



Merry Christmas!

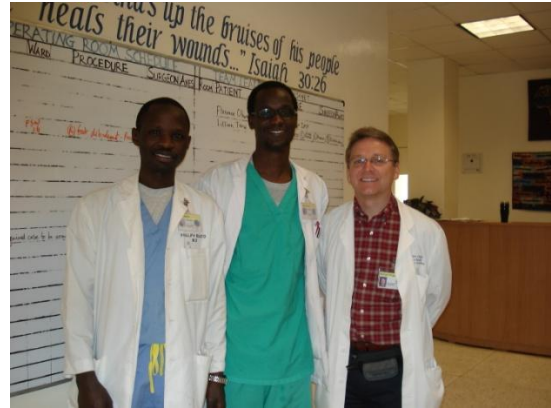
The Chupps in Kenya 2011

Steven (18), Pam, Kayla (12), Ashley (10), Melody (16), Mike

Our family sends WARM and JOYFUL Christmas greetings to your family on this Christmas Eve. We just returned from a short visit at one of four orphanages that various Tenwek missionary families and our Bethesda Church Youth group visited and shared some Christmas gifts with today. On the way back home we went through several villages where chickens were strewn all over the ground in preparation for purchase to put in a Christmas dinner in some local Kenyan home. The hustle and bustle in each market reminded us (in a small way) of all the activity going on this Christmas eve back at home. It is quite exciting to know that all over the world, normal activities are set aside for a special day of celebrating the birth of our Savior, King Jesus.

This Christmas and this December have been a little bit on the unusual side. First, the government doctors in Kenya went on strike on December 5th and the strike lasted for over a week. During the strike patients in government hospitals received care from nurses and clinical officers but not doctors. As a result, some Kenyans had to look for other alternatives for advanced care, and Tenwek was one of those choices. December has always been a rather hectic time for us, but adding the impact of the doctors' strike at a time when some of our staff take their leave and our visiting doctor's numbers are at their lowest, made for some stressful days for all of our Tenwek staff. In the midst of this challenge, however, we have seen some special acts of sacrificial service that have helped us. Two surgeons came (one with his family) this week from the US to volunteer specifically during and around Christmas, one a general surgeon and the other an orthopedic surgeon. Also, one of our Kenyan doctors agreed to stay on this month and work overtime instead of taking her vacation time because of our great need, especially in our outpatient medical clinic and our obstetrics department. Second, our good friend and long time obstetrician at Tenwek, Dr. Paul Jarrett, suffered a small stroke, while walking up to the hospital this week and after some initial treatment and studies, went to Nairobi to seek specialist care from a neurologist. He is doing better today, nearly back to normal, at Karen Hospital, and we hope he can return to Tenwek today, on Christmas eve, to rejoin his youngest daughter Rachel who stayed behind at Tenwek. Please pray for Dr. Jarrett's complete recovery as well as his family in the States who are celebrating Christmas together in Indiana.

We have been SO blessed this year by wonderful friends, family, and several churches that have done special things, especially at Christmas, to remind us that we are actively on the minds and in the prayers of our supporters. We want to thank you, each one of you, for standing so faithfully behind us with generous giving, regular prayers, and occasional notes of encouragement. You have refreshed our hearts and helped us enter our twelfth year of ministry at Tenwek Hospital. Krismasi Njema! (that is, "Merry Christmas" in Swahili)



1. Mel played guard for Rift Valley Academy girls 2. Steven sings tenor for RVA select group singers 3. Chupp kids on vacation 4. Mike and Pam after 20 years of wonderful marriage this year 5. Kipsigis boy in traction for right femur fracture 6. Mike with Dr. Blasto (surgery resident) and Dr. Llando (intern) on weekend rounds 7. Mike and Dr. Philip Blasto after surgery on child (I'm still a loyal Colts fan-see my hat!) 8. Mike in ortho clinic adjusting an ankle splint.



MERRY CHRISTMAS TO YOU AND YOUR KIN, FROM OUR KENYA FAMILY, ALL OF US, FROM WGM! (nearly all our missionaries in Kenya pictured above with families at our annual Christmas meeting-our gang is center back)

Our Contacts: Mike and Pam Chupp, Tenwek Hospital, Box 39, Bomet, Kenya 20400

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Blog: kenyachupps.blogspot.com

Support: C/O World Gospel Mission, Box 948 Marion, IN 46952

Attach note with check "For Mike and Pam Chupp ministry"

To give on-line: <https://www.wgm.org/sslpage.aspx?pid=1411>

(paste the above web address into your browser to navigate to the site where you can give specifically to our Tenwek ministry.)