

I have a chance to write so thought I'd just give you a quick update about how we are.

The social side of life was definitely the best part of the week. Last Tuesday we went over to the Mennonite Guest House to have lunch with Aram & Debbi DiGennaro and their two small children. They have a wonderfully large house behind the Guest House, which is in a beautiful setting. We really enjoyed getting to know them better and look forward to a deepening relationship in the future.

We had a great time last Thursday evening when our friends the Waldrops came over for dinner. We ate and talked until late enjoying one another's company. We also ran into them Saturday at Adam's Arcade when we had walked over there for lunch. Later Julianne, the Waldrop's youngest daughter (16) who is here in Africa with them, came over swimming at our place since they don't have a pool. I made my chocolate meringue pies again and this time they came out perfect! I'm not sure what happened the first time when we got here. Tomorrow Janene & I are going to shop at the African market in Kawangware. She's taking me since she's an old hand at it now! We'll also be going over to the Waldrops for Thanksgiving so I'm very thankful we won't be alone.

It is also quiet here without Faustin. We haven't seen him since Friday night since he had Saturday and Sunday off and then left today for a 10-day mission trip to Zambia. When he returns, we'll be gone to Kitale so we won't see one another for two weeks. Since he's gone, we also have a car but no driver. However, if we really need to do anything, Faustin's twin brother, Kevin, will come over to drive us.

Sophie is a great cook and housekeeper. She has a regular schedule of what she does on which days, plus I just tell her about any extra things I need and what I'd like for her to cook. At first, it felt really strange having someone here three days a week and her doing what I'm used to doing. However, it didn't take long for me to love it! I love the dirty clothes appearing all clean, folded, hung and ironed! I love delicious meals prepared and ready to eat three times a week with usually enough for leftovers on the extra days! This Wednesday, though, since I've got food to make for Thanksgiving, Sophie is just going to be my helper so it will go faster and she can learn, too. Of course, the best thing about Sophie and Faustin helping is all the extra time that gives both Les and I to actually work on what we came here to do instead of errands, shopping, cooking, cleaning, and laundry.

We had some bright spots as prayers were answered and progress made.

1. First, we found out that the same person we bought the other furniture from still had the kitchen fridge and three pine nightstands! That will help and

saved lots of money. We trust the Lord will also supply other necessary items (mainly stove, washer & dryer) as the time for needing them gets closer.

2. Next, we also received an unexpected payment for previous services provided which is certainly the Lord's provision for more than a month!
3. In addition, the mail mystery was solved when our NJ landlord went back over to our old apartment and found a huge pile of our mail. It seems the P.O. never received our change of address request. It has all been shipped to FL where Matthew will sort it out for us. We are still praying that some missing checks are in there and not stolen.
4. Plans were made for getting Simba from NJ to TX this Wednesday. (I'm still praying until it's done!)
5. My tummy wasn't feeling good at all from Thursday night until Saturday afternoon, but it finally settled down.
6. Finally, Les preached an awesome sermon on Sunday at the DOVE Kawangware church (one of his best ever, in my opinion!) BUT it didn't tape as he forgot to turn the mic on.

Unfortunately, we continued to encounter barriers in getting many other issues resolved.

1. We finally got Les' transcript from Regent (after three weeks of problems) but were still unable to get the work visa papers turned in due to the Omond's being out of town.
2. Not getting the work visa application turned in also holds up final arrangements for shipping our stuff over here.
3. We tried and tried to get an extra projector bulb ordered in time for Larry Kreider to bring it with him from the USA later this week...however, since we are overseas, they would not ok our credit card so they cancelled our order! Now we are trying another company to have a pastor bring it over in about three weeks.
4. Les continues (for over 2 months!) to try to get his iPhone unlocked so he can use it. Nothing has worked.
5. We're still trying to get health insurance procured but need the information first.
6. We have been unable to order the Mannatech we need due to emergencies back in the States for Jerry & Sharon Graham. Now we found out that Mannatech has a branch in South Africa but the web site refuses to let us on for Africa since we are registered in the USA!
7. The car title was finally found in our storage stuff, but still need to get it sold.
8. Worst of all is the Internet. Slow speeds, no service, and high prices persist. We had all of our hopes last week resting on the repairmen coming out on Friday to fix the line. However, when they came all they could do was determine that the problem is the line from the source to our apartment building...but couldn't fix it, couldn't say who will or when. So now we are

looking for other providers but that is a very slow & difficult process. Please pray! This wasting a tremendous amount of time and creating much frustration. It took me three solid days of emailing our support letter out as I had to do it one letter at a time polle polle (Swahili meaning slowly, slowly!) We also still can't upload photos or sermons to the website due to bandwidth...we're paying for 512 and getting 10!

Even though we must continue to press ahead on those items, we are shifting more of our time to actually getting some work done! PTL! Besides some time off this week for Thanksgiving, we have plenty to do to get ready for the next two weeks of training that are coming up. Next Tuesday, Dec. 2, we fly again back to Kitale for the DOVE Africa Conference. Les will be teaching a two hour workshop about cells while I teach at the same time to the Pastor's Wives, then I'll teach a two hour workshop on Evangelism in the Cells. We look forward to not only teaching, but also to seeing all the pastors we got acquainted with during the seven week ministry trip. We will fly back Saturday night, Dec. 6. Then the following week, we will join key DOVE regional leaders for a week of training nearby in Karen. We will be teaching a whole day on the five areas of healing that Jesus provides.

Following those two weeks, I also have some computer work to finish for RCC, Les still needs to finish laying out my book for publication in January (hopefully!), prayer/planning for 2009, and preparation for a mini-cell conference here in Nairobi in January. We should be able to get a lot done in the second half of December since we won't have our furnishings to unpack, none of our Christmas stuff, and there shouldn't be much happening over the holidays.

Here are a few miscellaneous sights, sounds, and occurrences from this past week: higher temperatures (low 80s) as we move more into the warmer & dryer summer months...clouds of smoke from our next door neighbors starting a huge bonfire to burn their trash...African pattern Kleenex boxes abound at Nakumatt!.....we've planned twice to go to the discount Monday movie but haven't gotten to go yet...Les & riding a matatu to & from church Sunday with no problems...both cell phones not working tonight since our time ran out on them so must go buy the prepaid time cards tomorrow to get them going again...we hate mosquito's! How do they get in?!...how do African companies work since they can't answer questions, provide services, or even give you correct addresses or phone numbers for their own locations????!!!

Happy Thanksgiving to you all!!!!!!!