

Spriegel PrayerNet

October 2010

Teaching is our life!

As fall days are moving toward winter in the US, we are experiencing cool weather here, too, with daily rains. Fires in the fireplace, layered clothing, and hot drinks help keep us warm. Yes, at 6500 feet altitude, it can be cool at Tenwek, but warmer days will be coming.

Thank you for partnering with us in all seasons to reach Kenyans for Christ. God is at work, answering prayer. We love our teaching/training roles and are focusing on them in this letter, to show you how God is at work.

Family

We thank God for good options for education for our children with their specific needs. Rebecca is thriving in 10th grade at Rift Valley Academy, about three hours from here. Chorus is a new love, and she once again is a dorm prefect.

Although Julia liked RVA last year, she found it stressful this year and decided to come home to Tenwek and do 10th grade on-line with Sevenstar Academy. She is doing well with it, and gets to fulfill a passion of hers as she helps in the hospital nursery. Twice a day she helps hold and feed the tiniest and most abandoned babies there, and practices her Kiswahili.

Julia holding Eunice

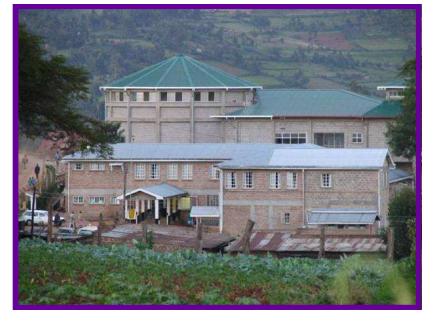


Rebecca beginning another term at RVA.



Joel with classmates on the first day of 7th grade.

Joel is enjoying 7th grade in a cooperative homeschool arrangement here at Tenwek. New studies this year include trumpet and shop. Linda loves teaching history, Bible, and language arts. God is good to provide the environment in which each of our kids can flourish best! PRAY that they'll grow in every way during this year. And PRAY for wisdom for us in parenting and teaching our kids.



Tabitha Bible Studies

Teaching the Word of God is Linda's greatest joy, and training others to do the same. Peris, Selly, Sarah, Beatrice, Gladys, Josephine, and Grace. These key leaders are taking more and more responsibility for the Bible study ministry. Linda still writes the weekly studies, and meets monthly with these leaders, but they teach other Bible study leaders, visit groups, troubleshoot, and start new studies. It is a JOY to work alongside these faithful sisters in Christ.

THANK GOD that the long-awaited Kipsigis Bibles have arrived in country and should reach us at Tenwek this coming week!

For personal stories and specific prayer requests, see TabithaKenya.blogspot.com



Tabitha leaders



John with medical service interns at our home.

Medical Training

Tenwek is training sixteen medical and clinical officer interns this year. Each quarter, John supervises four of them on medical ward and in ICU. He is also involved in training two family practice residents. In formal classroom settings, informally on the ward, and around our dining room table, John loves teaching them medicine, and working with them to identify and intervene for patients' spiritual needs, too. Thank God for this group that will soon be completing their internship. PRAY for God's specific leading as each of them desires to fulfill God's calling in their lives. PRAY for the interviews and God's choices for the new class of interns being chosen now, to begin in January.

Support Staff

John has recently begun a weekly study with his AIDS and educational support staff. Studying Colossians, and now Psalms together, he is encouraged by these men and women's heart for God and their desire to grow in the Lord.

Other training urgently needing prayer

- A new mentorship program for on- and off-site providers of care to AIDS patients
- The recruitment and training of radiographers in preparation for the arrival of a CT scanner in early 2011.

Personal Training

Only as we stay centered in Christ and His Word can we be effective teachers and trainers of others. Pray that we will be regular in our times of listening to the Lord, feeding on His Word, and praying.

Thank you for partnering with us as we serve God's people in Kenya.

John & Linda

Rebecca, Julia & Joel



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Donation with a catch: Use it or lose it!

Would you like to understand a project which has occupied much of John's time these last 5 months? Mike Chupp, our medical superintendent, did such a nice job describing the need for our CT scan, I decided to include it with this newsletter:

For about 15 years at Tenwek we have been discussing the need for a CT scanner at Tenwek Hospital. It has come up in a hundred different ways on hundreds of patients over those years often with a doctor at Tenwek saying "now if we only had a CT scan on this patient...". The closest CT scanner to Tenwek is about three hours away over poor roads which no acutely ill patient should have to be carried, even by ambulance. Several months ago the Toshiba Corporation decided to GIVE Tenwek a relatively new CT scanner after a visiting neurosurgeon, Dr. Bert Park, approached the leadership of the company and told them of the great need for the machine at Tenwek. Toshiba's main request was that the machine be placed into service as soon as possible or they would look for another institution as a possible recipient of the donation. The time table set into motion was for the scanner to be commissioned at Tenwek in January of 2011.

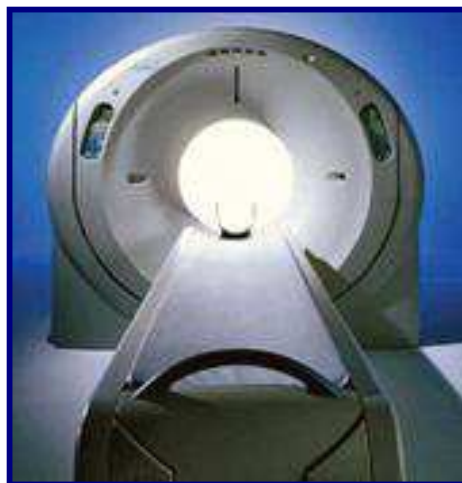
Now for those of you who understand how things work in rural Africa, you know it isn't always possible to make a short deadline work! We have faced many challenges in the past couple of months, not the least of which is to prepare a site for the scanner to be placed into service.

1) Space at Tenwek is at a premium so it has taken three months to even figure out how to make room for a scanner without displacing and interrupting vital work going on in other departments at the hospital.



2) The cost of construction for the radiology department with special lead protection in the walls, shipping of the CT scanner, installation of the unit, training of the staff, maintenance contract for the scanner, and several other expenses vital to the project all add up close to \$310,000! These are funds we don't have and are needed for a scanner to be commissioned in only three months!

To say that those of us in leadership at Tenwek are in "high gear" to make this donation a reality would be an understatement. A very capable task force led by fellow missionary doctor, John Spriegel, internal medicine, has done a superb job working with several construction plans and budgets, communicating with Toshiba



A Toshiba CT scanner similar to one recently donated for use at Tenwek Hospital.

Corp., and putting together a fund raising video quickly. The video was released two weeks ago and will be used between now and the New Year to share with friends of Tenwek the great need and the wonderful opportunity given to us by Toshiba Corp. If you would like a copy of this 5 minute DVD please let me know using our email:

john.spriegel@wgm.org, and we'll make sure you get a copy. Our mission, World Gospel Mission in Marion, IN has set up a fund for gifts given toward this project. If you would like to help bring this most needed diagnostic tool to Tenwek in early 2011 please send a check made out to **World Gospel Mission** with a note attached "**Tenwek CT scanner project**". WGM will send you a receipt for income tax purposes. The mission address is: Box 948 Marion, IN 46952. If you do make a donation, please also inform us directly so that we can give you a more personal thank you and keep you updated regarding progress of the project.

We get many inquiries monthly from outside doctors and institutions in Kenya on the availability of CT scan services at Tenwek Hospital. As one of the largest referral centers in all of southwest Kenya we want to bring the level of our services offered up a notch and so improve the care we offer to Kenyans in Christ's name. Will you help us achieve this goal?