

# AMOS FAMILY NEWSLETTER

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## FIRST DAYS IN RWANDA

We are here! After 25 hrs of flying, which is actually pretty short compared to some flights, we arrived in Rwanda. Pete did great on the four planes we rode. Passengers even commented on how well he did. All of our luggage made it and our team was waiting for us at the terminal. Praise God for our easy flight over.

Our teammates have bent over backwards helping us adjust to our new life in Rwanda. They are helping us make this transition easy. The Shewmakers are letting us stay with them as we get adjusted to Rwanda. They have a gift of hospitality and have opened their arms and their home to us. The Shelbys and Kimbrows have been our chauffeurs, showing us the ins and outs of Kigali and where to buy needed items. We couldn't ask for a better team! Justin Rudasingwa read this text at our Bible study on Sunday which is so true:

*"How good and pleasant it is when brothers live together in unity." Ps. 133:1*

Last tidbit, in our first week here, we bought cell phones (see bottom of 2<sup>nd</sup> page for our numbers), exchanged our dollars into Rwandan francs, and jumped into language learning. We've already looked at two houses to rent and are making steps to rent one. God is good. What more could be said?

## HEATH'S NEWS

Our first year in Rwanda will mainly be focused on language learning. Only 10% of the population speaks English and this is mostly the upper class. So, in order to connect with the poor and speak in the name of Jesus, we must learn their heart language - Kinyarwanda.

Already we feel quite behind since our teammates have been in language learning for 3 months. Lots of catch-up work to be done! And Kinyarwanda is a difficult language. For instance, to say good morning you'd say, "Mwaramutse." This word sounds nothing like English, Spanish, or Greek. English has some similarities with these other two languages, yet everything in Kinyarwanda has to be memorized.



*The flight to Kigali was long, smooth and uneventful, thanks to Pete.*

## PRAYER REQUESTS

PETE'S CONTINUED HEALTH AND GROWTH  
OUR SEARCH FOR A HOME AND VEHICLE  
LANGUAGE LEARNING LESSONS  
OUR ADJUSTMENT TO LIVING IN RWANDA

Here are some recent words we've learned:

Fish = amafi, nose = izuru, arm = amaboko, boy = umuhungu, chicken meat = inyama z'inkoko, ibombo = candy, etc.

Pretty tough stuff for a slow person like me. However, it is very exciting to see a Rwandan's face light up when you speak their language. They really appreciate a muzungu (white person) trying to learn their language. May the Lord bless our attempts to speak Kinyarwanda for His Glory. Remember, "Imana irabakunda" (God loves you).

## SURPASSING PEACE

In preparing to live and serve in Rwanda, I have been surprised by how different I have felt this time, as opposed to when I went to Uganda eight years ago. That decision was easy then, I only had myself to take care of. But now, I suppose for obvious reasons, the choice to follow our call here has taken much more trust and faith. Now I am a wife and a mother and our commitment to be in Africa is so much more permanent. I admittedly have had more doubt and worry about coming, I have wondered if this was the right decision for our family, and I have wrestled with many feelings of regret about leaving immediate family. I am sure that these are temptations thrown to convince us to stay in America.

In the face of all these thoughts, I easily could have continued on with life as normal, but thankfully the Lord is persistent with me. He not only placed it on our hearts to come, but He has given us the strength and peace to be absolutely assured that this is where

## REBECCA'S NOTES

Our month in America is one we will never forget. We were prayed over, anointed, hugged, rocked (Pete☺), fed and loved on. It was a time of great blessing and much needed encouragement before we left. The Lord certainly revealed himself to us in countless ways through friends and especially our families. I just wanted to list a few things in this section that I will always remember about our last days in the States and to give thanks to our family & friends and honor to God for his love for us through them. Each moment prepared us for our departure in a special way.

- Friends who came many miles to visit us: Ron Cook Family, Danny McDonald Family, McKensey, Erika, Terri.
- Prayers over us from Don Box, the Myers, the Jacobys and the Jeffreys at RHCC.
- Our indoor hot dog roast with our dearest friends in Lubbock.
- Visit to WV and the countless family members who traveled to St. Marys to see us off.
- The AMAZIING quilt of family and friends.

we are supposed to be. From the moment I stepped off the plane, our Father showered me with peace. Through his Holy Spirit, my husband, Pete, our supportive families and our teammates, we know we are here for a reason. The Lord truly does give us just what we need for the moment - the easy & the hard ones. I am thankful to be here and for a transcending peace that can only come from above.



*Our teammates all met us at the little airport in Kigali. What a blessed sight!*

- The potluck and roasting at Green Lawn.
- Nights of laughter, hunting & pure joy with the whole Dahlstrom family before we left.

*"...You honor us by anointing our heads with oil. Our cup overflows with blessings." Psalms 23*



*Most airlines have little bassinets for babies to sleep in on overseas flights. Pete evidently loved them!*

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