



News from Nairobi, Kenya

February 2017

Sabbatical Plans June- December 2017

Dear friends,

Last time Elfi and I visited USA was about 7 years ago! Unbelievable because before then we had been visiting every two years since 1997 to connect with our supporters and Presbyterian Mission International, our mission agency that sends us to Kenya. We are taking 6 months break from June 15th! Elfi has been to Germany twice in the last three years but without me because I could not leave the Church without a pastor.

At last, after praying and planning we will get much-needed rest and see some of you. We plan to visit Germany first. Two of our children already live in Munich, and we look forward to seeing them as well as visit with Elfi's family and see other friends. While in Germany we plan possibly attend a seminar if we can find one and do some praying, writing and reflection on the work in Nairobi. We plan to visit USA sometime in September/October and hopefully we will see you, if not we will call. Elfi and I hope to see you and share what God is doing in Kenya. We hope to return back to Nairobi before end of the year.

Pastor Shawn Wallace, our associate pastor whom we introduced to you sometime back in Nairobi with Serge/World Harvest will be preaching in my absence. He has been the answer to our/your prayers.

I am teaching at Daystar University until the last week of May and hopefully I will be able to hand in my grades for the three classes I am teaching this Semester before we leave.

We covet your prayers

Even though we have prayed and planned, we still need additional finances for: transportation; housing in Germany and airfare. We are hopeful and trusting God as Paul reminds us in Philippians 4:19, that, "God will supply *all of* our needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus". This promise gives us peace as we make plans for June.



Pictured above: First New City Men's Retreat February 24-25, some were seekers. We were 20 men and had great fun together as the speaker reminded us that we are loved God's sons.

Upcoming outreach events:

- **March 5th** Rift Valley Academy choir. This is an American high school band. An opportunity to invite friends
- **Business Fair, April 2nd**. We expect many to attend another opportunity for us to interact with seekers
- **Ladies retreat, April 7-8**

Pray for Elections

August 8th will be Kenya's elections. Every 5 years we vote for our leaders peacefully. However, they have always disappointed us after we vote. Many may remember in 2007 elections we almost had a civil war after declaring a presidential winner from another tribe and not the one that was expected to win. In that election we lost over 1200 people and over 600,000 became internally displaced persons (IDPs). The opposition has already threatened of mass protests if elections are rigged this year. This scares many people, even investors in Kenya. This is why our reconciliation ministry is very crucial as we get closer towards the election as it is evident people from different tribes deal with stress and agitation even in the Church.

Always thankful for your support and prayers.
God's grace and peace be with you!

Pastor Joe

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