

The
CARTER
CHRONICLES

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"And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ..."

(Col. 4:3)

Dear Partners, Friends and Family,

By the time this reaches you, our August 16 departure date will be only about one week away, and we will be frantically trying to tie up all loose ends, finish the sorting and packing and get our household back into storage. As always, we will appreciate your prayers during this time, especially that nothing truly important will be left undone, and for the uneventful arrival of ourselves and our luggage in Nairobi on August 17.

We are amazed at how quickly the year has sped past, and have enjoyed immensely the many opportunities to reconnect with family and friends. Although nearly constant travel has been exhausting, the blessing of shared love and fellowship has made it more than worthwhile.

Even so, we are excited to be so close to starting our next chapter in ministry. We look forward to settling into our new roles in Kenya coordinating the 'HOPE for AIDS' program, and to renewing many old friendships from our former years in Kenya. The same incredible God who led us in Zambia will lead us in Kenya, and we expect to see many exciting things in the years to come. You, our partners, will witness these wonderful things together with us.

Although raising support is inevitably a part of what has to happen during home assignments, we have been unusually at peace concerning our finances this time. The Lord has confirmed in many ways that He would be sovereign over our support if we focused primarily on these other issues: being accountable to our ministry partners concerning what has already been accomplished with their past support during our time in Zambia; sharing the new

ministry vision God has given us in calling us to return in a new capacity to Kenya; and raising awareness of the great need remaining for more laborers to respond to God's call to go out into the harvest. We are particularly aware of the need for health professionals, but many other skills are also needed such as: teaching; youth work; maintenance and repair; business and administration; finances; theological education; leadership development; mechanics, computers and technology and various other technical skills, etc. There is no one that God cannot use somewhere in the world if he/she is willing to be used by God.

This peace concerning our finances was vindicated in early July when we received word of a new church partner whose support lifted us just over the 100% mark of our support requirement. We want to express our deep gratitude especially: to everyone who sent us response slips from the last newsletter; to all those who have so faithfully supported and encouraged us in our ministry in Africa over the years; to all of our church partners who have maintained their support of our work (even when times have been hard); and to our new partners, both individuals and churches, whose pledges of new support have helped enable us to return to Kenya to begin a new work there. Without each of you we could not be going. Thank you for sending us.

Partners together in the work of Christ,

Bob, Hope and Family

Family Update

Please keep each one of us in mind as you pray for:

Josiah – as he transitions back to boarding school life at Rift Valley Academy (RVA) in Kenya. Pray for positive, supportive and encouraging relationships, for good organizational skills and for God’s grace as he readjusts to the stresses of dorm life.

Hannah – as she finishes her summer break with her friend in Uganda and begins her senior year at RVA. Pray for a safe return, a good year and a strong finish. School begins on August 27, and she will be starting with a cumulative GPA of 4.0. We don’t yet know whether we will see her first on arrival day at RVA, or a few days earlier in Nairobi.

Levi – as he completes his summer job at Quaker Haven Camp on Dewart Lake in northern Indiana and begins his second year at Taylor University in Upland, Indiana. He has so many interests that he is not very sure of his current choice of majoring in computers and communications. Pray for clear discernment as he examines his own heart and seeks to know how to plan for the future God has in store for him.

Travel & Activity Schedule

As you pray, please keep in mind our need for safety in travel and success in each activity:

- We (Bob, Hope and Josiah) will depart Indianapolis on Aug. 16 and arrive in Nairobi on Aug. 17. We will enter Kenya as visitors because Bob’s work permit will probably not yet have been issued. Our apartment in the SIM compound in Nairobi will be furnished with guest house furnishings until we can supply our own.
- Bob will fly to Johannesburg, South Africa on Aug. 20 to attend his first 'HOPE for AIDS' international consultation. He will be able to meet program coordinators from other countries and learn more about how the program operates at a practical level. He will return to Nairobi on Aug. 25.
- Hannah and Josiah resume school at RVA on Aug. 27 in grades 12 and 10, respectively. We are actually uncertain how we will get them there, since we may not have a car yet. Please pray that we can sell our Patrol in Zambia at the right time and price for us to buy a suitable vehicle in Kenya.

Nathan – as he seeks his first job as an airplane mechanic and begins the long, slow process of paying off his educational loans. He has interviewed with Dynamic Aviation in Virginia and is awaiting their decision. Pray that he will end up where the Lord wants him, and that he finds a good church and establishes godly friendships. Pray also for safe travel as he later retrieves the things he had placed in storage in Texas.

Hope – as she continues to recover well following her back surgery in February. Now she must coordinate getting the house sorted and packed away while simultaneously studying for her certification exam so her credentials as a physician’s assistant will be current when we go to Kenya. Her exam is on Aug. 15 – the day before our departure! So this will be a one-shot try for her. This actually means that we must be all packed up by Aug. 14.

Bob – as he provides the manual labor of all the heavy lifting and carrying of putting the household into storage. There will also be many inevitable last-minute communications and details demanding attention. We will celebrate his 52nd birthday on Aug. 8.



- After RVA resumes, we two will return to Zambia for 30 days (Sept. 2 to Oct. 2) to say our final goodbyes and to dispose of the household goods we had stored there. Some we will crate up for shipping to Kenya, some we will sell and some we will give away as gifts to friends. If Bob’s work permit has still not been issued by the first of October then the shipping of our household goods will be delayed until our work documents are in hand. In that case we will re-enter Kenya on another visitor’s visa. But please pray for the better scenario: that the work permit will be issued in time for us to ship our goods by the beginning of October and that we will re-enter Kenya as residents not visitors.
- Whether as residents or visitors, we are looking forward to celebrating our 25th wedding anniversary on Oct. 16 by spending a week on the Indian Ocean coast near Kenya’s beautiful Marine National Park. We will enjoy a much-needed vacation at the Coral Key Beach Resort from Oct. 16 to 23.

Bits 'n Pieces

AIDS Course

Many of you were praying for us during the first week of June as we team-taught an intensive module on AIDS to a group of students at the Global Leadership Training Center in Winston-Salem. The module went very well and the students showed enthusiasm and active engagement. One Ugandan student, whose husband had died from AIDS, had an incredible testimony about being cured of HIV through prayer. After being confirmed HIV-positive herself, she received many prayers for healing. Subsequently she has repeatedly tested negative for HIV! "You will never know," she said, "how valuable the course was in equipping me to pursue my vision of starting a home-based care program in Uganda for people suffering with AIDS."

'HOPE for AIDS' Fundraiser

Right after the conclusion of the AIDS course, on the evening of June 9, the Adams Farm Community Church in Jamestown, NC held a fundraiser for 'HOPE for AIDS' in Kenya. They sponsored a catered meal with live music and had local sports hero Joey Cheek, an Olympic speed skating gold medalist, give the keynote address. A panel discussion on AIDS in Africa followed, with Bob participating on the panel. The other three panelists included the church pastor, bringing a focus on Christian faith and social action, and two Kenyans from Atlanta: one a pastor involved in community awareness and the other a Ph. D. working for the CDC. The entire evening was MC'd by Emmy-award-winning TV journalist Kelley McHenry.

It was a memorable experience and netted nearly \$3000 after expenses to benefit the 'HOPE for AIDS' program. The church hopes this will be just the first of many more future fundraisers as it becomes actively involved in AIDS ministry. Words are insufficient to express our appreciation to all who gave so generously of their time, talents and resources to make the evening such a success.

Bobcat Needed

A Christian friend in Zambia has a heart to help local community groups implement poverty-eradication programs through agricultural projects. He needs a Bobcat for digging and stocking fish ponds, and asked us to watch for any that might be available during our Home Assignment. We

haven't come across any yet. If you know someone who would be willing to donate their used Bobcat, please let us know.

Financial Snapshot

We praise God that we can report to you not only that 100% of our required support has been pledged as we leave for Kenya, but also:



- Hannah's RVA fees for last term have been paid.
- Generous gifts and fundraising efforts have supplied the unexpected need for \$3000 to buy a commercial business-class work permit to enter and live in Kenya instead of the \$30 required for a "religious worker" work permit.
- Assuming no additional major drains on our ministry account with SIM, we should have just enough in designated plus undesignated funds to cover the cost of shipping our household goods from Zambia to Kenya.
- A generous personal gift will help us begin to purchase some of the necessary items that we will be unable to ship from Zambia.

We are so grateful to all who have made this good report possible! May God bless each of you and keep you in His loving grace.

Projects Worth Supporting

- The *Jesus Film / Discipleship Project* (SIM Project No. **ZM-94549**) is still in need of funding. This project is now under the Evangelical Bible College, enthusiastically coordinated by our friend and "mentoree," Dyton Kima. This powerful evangelistic film, together with the discipleship training that accompanies it, has vast potential to expand and strengthen Christ's body in Zambia. It still lacks \$1500 to complete this year, and needs another \$3250 in each of the next two years.
- The *Mukinge Hospital Education Project* (SIM Project No. **ZM-87344**) funds the cost of training capable hospital workers in needed skills, such as bookkeeping, management, pharmacy, radiography, laboratory, clinical skills, etc. As fewer missionaries come to "old" fields such as Zambia, the need for trained national workers becomes increasingly vital. Without them, Mukinge Hospital may lose its capacity to continue providing high quality Christian care.

Praise

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Prayer

Praise God for:

1. Safety during our family's extensive travels this year.
2. Hope's good response and speedy recovery from her back surgery late in February.
3. His anointing on the AIDS course we taught in June.
4. His sovereignty over all our finances, and the responsiveness of our partners to our financial needs.
5. Nathan's successful completion of college and the passing of his FAA mechanic's certification examination.
6. The many blessings we had visiting with dear friends and family members during this Home Assignment.



Pray for:

1. The several issues we noted in our "Family Update".
2. Continuing safety in travel for each one of us.

3. The upcoming 'HOPE for AIDS' consultation in Johannesburg, and for us to get off to a strong start in this new endeavor.
4. Our month in Zambia as we affirm the value of friendships, prepare to move our household and conclude business there.
4. The sale of our Patrol in Zambia, and for us to find the right vehicle in Kenya.
5. Kenya's timely issuing of Bob's work permit.
6. The Lord to enable us to build a strong network of colleagues and ministry partners in Kenya.
7. The JESUS Film / Discipleship ministry that is now under the Evangelical Bible College; and for Dyton Kima as he leads it.
8. The missionary and national staff of Mukinge Hospital, and for the hospital's efforts to raise up and equip the workers it needs.
9. More career missionaries to carry the Gospel into the world.

Carter Chronicles

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Remember to designate your check for Bob and Hope Carter. **Thanks!**