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A Ministry Newsletter of Jeff anD Joyellen HazarD ServinG at Rift Valley ACaDemy in Kijabe, Kenya P.O. Box 80, Kijabe 00220, Kenya (p) +254.20.3246.248 (e) jjhazarD@kijabe.net



Birthday Boy and his brother

Megan and her 1st grade

<u>z lan</u>

We helped build a house for

Megan and Lyndsey helping out on Outreach Day when we built a

1900

Home Sweet Home

elcome to RVA

sign



Our Gui

We do family dinner each week with our niece Laura.

A REAL PROPERTY AND

DVSG

thing on th ows house

Life and times at Rift Valley Academy 2008

Traveling, Transition, and Trust

Many of you prayed for our trip back to Kenya last July. We are grateful for everyone's prayers. We had a safe and (thankfully) uneventful journey. I expected smooth sailing once the trip was over, but I was wrong! The next few weeks and months were difficult as we transitioned back to life in Kenya. Our life in the US for one year was so completely different than what our life is like here. The pace of life, the food we eat (and the time to prepare it), our privacy (or lack thereof), our family routine, our support base of friends and family, our church....everything was so different all of a sudden! We had mice running through the house when we got back (ugh!) and making food from scratch again was a lot of work (where is Little Caesar's when I need it?) It was a bit surprising that the adjustment back was so hard when we had already spent 7 years here. But a seasoned missionary told me this "was very normal" so I guess we were not losing it!

Bottom line...we did get through the transition. Kenya began to feel like home again. We adjusted back to our school routine and being parents of ninth grade boys again. And through it all, God was...and is...faithful. When God nudged us towards missions many years ago, I remember thinking, "This is great! I love living over-seas!" And it was easy to go. Now when living over-seas is less glamorous and the challenges seem overwhelming am I willing to trust in God and still remain faithful? That is the question I have been pondering.

Many of you have given sacrificially and prayed faithfully for us over the years. We are grateful and humbled by your love for God that spills over into love for us. It is out of that grateful spirit that we serve here. We know God in His sovereignty has placed us here "for such a time as this." And we acknowledge that every blessing is from Him. So we thank you for being faithful to Him. We thank God for giving us endurance and strength for the task at hand. And we thank God for placing us here. Yes, even here –with mice in the house! (which have been disposed of in the meantime....)

Leading the Way...

This past school term we hosted a special speaker, Bay Forrest, for a week. He challenged staff and students to be "souled out" for Christ. We have had many speakers come over the years and all of them have been good. But for some reason God chose this speaker, this week, this group of students....because the Holy Spirit really moved on our campus and we experienced a revival in many hearts! It was humbling and amazing to be a part of this. In our dorm, we were challenged by our ninth grade boys. On their own, they began a freshmen Bible Study in the mornings. They began to pray and study God's Word together. From there, they decided to do an outreach project. They chose to buy sodas, from their own pockets, for the Kenyan staff that work in the school kitchen. On a Sunday afternoon, they delivered the sodas, then stayed on and talked and sang with the staff there. When the sodas were finished and the staff had to get back to work, our boys rolled up their sleeves and helped...washing dishes, chopping vegetables for dinner, etc. We were challenged by the servant's hearts of our boys and their friends.

Praise and Prayer

Praise – that we are settling back into life in Kenya.

-for strength to sustain us this past term. -for a fun group in our dorm

Prayer- for the staff desiring to come to RVA that are still raising support

-for us as we nurture and disciple these

19 young men in our dorm

- for quality family and couple time amidst our busy schedules.

Financial Update:

We praise the Lord for providing 100% of our needed funds to return to Kenya in July. Thank you all for your financial contributions and prayers that got us here. We are humbled, grateful and amazed. God is good.

Family Update:

Megan is enjoying her first grade year. She has two teachers—Mrs. Kinzer in the morning and Ms. Seymour in the afternoon. Fun fact: Mrs. Kinzer was Joyellen's teacher for fourth grade (when she was single and fresh from college!)

Lyndsey participates in a young preschool program (run by the moms) one morning a week. She is looking forward to more school and more social time.

Ian is nearly two and repeating everything we say (sometimes a humbling thing). His favorite time of day is "chai time" (see photo) and he loves balls, trucks and pikis (motorcycles).

Jeff is still working as the IT (computer) manager for the school. This keeps him busy. This past term he coached JV boys soccer.

Joyellen is home with the younger two children. In addition to teaching 10th grade girls Sunday School each week, she will be coaching JV girls field hockey this next school term.

