



July–August 2017

Dear friends and family, greetings from Kenya!

In May and June we shared with you our team’s vision — *unhindered disciple-making* — and mission statement: **“to be a catalyst of God’s Kingdom Expansion in Kenya and the world through our own actions and partnerships with CCC and others.”** (“CCC” is the Community Christian Churches planted by CMF — these congregations now number well over 200.) We also discussed our eight key values which provide the foundation for our mission strategies — *Christ-centered, Prayer-powered, Empowerment of nationals, Holistic Ministries, Partnership, Church-focused, Community, and Culturally Appropriate*. We are continuing to work on putting these into practice.



In July, we were able to join in celebrating the wedding of the couple we have been mentoring.

We had hoped to write to you in July, but July ran away from us completely! We have been kept busy especially with CCBTI (Community Christian Bible Training Institute) and with curriculum development. Our first Turkana language project might go to press this first week of August! We hope to share those updates with you in our next letter.



friends: Cici (pronounced “she-she”) and Shalviah

But this month, we need to share two important updates. This month (August) Kenya’s elections are being held. Later this year we are returning to the States for home assignment / furlough.



Kenya’s Elections — 8 August



Kenya has elections every five years. At each election, all of the members of Parliament are elected as well as the President and Deputy President. While Kenya is considered an anchor of stability for the East Africa and Central Africa regions, some of you may recall that the country exploded in electoral violence in January 2008 after the disputed December 2007 elections. Coming up to next week’s election, we sense among Kenyans a mixture of concern (for legitimate reasons) and cautious hope. ***Please join us and Kenyans of good will in praying for free and fair elections with a peaceful outcome.***

While we remained in-country for the 2006 and 2012 elections, this year our whole team will be traveling to Arusha in Tanzania for election week — we drive down this Saturday, 5 August. We will be hosted by the CMF-Tanzania team at their training center. We have a team-building conference planned together with an opportunity to learn from and fellowship with our sister-team.



Coming to America — 30 October



Our third term is nearing completion. After another four years here in Kenya, we are returning to America for home assignment / furlough. We will arrive in Cincinnati on 30 October to spend a few days with family before attending CMF's Board Meeting in Indianapolis on 5 November. We then hope to visit supporters in the greater Omaha-Council Bluffs area in November before spending time in our home area of the Tri-Cities, VA-TN in December. From January–May 2018, we plan to be based in Greeneville, TN. From May–August 2018, we plan to be based in Mechanicsville, VA (the greater Richmond area). We will return to Kenya in September or October. *We look forward to being able to visit with many of you!*

As we are preparing to return to the States, we have some important needs:

- **A vehicle**
We need a reliable vehicle that has a minimum of eight seatbelts. We had a minivan lined up, but that fell through, as did our next two leads. If you have, or know of, a good vehicle that we could be loaned or given, or which we could purchase, please let us know! Regardless, please join us in praying that this need will be met.
- **Housing**
We need places to live! And of course, we aren't able to sign a year's lease. We have been working with our hosting congregations to nail down housing in the different areas where we will be based. Please pray that these housing needs will be met.

To our supporters and family: We thank you for your partnership with the expansion of God's Kingdom in Kenya!

As always, we would be happy to hear your own news of the Kingdom. If you'd like to join our prayer team, or our team of financial partners, let us know that as well!

grace and peace to you in our Lord and Friend Jesus,

joshua & ruth barron
CMF-Kenya

*Would you or someone you know like to partner with us financially?
Communicate with the CMF office (see address below), send us an email at
JoshuaRuthBarron@CMFmissionary.org,
or visit <https://give.cmfi.org/p-57-joshua-ruth-barron.aspx> online.*

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