

AMOS FAMILY NEWSLETTER

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END OF 2008

With the holidays, we decided to combine Dec./Jan. into one newsletter. Surprisingly, lots of changes have taken place in the last couple months. I'll highlight a few:

- Despite the financial crisis in America, our team's supporting congregation (Richland Hills) still raised their entire amount of funds set aside towards missions in one weekend. Praise God for their heart for evangelism!
- Heath spent 2 weeks at ECHO learning more about appropriate development and technologies that could help the people of Rwanda. Unlike the week spent there in Oct., Heath gained more hands on experience working with the interns who maintain the global farm.
- The Shelby's and Kimbrows arrived in Rwanda on Dec. 5th. Praise God that they have already found places to live and have bought vehicles! God is taking good care of our teammates.
- We spent Thanksgiving with Heath's family in Missouri and Christmas with Rebecca's family in Lubbock. It was a great time to be with relatives.
- Africa Transformation Network (ATN) is the NGO started by the Shewmakers through which our team is hopeful to get our visas through. ATN is in its final stages of becoming legally recognized by the Rwandan government

HEATH'S NEWS

We have recently moved back to Lubbock and are back in our little garage apartment. Thankfully our "landlord," Dr. Mark Hall, didn't rent it out and graciously let us move back in! Our home feels different with most of our possessions on a ship somewhere in the Mediterranean Sea, yet we enjoy being back in our little place.

As we wait for Pete's arrival, I've been substitute teaching for LISD on the side. In just a few short weeks of doing this, it has hit me how Lubbock has many school kids that need the love of Christ. By overhearing the students' conversations, I can't help but marvel at the dysfunctional family life of many of them. It is evident how Christ is needed in Lubbock.

Right before Christmas, I was privileged to preach at Green Lawn, our home congregation. I shared some



Heath was able to share some thoughts with Green Lawn in December.

thoughts from Is. 61 on the "Heroes of Missions." According to this text, the heroes aren't missionaries or the messengers of God. Instead, the true heroes (outside of God!) are the poor, brokenhearted, and despised who rebuild and renew the city long devastated. The local Rwandans who accept Christ and obey him are the true Heroes of Missions who will rebuild the country of Rwanda.

PRAYER REQUESTS

PETE'S BIRTH IN THE NEXT 3 1/2 WEEKS!

TEAMMATES WHO ARE SETTLING IN RWANDA

PEACE IN THE CONGO

REBECCA'S MOM AND HER HIP REPLACEMENT

OUR PLANS

Our doctors have decided to induce labor on January 27th, in order to prevent some possible risks that could be involved in Pete’s delivery. I have stayed very healthy and feeling great these past few months, but am super ready for our son to arrive. Please keep us in your prayers that the rest of pregnancy will continue to surprise doctors and that things will be smoother than ever expected.

We plan to book our tickets for Rwanda shortly after Pete James is born, healthy and strong. We will obtain his passport as soon as possible, which will put us leaving 6-7 weeks after he is born. We plan to make a trip to Richland Hills in early March to visit friends there and another trip to West Virginia to see Heath’s family one last time before we finally leave. We should be in Rwanda by the end of March and ready to hit the ground running, with our already busy and active teammates. They have been so good about smoothing the way for our

arrival and helping out with housing and visas! Thank you for your prayers and shared joy in our exciting future!



I have “popped out” in the past couple of months, as Pete’s arrival comes closer. He should arrive around January 27th!

REBECCA’S LOOK AT THINGS

It is hard to believe that it is January, the month that our little guy will be here in person! In so many ways our lives will be changing in this 2009 year and we look forward to it with great excitement and trust that our Lord will be ahead of us every step of the way. I am constantly reminded of *Proverbs 16:9* “**In his heart a man plans his course, but the Lord directs his steps.**” Staying here in Lubbock four months longer than our teammates was surely not our ‘plan’ but thankfully the Lord knew exactly what we needed. We have been blessed in many ways by our time here and we have had great communication with our teammates in Rwanda, so we never feel too far away.

up by life! I was so thankful to be able to be here to have some special last memories with her and to be with family as we celebrated her amazing life here, dedicated to Christ, outreach to the lost and kindness to everyone she met.

Some of you may know, but my Grandma Kerstin Dahlstrom unexpectedly went to be with the Lord a week ago. A good friend of mine terms death in a beautiful way--he always says they are not dying, as much as they are being swallowed



Pete James is healthy and happy! We hope he continues to rest this peacefully on the outside!

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