

November 2024

Dear family, friends and supporters:

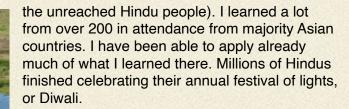
Its always this time of the year we have our jacaranda trees blossoming. Along

blossoming. Along some of our road's trees including where we live, you see purple colors. We marvel at this God's creation and rejoice.

We can hardly believe that it is already months since we send out our last update. So much has happened since then! Here is a summarized preview:

In April, Elfi had her annual ladies one day retreat. As usual many ladies attended with some for the first time (photo below).

I, Joe made a four-day trip to Thailand for a Lausanne-organized conference (this was a conference organized for those working among



Pray that many will know that Jesus is the true light that shines in darkness.

Elfi and I were blessed to visit with our daughter Anne and husband Sebastian in Munich, Germany end of May and part of June. It was the greatest joy of our lives to hold our first twin grandchildren.



We also had a chance to see our son, Timmy, who lives in Munich. Mathias also made a 3-day visit while we were there, surprising our daughter Anne, since he had not yet seen the twins.

We had an opportunity to make a quick trip to the States and saw fewer people than we would have wanted to because of our limited time. We had not been there in 7 years and it was another time of family catching up with our son Matthias who still lives in St. Louis.





Unexpectedly, and to our surprise even though we had planned to stay with our friends of many years (Nancy and Dave Mastin) it turned out that pastor Barry and Ann Henning asked us to accompany

them to Colorado Springs for a paid week. That was a needed rest, that only God knows we needed.

We were able to see some of our friends in the St. Louis area at both New City Central and South where the leadership allowed me to preach in their both services.



We met with the World Missions Committee at Central Pres with our champion and prayer warrior Michael Treadwell and Jennifer Chan and Missions Outreach pastor. Then we were hosted for 2 nights by our former associate pastor in Nairobi, Gary Liebovich, with his wife, Robin.



We also had the opportunity to meet with Mark Powell from Old Orchard Church...

and visit the PMI board at Covenant Seminary to report on our work in Kenya.



Then we made a two-day visit to Columbia, MO hosted by our old friend, Dr. Cami, who lived and served in Kenya as a medical doctor for many years, and who has been an amazing prayer warrior and supporter through The Crossing Church.

She organized for our meeting with her pastor Keith of the Crossing Church, his wife Christine and had a chance to meet Tanya and her husband and Windy. And yet we could not meet the so many nice and kind people we have known over the years.



Maybe next time we get to see you.

We had hardly arrived back in Nairobi for a week in August then we had some bad news. First was hearing of the passing on to glory of our good friend Dave Mastin, whom he and his wife hosted us the first weekend we arrived in the States and also had our last dinner with Dave and Nancy two days before

we left the US. We are thankful we were able to see Dave again before his unexpected death. Elfi and I were still discussing of attending Dave's funeral service and then Elfi fell on the stairs in our house and broke her right leg. She now has two screws inserted on both sides of her right leg.

The doctor will decide on November 22 if she is ready to walk without the



support of crutches, and we will see whether he allows her to drive again.



Amazingly, God has surprised us with an influx of Afghan refugees in Kenya. We had some of them come visit us for lunch with few of our members but since have received 4 more coming to church. Their needs are many including not only financial because they have nothing but also teaching them English and their stories are amazing. We keep on wondering why they chose to come to Kenya of all places. That explanation will wait for another day. From those who are coming to our Church 3 are medical doctors but as believers can't work in Taliban controlled Afghanistan. Some lost their relatives who were killed by the Taliban because of their faith but these escaped through Iran then flew to Kenya.

Join us in prayer:

- For a youth pastor at our church. We have several teenagers from Asian believers who need serious discipleship.
- Pray for our last men's cookout evening on November 23, that many men would come and hear the Gospel and the reason we celebrate Christmas.

- Pray for the ladies Christmas party slated for December 7th, that many will come and hear the Good News and again why we as Christians celebrate Christmas.
- Am currently teaching a PhD class on Science and Reason. Pray for me as I teach, and for my students to be able to explain why one can be a believer and also a successful business person in the corrupt market place, among other reasons.

We are able to do all this because of your prayers and financial support. Thank you!

The Lord be with you.

Joe and Elfi

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