

See what is happening at Rift Valley Academy and Tembo Dorm since our last update.

# Saunders Story

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## School is back in session

Well school is finally back in session. The kids arrived back 3 weeks ago and are full swing into their classes. We are excited to have all of our kids back and finish out the year strong. We will have the kids for 3 more weeks before mid term and then they have another 6 weeks of school. Yes, that means they have school until the middle of July, but that is because RVA is a boarding school. We have had a small amount of homesickness at the beginning of the term, but at this time all our kids seem to be doing well. Jeff and I are learning alot about what it means to send a child to boarding school, especially at such a young age. We have wrestled with alot of questions and still have some. All we can say is that these parents spend alot of time in prayer before they send their kids here and with God's grace they are able to be apart from their kids for 6-12 weeks at a time depending on their situation. (we say it that way because for the families that live really far away, usually only 1 parent comes to Nairobi to be with their kids from RVA at midterm and the other parent stays at home with the other children and the ministry).

Please pray for the parents of our kids and for the kids. We realize that they are young, but we are praying that they would seek the Lord when they are homesick and that they would sense His presence and His love. And that even at this young age they would realize that this is the part they are playing in their parent's ministry. And continue to pray for us as we parent them.

David Tilly and his family have returned from a 4 month home assignment, so the work load should be more manageable this term for Jeff. David is a great guy and has alot of experience and knowledge in the areas of networking. We are so thankful for their return. We have several projects to finish once equipment comes out from the states. RVA still has equipment that was damaged by the lightning that needs to be replaced and Lord willing that equipment will arrive this week. Hopefully by midterm we will have things back to normal pre lightning strike. Even though the lightning strike did alot of damage we have been able to find many small bugs in the system that might have otherwise gone unnoticed for a period of time. I (Jeff) will also be working on doing some audio upgrades in the next few weeks in Downing Hall. Downing is used for theatrical performances mainly, but also other smaller

events. They have not had a functioning sound system in there for quite some time so thanks to some equipment donated by Cedarville University I will be able to get things working in there.

Angela continues to work with ESL (English as a second language) and really enjoys the 3 boys (2 Korean and 1 Japanese) that she works with. We are working on reading comprehension and writing. It is so fun to see how creative the boys are when they write their stories. And I just learned that one of the boys has gone up quite a bit in his reading comprehension level so that is really encouraging.



## Summer Plans

This summer we will be returning to Wisconsin for about 6 weeks. This past year has been very challenging health wise for Jeff's parents and we feel the need to come back and check on them and help them for the time we are back in the US. This trip will also allow us to have Emily's eyes retested by her vision doctor in Milwaukee to see what improvement has been made and to see how we might need to adjust her eye therapy. We will be around a short time, but if you would like to catch up with us we would love it. We do not plan



## Family

The kids all continue to enjoy school. Ethan loves his preschool class. This month they are learning about insects. We have done a lot of talking recently about kindergarten because we had to fill out an application and he had to have a physical. So far he doesn't want to go to kindergarten, but hopefully that changes...and soon. Emily continues to receive a lot of extra help. We have some educational psychologists out here now and they tested her last week, but we haven't received any results yet. She is slowly making some progress and we are so thankful for Katy and Brenda, the two ladies that help her. Erica had a very fun month with having the privilege of being in a 5th and 6th grade musical. The performance



## Prayer Request

Dorm Kids - homesickness and spiritual growth

Dorm Kids Families - blessing in their ministry and strength as their kids are away

Emily - school & compliant spirit

Erica - finish the year strong & struggles with friends

Ethan - spiritual growth

Angela - continued physical healing & wisdom interacting with kids

Jeff - wisdom in IT problems, balancing time with kids and work

RVA - staffing for next school year

Kijabe - Godly leadership

on doing much traveling except for visiting Angela's sister in Ohio. We will be trying to do alot in the short time that we are there, so we would ask that you pray that the Lord would bless our time in the States and that we would be able to encourage our family. The planned dates are July 12th - August 19th.

was this past Sunday and for those who don't know, she had been sick with a fever, cough and cold from Wednesday-Saturday. We all prayed really hard on Saturday that she would be feeling better and praise the Lord she was!! She even had a few speaking parts and a small solo and sang beautifully. We were so proud! And then Sunday night and Monday she was hoarse. So, God really, really answered our prayer. Angela is feeling alot better. She only has occasional stomach pain now, but we are expecting it to take time as she continues to heal. Thank you for praying for me!

Summer-trip to the States would go well and we would encourage family

## Praises

Dorm Kids - good start to last term

Emily - health

Erica - well enough to perform in musical

Ethan - health

Angela - feeling much better

Jeff - return of coworker

Our Friend - Doug who is a missionary in Chile and fell through a roof is doing well. Still has some surgeries ahead and alot of healing, but God has really worked.

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**If you would like to support the ministry of Jeff & Angela Saunders.**

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