

H A B A R I L E O



ONCE A HOUSE CATCHES FIRE THERE'S ALMOST NO CHANCE OF STOPPING IT, ONLY TO KEEP IT FROM TAKING OTHERS.

Blessed to be a Blessing

The last time I wrote about a house being built. This time I am writing about a house again but its a bit different. Just recently a I received a frantic phone call that the house of a friend of mine was on fire and quickly spreading toward the home of another friend. Many of the homes here in Kenya are made mainly of wood, very dry wood. Many are insulated with paper and card board. When you get a call that someone's house is on fire and help is needed, the help isn't for the house that's on fire. The help is for all the other homes around it so that they don't catch fire. The burning house is already gone.

This time was no different. When I was able to get up the hill to John's house it was just a pile of burning sticks. The goal was to contain the fire and burning embers to his property so that it wouldn't spread to the house just 10 feet next door. The trailer we pulled only held 200 ltrs. of water. Trying to contain the fire we used all 200 ltrs. in less than 10 minutes. We were able to refill the trailer once at a nearby stream.

By the time we returned with the second load of water there were close to 20 or so people digging in the rubble. At first glance I thought that they were trying to find any hot spots so we could douse them with water. In actuality they were digging through what was left of the house looking for anything they could take. Some finding mismatched tools and filling their pockets while others were looking through boxes and tins hoping to find any unburned cash. As we found out later someone hit it big as all the money John had stashed in his house was missing.

John had been saving money to build a home for about 6 teenaged orphaned street boys that he had taken into his home over the past 2 years. The boys had been doing much of the construction themselves and John was just about ready to buy the next load of supplies when the fire hit. Devastated and defeated John, his wife Nancy and their 5 year old daughter Carol turned to God in prayer. Over the next few days John was able to secure a rental house, replace most of the boys clothes as well

as his daughter's and many of he and Nancy's as well. Several items of furniture were donated and within two days John was back to work on the boys home. Later John was telling us of all the things that had been lost and now replaced. He explained that the money for the building supplies was the biggest loss, but he knows God will supply. As he explained things, our three kids over heard the conversation. Megan took Lyndsey and Ian and quietly slipped away. A few minutes later they appeared tugging on John's hand. "We want to help", Megan said. She and Lyndsey each handed John, 500/-shillings and Ian handed him 250/-shillings. All together they had cleaned out their banks of nearly \$14 to help John.

It's easy at times to get overwhelmed by the all needs around you. But as my children reminded me, every little bit helps. God has blessed us in so many ways. Its a gift and a privilege and responsibility to bless others in return.

Behind Closed Doors

At the end of March, I had the wonderful opportunity to visit a dear friend of mine who works in a closed country. For security reasons, I can't share her name, or the country she works in, but I will say that it was an eye-opening visit for me!

While there are hundreds of mosques in **every city** across this country, there are less than 50 Protestant churches in the **whole country**.

It was interesting to follow my friend in her daily routine – visiting in homes, working amongst locals in her daily job, and shopping along the bustling streets and listening to her speak the language fluently.

One highlight of the trip was to visit with a few students whose parents also work in that country. It was so cool to realize that we are a small part of this life changing work by caring for their kids.

A few things I realized on this trip:

- We are so fortunate to have religious freedom! When I returned from this trip, it made me want to share the Good News with everyone, since we have that freedom! I hope I can keep this perspective for a long time.
- Muslims are just as eager to convert us to their religion as we are to convert them! Some of them are so devout and sincere. It is amazing....yet sad.
- Muslims love to talk about religion and politics – two topics that we Americans generally steer clear of. In many ways there were tons of opportunities to share the Good News since the topic of religion came up so often.

- It is very fun to see, smell, taste, experience a new culture! I loved every minute of that. One evening, in my jaw-dropping, eyes-bulging state of walking around (looking like a complete tourist!), I actually tripped and fell on the sidewalk because I wasn't watching where I was going! It was actually pretty funny! 😊
- God is at work in these closed countries. We, are privileged to care for students whose parents work in such countries. We love being a small part of this amazing work!

**WE ARE FORTUNATE TO
HAVE RELIGIOUS
FREEDOM...I HOPE I CAN
KEEP THIS PERSPECTIVE.**



Family Updates

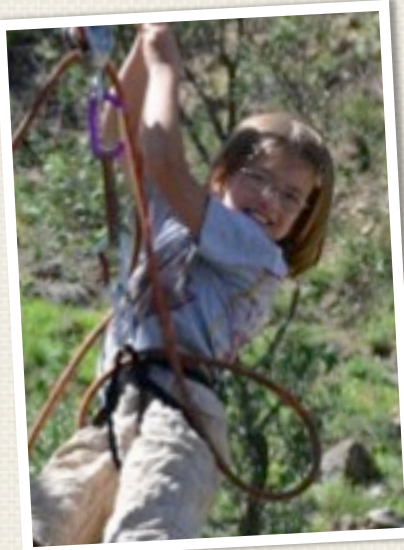
JEFF

The first year in administration as dean of men is over. It was an interesting year and I definitely learned a lot. It was a challenge being out of the dorm and we do really miss the time with the boys. Moving from a parenting role to a disciplinary role with students has taken some adjusting but having outlets like coaching soccer and teaching Sunday School have provided ways to connect with students on a less "serious" level. However the disciplinary side of things has provided opportunities to talk with students about some real heart issues and provide some direction and discovery in their lives.

In a few weeks school we will be back in session and our football (soccer) season will be underway. I'm looking forward to this year as many of the seniors on my team will be former dorm boys from our days in Duma Dorm. It will be exciting to be able to spend time with them and coach them for their final season at RVA before they graduate.

JOYELLEN

This has been a unique year, being out of the dorm. In some ways, I felt a little "lost" this year, without my role as a dorm mom. I did find ways to keep busy though (that isn't hard here!) I taught 1st and 2nd grade P.E. first term and coached Varsity Girls Field Hockey second term. I also continued teaching the 10th grade girls' Sunday School class that I have been involved with the last several years. Mostly, though, I am trying to enjoy the last few years of having Ian at home with me! This next year I will take my turn teaching his preschool class and divide my time between being home with him and and possibly teaching part-time.



MEGAN

I finished third grade this year. I have written two books in my free time so far. I enjoy writing and making books. I might write a song too. We are taking a trip with my teacher's family. My birthday was on July 31. I got a guitar.



LYNDSEY

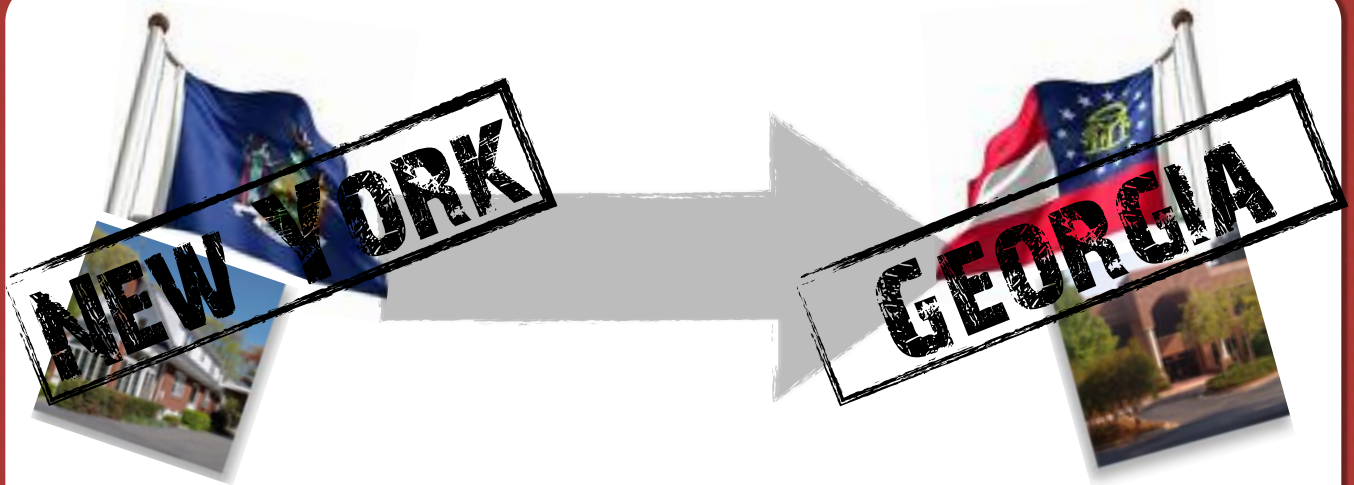
I am almost in first grade. I am 6 years old, almost 7. I have four loose teeth and lost two. My birthday is October 5. I like being in Kijabe because we can go on safaris. I really like school.



IAN

I have friends named Brennan, Asher, Ethan and Marcus. I like to play at their houses. I like to play outside with my friends and run around. I like drinking chai at my house. I like to play super-heros.

AIM-USA'S NEW HOME



Africa Inland Mission's USA Headquarters is changing location as of August 1st, 2011. We want to make sure that those of you who need it have their new mailing information. If you send support to the mission by check please continue to make checks payable to "Africa Inland Mission" and send them to:

**Africa Inland Mission
P.O. Box 3611
Peachtree City
GA, 30269-7611**

If you send support via electronic deposit you don't need to do anything differently. Thank you for your continued support of our ministry and the work of Africa Inland Mission Intl.

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Prayer and Praises

- **Pray** for John, Nancy and Baby Carol as they rebuild their lives after a total loss from the fire.
- **Pray** for John's boys home and the remaining work that needs to be done.
- **Pray** for Kenya in general, as severe droughts are ravaging this country. Food supply is extremely low and costs are extremely high.
- **Pray** for the start of this next school year on August 26.
- **Praise** for a successful first year as dean.
- **Praise** for Joyellen's parents coming to visit this upcoming Christmas!