

We are on the verge of our 14th year at RVA. We can't begin to thank you enough for all of your prayers and support - partnering with us to help shape the lives of TCK's in Kenya.

A BIGGER STORY



Milestones...

This month marks **1 year** since we were officially cleared by Africa Inland Mission to return to RVA! After a trust-strengthening year of support raising, we finally reached 100% of our goal and were able to make plans to return.



This month also marks **4 years** since we moved into new positions at RVA – leaving behind 9 years of dorm parenting high school boys. Joyellen started teaching part time and Jeff moved into administration, serving as Dean of Students.

This month marks **13 years** that we have served at RVA. As we welcome the wide-eyed, excited new staff this week onto our campus, I remember well those days of setting up house in a new country, learning the ropes here at Rift Valley Academy, and being the new kids on the block. It is amazing to think that 13 years and 3

kids later, we are still here and loving what God has called us to!

Thank you! Thank you for sticking with us these past 13 years. We are truly grateful for your financial support, prayers and interest in our ministry. We are thrilled to be here at RVA, shaping lives to change the world! We encounter crazy and erratic drivers all the time on this road.



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Changes...

This fall will bring about a big change for our family. Joyellen, after being home with the children, or teaching only part-time, will enter the full time teaching world again! It has been 13 years since she has had a classroom of her own, so in some ways it will be like the first of year of teaching all over again. Joyellen will be teaching 5th grade. However, there are two 5th grade classes this year, so she will team-teach with Chris, a great teacher who has been here at RVA for several years. They will split subjects, so that will make the teaching prep a lot less for both. While it is super exciting to get back into the classroom, it will be a big change for the family to have “Mom” working full time. Pray that this will be a smooth adjustment for all.



Highlights...

This was an exciting term to be a part of. Here are some of the highlights in “easy-read format!”

- A missions team coming to visit RVA and helping out with our elementary field day and bringing special goodies for the dorm parents to share with their kiddos. Thanks “Love Africa” team!
- Jeff taking the middle school kids out to the valley below us for a special day of rock climbing. This is a great day for the kids to learn more, but also build their confidence.
- Joyellen accompanying the 6th grade class on their Sixth Grade Safari for 4 days, as a cook/chaperone. This is Megan’s class and it was a privilege to interact with them as they learned about wildlife, conservation, and were challenged in their faith. What a great class!
- Jeff’s parents volunteering on staff for 6 weeks. Greg taught high school Social Studies classes and Louise became the resident “Grandma” on campus!
- Jeff driving the bus for many school events – band tour, choir tour, sports games, airport runs, and dorm outings. Okay, so maybe this wasn’t a highlight since Kenya roads are terrible, but it sure keeps things running around here!
- Graduation! We love this class that just graduated so this was bittersweet. It was a wonderful day of celebration but we will sure miss them!



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You are receiving this email because you have partnered with Jeff and Joyellen investing in lives that Change the World.

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