

May 6, 2010

Ministry Update



JEFF AND JOYELLEN HAZARD

Hazard  
Yoda  
Leo

# The 4/14 Window

These days we hear a lot about the “10/40 Window.” The 10/40 Window is an area of the world that contains the largest population of non-Christians in the world. The area extends from 10 degrees to 40 degrees North of the equator, and stretches from North Africa across to China.

While we minister just south of this location, many of our students’ parents minister in the 10/40 window and we are grateful to be a part of reaching the world for Christ by teaching and nurturing these students.

This past month Rift Valley Academy had the

privilege of hosting the “International Christian Educators Conference” (ICEC). Nearly 300 teachers from all over Africa congregated and shared testimonies, attended workshops and sessions, and worshipped the Lord together. It was an amazing time!

What surprised us during the weekend was to learn that we are a huge part of ministering in the 4/14 Window. What is that, you may ask?

According to our main speaker, Wes Stafford, president of Compassion International, *nearly 85 percent of people who receive Christ do so*

*between the ages of 4 and 14.*

We are privileged to be working with kids in this very window! So many efforts in the mission world are geared towards adults when the harvest for reaching children is ripe. Surprisingly, even though we work at a Christian School, not all our students are believers.

We gained new excitement and new momentum as we attended this conference, realizing that God has called us to this 4/14 window to make disciples of the kids around us each day.

## *Well Done, My Good and Faithful Servant*

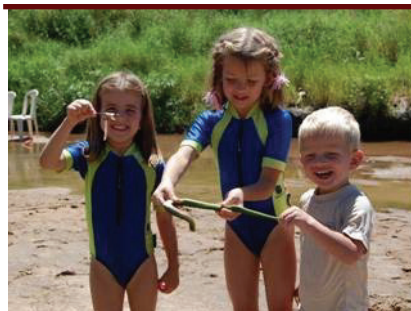
On March 13, 2010, Katherine Hazard joined her Savior in Heaven. Jeff’s grandmother was 96 years old when she moved from earth to Heaven and while we mourn her passing, and it is difficult to fully grieve from a distance, we are so thankful for her faith in God and that she is now

rejoicing with the angels!

We were actually able to attend her memorial service....online! It was quite the experience to be a part of the visitation from 10 thousand miles away. We are thankful for technology!



Gram with our family  
—July 2008



The kids with a grass snake, found and slain on a recent camping trip.

### **Did you know?????**

One distinguishing difference between the harmless grass snake (seen here) and the deadly green mamba is the color of the inside of its mouth. Although by the time you can see that, it’s probably too late to do anything about it.

## Prayer Requests:



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*"Always making disciples"*



- Praise for the great teacher's conference held here at RVA on April 1-4. It was a time of encouragement and refreshment.
- Praise for the 80 boys we have been able to invest in as we served in Duma Dorm over the past 9 years.
- Praise for the 96 years that Grandma Hazard was able to impact her family. Pray for our family as we will miss her here on earth.
- Pray for us as we anticipate our big move – to a different house and a different job at RVA – in August. Pray for Jeff as he acclimates to the new job of Dean of Students.
- Pray for our children as they adjust to a new house...with only 3 kids instead of 25 kids!
- We are nearly half way through our four-year term of service here. It has been a very busy two years! Pray for perseverance as we press on. Pray for our family, marriage and ministry to remain strong and that we will daily go to the Lord for our strength.

## A Change of Scenery

We have lived in the same house here at RVA since 2001 – nine years! That may not seem like a big deal to you, but understand that here at this school there is a huge turnover of staff from year to year. And depending on family size, longevity, plans to go on home assignment, and various other things, you can get shuffled from house to house quite quickly around here. Bottom line is you cannot get too attached to the house you are in because you don't know long you will be there.

Since we have been dorm parents to grades 9 and 10 boys during this whole time, we have been blessed to stay in the same house/dorm. Well, all that is about to change at the end of this school year.

Not only are we moving houses, we are moving jobs....but all right here on the RVA campus. Jeff has been asked to take the Dean of Students position next year. While we are excited for this new chapter in our lives, it does mean that we will be moving out of the dorm and all that has been familiar to us for nine years!

We have loved being in the dorm. We have had about 80 boys go through our dorm over the past 9 years. We have learned and grown a lot over our years in the dorm. Our family has grown in this house...we came in as a young couple with no kids and will be moving out with three children.



At the same time, we welcome the change and the new opportunities ahead of us! Jeff will have a lot of interaction with students still. He will also be overseeing the boys' high school dorm parents. Pray for us as we make this big change – for us as we adjust to new roles and for our kids as they will miss being in the dorm with their big brothers.