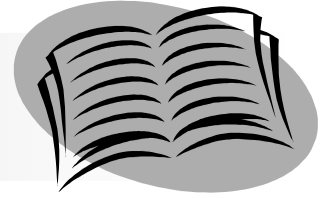


# THE SAUNDERS STORY

MAY 2006



## MINISTRY UPDATE

*And the Lord passed by before him, and proclaimed, The Lord, The Lord God, merciful and gracious, long suffering, and abundant in grace and truth.*

*Exodus 34:6*

Since we have last written, Jeff has been working full time as Station Technical Manager. His main responsibility is supervising the men who work for him. He has 5 men working full time and 4 working part time. They have been very busy maintaining the water/sewer system, electricity, roads, and phone system. Of course with systems as big as the ones here, there are always problems that need attention. During February a huge concern was making sure that everyone was supplied with water. For a couple of weeks our water supplies weren't giving us enough water due to a drought and there was nothing we could do to fix it, but God fixed it! One day, I, Jeff woke up and things had drastically changed. In a couple days our tanks were full and we had more than enough water. Consequently, we were able to give some to Rift Valley Academy (who was also experiencing a huge shortage). Ever since that time we have been blessed with more than enough water.

But not every problem is solved that easily. For 2 months our phone

system, which serves around 500 extensions throughout the whole station, would partially shut down. This meant that those who were affected could not dial out or receive phone calls. After 2 months we found out that the cause of this problem was a short in the system due to the wind in the area blowing the lines together. And in case you have never heard or have forgotten, Kijabe in Maasi means "Place of the wind. Every night it is windy, typical of what we in America would experience in a thunderstorm. We tried many different solutions to fix the problem in order to find out the cause. And finally, to the relief of those affected, we found out the cause and solution to the problem. So as you can see, there are many items that need Jeff's attention.

We continue to be very busy at the motel. On average since January we have been at least 75% full every night. And on average we have 4-6 Somalis staying at the motel each night. We just had a man staying here who brought his son from Mogadishu (the capital of Somalia). The son had been shot in the fight-

ing about 27 days ago. We continue to have many opportunities to befriend these people. We are trying to show them the love of Christ by being kind to them and by being their friends. We want them to ask questions because it is inappropriate for us to ask too many questions.

Unfortunately, we have been very busy at the motel. The past few months have seen us looking for many leaks in the roof, leaks in rooms 1 & 2 from the shower, leaks in room 5 & 6 from a toilet, repairing lights, repairing rotten siding, fixing hot water problems, and also lock problems. The challenge has been how to fix some of these items because the motel as a whole is beyond repair. We have talked with several knowledgeable people and the cost for us to fix all of the above issues and some others, would be more than the cost of building a new motel. Therefore, it has been decided to build a new motel just above our house and once that is a complete tear down the old motel. A new motel would then be built continued on back page

## UP CLOSE & PERSONAL WITH ESTHER

It seems very appropriate that the next person we help you "to get to know" would be Esther Karanja. We say this because she is not only our househelp, but has become a member of our family. As you know we were gone for over 2 weeks at the beginning of April. When we talked about coming home, our girls didn't get excited about coming home and seeing their friends, but instead they got excited about coming home and seeing Esther and Manasseh (her son).

She was born June 6, 1956. And has lived in the Kijabe area all of her life. She met Herman in 1970 when he started going to her school. They started courting in 1973 and have now been married for 27

years. She realized her need for a Savior in 1986. She had gone to church all her life, but on that Sunday she realized that she needed to put aside her fear of what others would think. She went forward in church to start a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Her favorite verse is Ps 50:15 "Call me in the days of trouble and I will deliver you

and you will glorify me."

They have four children: Samuel who is in the armed forces, Dorcus who is in her 2nd year at University studying communications, Manasseh who is working for us and the station to make money to go to University (Hopefully in January of 2007 if he has enough money) and Emily who is in 8th grade. The whole family has become so special to us. Every morning our Emily asks when Esther, Manasseh and big Emily are coming. They have truly become part of our family. Please consider praying for them when you pray for us. Thank you.



### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- MINISTRY UPDATE
- GETTING TO KNOW ESTHER
- PRAISE & PRAYER REQUESTS

## MINISTRY UPDATE

where the old one was located. It is a struggle to keep things running properly during this time. We pray that the Lord will provide the funds for the new motel so we may expand the ministry here. If any of you are interested in helping financially with the new motel you may make a donation to AIM in Pearl River and put a note with the check that it is for Project 000242 Kijabe Motel—Construction.

One of the things that we are realizing is that with the motel ministry and station ministry we do not have much time left over for ourselves or the kids. Please pray with us that we would have guidance and direction as we look to solve this problem. There are several ideas in the works and we should have more information for you by our next prayer letter.

The first 2 weeks of April we were able to spend some time in Kalacha, Kenya. Kalacha is about a 2 hour plane ride north or 16 hours via vehicle; that is if you do not break down. The time we spent there was part of our orientation.

They want new missionaries to see another part of Kenya. It was a great time getting to know the Callahan and Hoffman families and seeing how they minister to the Gabra people. The mission station in Kalacha consists of several houses for missionaries, a dispensary, a church, several other small buildings and a pool. One of the things we forgot to mention was that Kala-

Gabra House that we saw in Kalacha.



cha is hot. While we were there it averaged over 100 F and we were told that during the hot season it can be 125 F in the shade and 145 F out in the sun. We both enjoyed shadowing missionaries there: Angela with Laura Callahan as the dispensary and Jeff with Brian Hoffman. One day Jeff and Brian drove

about 40 minutes to weld the steering on old Landrover. Another day they installed screens on the windows at the church, so birds would not be able to get into the church. In Brian's spare time he also pastors the local AIC church in Kalacha.

In one of our email updates we asked for donations of sheets & towels for our ministry here at the motel. We weren't sure what the response would be, but the Lord knew that it would be great! The last we heard is that around 40 sets of sheets came in, along with numerous towels. We can not thank you enough for your generosity. If you would like to participate in this way we are looking for bath towels & wash clothes, twin, double, king, & queen bed sets. They can be sent to

Glenn Saunders  
3179 Spruce St  
Racine, WI 53403

Glenn will arrange for them to be sent to us. Thanks again for ministering to us in this way.

## FINANCIAL UPDATE

We wanted to take the opportunity to thank all of you who give so generously to our ministry here in Kijabe. Without your prayers and financial giving we would not be able to serve the many missionaries, nationals, and others who pass thru the motel and station.

Since our departure in July we have been around 94% of our monthly support of \$4,380. We praise God for His provision for us as we have had one church and several individuals not able to support us. AIM has changed medical insurance

companies and we will be seeing our support target decrease by \$100 per month sometime this summer. We praise the Lord for His faithfulness to us. He has been so faithful and we do not doubt that he will be faithful in the future.

We are thankful for those who have given to help with our vehicle costs. We now owe around \$900 for the repairs that were done to make it roadworthy. We have had more problems with our vehicle so please pray with us that we would have guidance as how to handle them. It

seems like we get one thing fixed and another thing breaks.

We are also grateful for a church in Pennsylvania that has offered to purchase a new laptop computer for us! We are so thankful for the way that the Lord provides for us in ways we do not expect. Thank you so much!

## PRAYER REQUEST & PRAISES

### Prayer Requests

Kenyan government — strength & stability.

Africa Inland Church — strength & stability

Africa Inland Mission — new constitution & guidance

Spiritual growth for us as a family

Cultural Adjustments - language and relationships.

Financial partners — currently at 97% of our monthly support.

Motel Ministry — ministry to Muslims & missionaries; new construction

Time Management

### Praises

Rain has been falling in many areas

Safety & good health in traveling.

Financial Partners — the Lord has provided 97% of our monthly support.

People have been welcoming & friendly.

**Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and not be afraid: for the Lord Jehovah is my strength and my song; He also is become my salvation.**

**Isaiah 12:2**

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