

Dear friends and family, greetings in the love of Jesus:

We write to you rejoicing in God's favor and blessing as we continue to prepare for our service and life in the village of Nyamarwa, Uganda. *We want to thank you for your prayers and notes of encouragement during the weeks since our last, letter and to see with us, yet again, how wide and deep and long and high the love of Christ really is!*

Answered prayers - Relocations: First, we had asked prayer for the folks living in our home, that God would provide them with good homes. It appears that request has been fulfilled. Devetta Clayton and her daughter Daphanie have taken an apartment in NE Grand Rapids and will move in on November 1. Richard Blain and his daughters have found a nice place near Heritage Hill in the SE side and hope to move in on the 18th of this month. Scott and Linda have learned that progress is going well on their new condo in Newberry Place, a "co-housing" development on the NE side and hope to move in, on time, in early November. Praise the Lord!

Answered prayers - Home Street Home: We have met with two more very interested parties regarding rental or sale of the Home Street Home. One is a gentleman well known to us who is raising a family of foster and adopted sons. The other is a local organization interested in starting a supervised group home. We are just beginning discussions and will report more specifically when we are further along. For now, continue to pray for God's plan for the future of this remarkable house to be revealed and established.

Answered Prayers - Financial Support: The week before last, Brenda and I met with FLEETWOOD MFG. Company, a Christian, employee-owned school furnishings company in Holland, MI, that supports international missions and even has a Missions Committee. We are very hopeful they will "adopt" KIBBUSE as a missions project. Their decision involves a fairly long process which may take more than a year. However, they have opened the door for us to begin a relationship by applying for a "discretionary gift" for this year's work.

We met on the same day with an old friend and ministry supporter who has made the first major pledge to KIBBUSE, a gift that takes us about a third of the way to what we need to be able to purchase a new diesel truck and a propane refrigerator for the school. Praise the Lord with us for this wonderful gift! We have a long way to go. If you are able and willing, now would be a good time to send a one-time gift or pledge of monthly support for the two years we will be in Nyamarwa. If you are thinking about becoming a two-year partner, please let us know by e-reply.

Current Goings-on: We have finally begun the long process of clearing out the house. Brenda put together a vanload of knick-knacks and small furnishings/appliances and we took them up to Olivet UMC, where they were having a church rummage sale and offered us a "KIBBUSE booth". We sold many "family treasures" (well - sort of) to a fair turnout of folks from this mostly Hispanic neighborhood and made \$153! We look at it as a "great catch" (John 21:11).

Two new prayer requests. We have discovered, during a routine physical, that I (Bob) have developed a slight hernia in my right groin area. If I were staying in this country our doctor would probably not have ordered surgery, but in light of the Uganda plans, he has recommended the repair now, and has scheduled it for the 31st of this month. Thankfully, there are no restrictions on my activities now and the doctor foresees no restrictions from two weeks after the surgery onward.

Also, please pray for Brenda as she manages the cleaning out of the house. It means saying goodbye to so many things that have been special and important to us during our ten years here at Home Street. And pray for both of us as we navigate the sometimes difficult relationships between the three families we have living with us - especially as they all go through the stress of moving out. Again, we are grateful and indebted for your prayers and encouragement.

In all these things we rejoice, knowing that if we are patient and faithful we will be rewarded through the sure promises of our loving God and Savior.

May His blessings fill all your lives with joy, hope and peace,

Bob and Brenda

(A reminder: support checks for us should be made payable to CCGF, and notated "*Encounter Uganda-BBS*"; or, for Kibbuse school programs and development, "*Encounter Uganda-KVS*".

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