

8/26/2006

Hello all:

So much has happened since our last update, I hardly know where to start. The group from Georgia Tech Campus Fellowship arrived, and we had a good two weeks with them. We visited all the famine relief food distribution sites in Kajiado district. It was an amazing trip. We saw hundreds of people coming to collect food. They were excited to meet the people who had been providing their food for the last 5 months. 18,000 people were helped with the food from the Campus House money, and the people were very appreciative!! The women were dressed in many ornaments, and they sang and danced at each stop. We traveled hundreds of miles on bad dirt roads, but were thrilled at the great opportunity that we had. The group (five people) did great with the different culture here. They had never eaten goat before, but they can't say that anymore!! People were so happy about receiving the food, that several families joined together to donate a goat. It was killed in front of the group, and then cut up and roasted. It was good. We were so tired at the end of each day!! (especially this old man!)

The Kumpa Clinic is coming right along. It is almost finished!! They tell me that within 10 days it will be completed. We are planning a dedication in November. Of all things, my digital camera batteries died, and I only got video.

Bad news, my laptop computer screen /*died*/ this week. I am going to try and get the data off of it on Saturday. We are checking to see if it is under warranty or if we have to buy another computer. Our daughter, Kendra, is checking about it for us.

On Judy's broken arm, we didn't get very good news from the Doctor. She had the new xrays on Monday morning, and then he read them Monday afternoon. He said that the arm is still broken, and that it looked to him like the bone was thinning further. On Wednesday, Judy went to her physiotherapist, Hillary, who has a Phd. in bone union from Edinburgh University, in Scotland. She is an expert on the subject, and she said that it was too early for the bone to come together. This is only 13 weeks, and the average for a woman with osteoporosis to heal from a long bone break is 16 weeks!! So, we were encouraged. She also told her to return to several of her regular tasks (which includes washing dishes) So, things are beginning to return to more normal around here. She was even told that she could start driving (but she can't carry or lift anything--including her purse). She tried driving today with me in the car, and she did fine. She doesn't have her full movement back, but she is better. So, we will just have to wait, her next appointment is Oct. 2 for xray and Dr. visit.

It is good timing that she will be able to drive, as I am going on Tuesday to Tanzania for meetings, and to begin the process of registering our new churches. I am also preaching at the church that we started in Arusha on Sunday morning, and then drive back to Nairobi.

About Jack, thank you for your prayers. Please keep lifting him before the throne of God. Jack went last week with his uncle and another relative to Kisii to see the grandmother again. They were able to get Jack's birth mother's death certificate, and were able to have Jack's birth certificate corrected to indicate that he was a boy. BUT, his

grandmother refused to sign. So, we are waiting for our lawyer to come back to town from her vacation, and interestingly, our case worker is also on vacation. When they come back we will see what they recommend for us to go forward. There must be some rights for Jack. His grandmother actually told him that we had already gone to court and that the judge said that we could not adopt him, but that we could educate him!!!! What a lie. He believed it, and was happy to hear from us that there was no truth to it at all. He is devastated, but is resilient. "We are knocked down, but not knocked out". He started 6th grade on Tuesday, and was happy to be back with all his friends! He is such a great young man, we are anxious for you all to meet him!

The newest Matale church plant has had 55 people each week. It is encouraging! At another place in Matale B, there are 60 and 22 ready for baptism. Several of the other places are also having people come to hear the Good News! We praise God for what he is doing through these church planters.

Again, thanks for being an important part of our team! God is reaching into unreached places, and calling people to Himself!!!

Blessings, Gary and Judy Woods and Jack