

Chupplink to You

Update from Dr. Mike and Pam Chupp Missionaries to Kenya with World Gospel Mission



Our gang attending this month's WGM retreat at Watumu, Kenya on the Indian Ocean

A NEW TRAINING YEAR HAS BEGUN AT TENWEK HOSPITAL

Since we last wrote many young Kenyan doctors and clinical officers have finished training at Tenwek and either stayed on to work with us full time or been posted by the government to work in various hospitals across Kenya. Dr. Elijah Terer, who finished his medical school in Tanzania, graduated from his internship at Tenwek in January and has taken up work in our outpatient department. Over the course of 16+ years he has been a part of Tenwek as nurse, clinical officer, and now medical doctor. Elijah typifies the kind of young professionals we at Tenwek are desiring to equip to serve patients in Jesus' name. As Medical

Director at Tenwek, Mike asked Elijah to start visiting one of our two health centers, called Ngito dispensary, once a week. Elijah has a real heart for taking medical care to this needy area where patients sometimes struggle even to find money to pay for transport to get to Tenwek.

A new group of interns has started at Tenwek this year, 10 doctors and 6 clinical officers. All of them are Christians and bring new energy, enthusiasm, and the desire to sharpen their clinical skills for this year at Tenwek. They are joined by two new surgical residents, Philip and Damaris, our former interns, in our five year general surgery residency. We now have six residents total in the program sponsored by the PanAfrican Academy of Christian Surgeons (PAACS) and approved by the College of Surgeons of East, Central, and Southern Africa (COSECSA). Mike is acting as one of two assistant program directors while continuing about half-time in the role of Medical Superintendent of the hospital and half-time in the surgery department doing mainly

orthopedic surgery and night call.

Tenwek now also has two family medicine residents in years two and three of the program. Overall this adds up to 24 physicians or clinical officers in training at Tenwek this year. They are joined by short term visiting medical students and residents from the US most of the year such that each morning for our "morning report" meeting, the room is packed with trainees.

To train all these young people God has graciously blessed us with a wonderful medical staff. We have 17 consultant level doctors here for 9 months or more and many doctors here for short term service in any given month. We also have many Kenyan doctors on staff to join us as medical officers with various levels of experience after internship. It is a good thing: the volume of patients coming to Tenwek has steadily increased since 2004. This year we might well reach 140,000 patient visits in our outpatient department and over 14,000 admissions to the hospital!

We really covet your prayers for these training programs and our trainees. We deeply desire for these young Christian professionals to develop hearts that beat to serve Jesus

with their gifts and training. Passing the torch to the next generation of caregivers at Tenwek is fraught with challenges and occasional disappointments. It is also an exciting privilege to demonstrate how to care for hurting and dying Kenyans in Jesus' name. Pray for Dr. Terer as he works in our outpatient department and at the Ngito dispensary that he will develop into the care-giver and leader God has planned for him to be at Tenwek Hospital for God's glory.



Dr. Elijah Terer on left with Dr. Ouko and Dr. Nyakhisa, all three Kenyan Medical Officers who have graduated from Tenwek internship and are working at Tenwek.



Class of 2010 interns (16) at graduation ceremony on January 8th, 2011 with Tenwek teaching faculty



New group of 2011 interns on Chupp porch after helping Mike celebrate his 48th birthday!





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FAMILY NEWS

April is vacation month for our two older children, Steven and Melody, who are now home from Rift Valley Academy (RVA) until just after Easter. While different from a US school schedule, we have come to enjoy having the three month on, one month off, schedule at RVA which allows missionary kids to return home from boarding school and spend the month with family. This month we attended our annual WGM Kenya retreat with all the other missionaries from Kenya on the coast of Kenya off the Indian Ocean. This was a great time of fellowship, encouragement, spiritual growth and challenge, as well as fun. Our speaker, Rev. Bruce Bendinger from Indiana, challenged us on being disciple makers.

Steven is quite excited about playing rugby during the third and final term of the RVA school year. He has survived two cuts just prior to going on break and is now working out daily to be in top shape for the final cut the first week back at school. Rugby is a very popular sport within Kenya, a former British colony. Melody was able to make the varsity girls' volleyball team as a freshman just before the break.

Kayla and Ashley have enjoyed participating in Children's Bible quizzing this year, studying and memorizing verses from the gospel of Luke. Ashley quizzes for the "Fabulous Eagles" and Kayla for "The Disciples". Sunday, April 3rd, was the third and final competition that involved over 50 children and 8 coaches including Pam. Mike is the director and quiz master in this January to April program. Over 20 kids received gold medals for memorizing either 40 (5-6th grade) or 70 (7-8th grade) verses in the gospel of Luke. The Missionary Church in the US has been quite helpful in providing the quizzing materials each year. Missionary Church quizzing programs from the North Central district have partnered with our program for encouragement and prayer this year. Thank you Missionary Church!



PROJECTS AT TENWEK HOSPITAL

As Medical Superintendent, Mike's days include many oversight or organizational meetings. He chairs or sits on seven standing committees and is very involved in several ongoing projects. The last several months have been quite involved in coordinating multiple shipments of donated supplies and equipment from the US to Tenwek. Two large containers of donations have arrived in Kenya, a 20 foot container and a 40 foot container. Both containers have arrived at Tenwek

and included many items of great value to Tenwek including seven emergency room type beds shown on the left at our loading dock. These beds came as a donation from Lakeland Regional Health System hospital in St. Joseph, MI, our home town. They are already in service in our casualty department. The value of these donations to Tenwek is incredible. We praise the Lord for many private and organization donors who have made these two containers a reality. The value might

exceed \$300,000. World Medical Mission in Boone, NC played a huge role in receiving equipment, organizing, and packing them prior to shipping them to us free of charge. God is Good! Our CT scan project is going quite well with commissioning of the machine planned for June 21st. A private foundation pledged up to \$350,000 as a matching gift for this project so any gift given this year will be doubled! Construction is going on in many places across the Tenwek campus including expanded pediatric clinic, intern/resident housing, and a new outpatient expansion.

