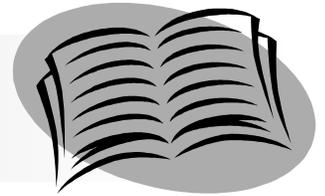


# THE SAUNDERS STORY

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## MINISTRY UPDATE

It is hard to believe that 1/4 of the year is already past, but the beginning of this year has been special to us. On March 30 Ethan William was born. He was 7 1/2 pounds and 20" long. William is after his great grandfather who had a huge heart for missions. How fitting that Ethan was born here in Kenya. We are thankful that all went well with the delivery and that Ethan is healthy. We are also grateful for our doctor, pediatrician and friend (who is a NICU nurse) who was with us in the delivery room at Kijabe Hospital. Please praise the Lord with us in

how He provided for the birth of our first son. Ethan has two loving and excited sisters who constantly want to



kiss and hug him. We are so excited about this addition to our family, but would ask that you would pray for Ethan; that he would grow into the man that God wants him to be.

About 2 months ago Jeff started a Bible study with the motel workers. We started by reading a chapter in Genesis a week and then discussing it. We then spend some time in prayer. It has been interesting to see another side of the men, but please be in prayer for them. One of them, Charles, does not seem very interested and we are concerned for him. Pray that we might not only minister to those who stay at the motel, but also to those who help us maintain the motel.

Jeff also had the opportunity to coach Jr High basketball at RVA last term. At the beginning of the term all interested boys were welcome to come and play in intramurals. At the mid point of the term two teams were selected from



those group of boys, an A and B team. These two teams then play other schools in the area. Jeff had a good time helping the other coaches and teaching the boys the basics of basketball. Jeff also felt like it was a great opportunity to build into the boys' lives.

These past few months we have had the privilege of getting to know a missionary family from Mombassa (about 10 hours from Kijabe). They returned the beginning of January from their first home assignment in Canada. After dropping their teenage daughter off at RVA, they went back to Mombassa to continue their ministry. However, about half way thru the term it became

*I will sing of the Lord's great love forever; with my mouth I will make your faithfulness known through all generations.*

*Psalm 89:1*

### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- MINISTRY UPDATE
- GETTING TO KNOW JOSEPH
- HOME ASSIGNMENT
- PRAISE & PRAYER REQUEST

We would like to introduce you to Joseph Chege who is one of our inside workers at the motel. He has worked here since December 1992 when he was hired as an outside worker. His father worked here at the motel for 20 years and was able to recommend him for the job.

He is the oldest of 6 children; he has 1 brother and 4 sisters. He lives on the same plot of land as his parents and his brother and sister-in-law. Unfortunately, his brother doesn't have a full time job, so Joseph is responsible to support his parents along with his wife and three children.

He met his wife, Ziporah, when he was playing soccer (or futball as it

is called here in Kenya) while in high school. He happened to go to her school to play in a tournament and she caught his eye. He went up to talk to her and then continued to visit her at her school and home for 3 years until they married. They have three children; Joel 8, Margaret 5 and Mercy 2.

Even though Joseph grew up in a Christian home he stopped going to church as a teenager and never really had a relationship with the Lord. When his son was old enough to

realize that his dad wasn't going to church with him and his mom, he began to repeatedly ask his dad why. Finally Joseph decided to go to church and after being there two times he stood up and told the church that he wanted to accept the Lord as his personal Savior. He now sings in the church choir and is a member of a hospitality committee; helping to arrange for guests and other churches to visit his church. Please pray for Joseph as his goal is to be a godly husband and father. Please also pray for him as he strives to provide for his family.



## MINISTRY UPDATE

evident that they needed to come back and help their daughter with her transition back into RVA. They stayed at the motel for the first month they were in Kijabe. About 3 weeks into their stay they announced to us that “they were having a baby” It turns out that in September a set of twins was born at the hospital; a boy and a girl. The girl was perfectly healthy, but the boy was born with hydrocephalus and spina bifida. Due to the severity of the spina bifida the boy was paralyzed from the waste down. After several weeks the parents left and took the girl home. They left the boy at the hospital saying that they would return for him. However as more and more time went by it became apparent they had abandoned him. He was at the hospital for about 5 months

when it became critical for him to be placed somewhere because his bed in the nursery needed to be used for other sick babies. That is when some God ordained events took place. One Sunday at the church service at Rift Valley



Academy we were being challenged out of James in regards to faith & works. At the end of the service we were asked to give examples of ways we could help others. A Dr, who happened to have taken the boy from the hos-

pital for the day, brought the boy forward and told his story. By the end of the day the missionary family felt the Lord asking them to help this boy out. They took a step of faith and are being foster parents to the boy. They want to adopt him, but are waiting to see how the situation works out. The girls had a great time getting to know Marcus and we are thankful that we were able to be here to be a support and encouragement to this family.

We also want to let you know that we have sold our Pajero. A few weeks ago Jeff was approached by a hospital chaplain asking if we were selling our car. We see God’s hand in this as we hadn’t even advertised that we wanted to sell it Praise God for how He works. Please pray for and with us as we look for another vehicle.

## HOME ASSIGNMENT UPDATE

As many of you have heard we will be traveling back to the states in July for five months. During that time we pray that we will be able to meet with many of you to share our ministry and to get reacquainted. One of the reasons for coming back a year early was to help Jeff’s parent’s celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary. As of June 15th they will have been married for 50 years. What an example they are to us and we are so excited to share this special time with them. There will be a party for them on the 4th of August at Union Grove Baptist Church in Wisconsin. If you are in the area please stop by and say hello.

This fall we will be spending time with churches who support us

prayerfully and financially. If you would like us to share with your church please contact us and we will set up a date to come and share with you.

There are several needs that we will have during our time in the states

1. Vehicle to use
2. Car seat/booster seats
3. Website building/hosting
4. Suggestions for a Digital camera & camcorder

If you can help with any of these areas please let us now. We would be very grateful.

We are excited to come and visit and share our ministry with you

and how the Lord has been challenging us and using us. Please be in prayer for us during this time that we might effectively share our ministry, but also find time to relax with family and friends. These five months will go by quickly and we want to use our time wisely and to His glory.

As we come home for several months we are concerned for Kenya. Sometime in the fall they will elect a new set of government officials. There is concern that during this time some of the campaigns could turn violent. We ask that you begin praying with us for the country and that all events related to the election would be non violent.

## PRAYER REQUEST & PRAISES

### Prayer Requests

Africa Inland Church — strength, stability, & wisdom

Spiritual growth for us as a family

Cultural Adjustments - language & relationships.

Motel Ministry — ministry to Muslims & missionaries; new construction

Time Management

Health—Jeff has been fighting a cold for 4 weeks

### Praises

Ethan William—no complications

Safety in traveling.

Financial Partners

Our car has been sold

But Jesus called the children to him and said, “Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. I tell you the truth, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.”

Luke 18:16

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