistant studies at one of the programs I've been accepted to starting in January (unsure which one just yet).

Feeling very blessed to have been awarded this scholarship, and I'm very thankful to the LWML and everyone who has been involved in this.

God bless,  
Jeff