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MALAWI RIOTS

The usually peaceful country of Malawi broke out in riots and violence after the elections May 21. Many vehicles have been stopped, people have been attacked and beaten or killed, fires set, windows broken, thousands of people marching, schools were let out, business closed, etc. A political headquarters building was bombed and excessive use of force by law enforcers has been condemned.





Linda lives in Blantyre, which is a city, so she has to be careful and only go out on safe days. Our brothers and sisters say they have been warned, and believe these are the end times, so they have to be stronger. They say that it's amazing; in the midst of all this trouble the church is growing. Many people are being baptized. They're estimating the growth at 30-50% more than before the rioting, demonstrations, and violence. They are very thankful many are coming to salvation!

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AFRICA TRIP

By Rebekah Martin



COGAF in Madowa, Uganda



Pastor Emmanuel Gubika, front left



Baptisms in Uganda



Uganda HQ before completion

What a blessing to continue to spread God's word to Africa! This year's team consisted of Joe & Rebekah Martin, Rollin & Linda Carlblom, Lacey Dunn, and Sean Finnegan. Joe and I left first, on May 30 and spent several days in Nairobi where Joe taught in a Bible College for an instructor who had come to believe in one God. The classes were excellent, and many questions were asked and answered.

Our next stop was in Uganda...our first time there. This is a beautiful country, and the people are very poor. There are many, many needs there. Pastor Emmanuel Gubika is our main contact person there. He has established 12 congregations of COGAF in Uganda! Many Bibles were given out here. One of the places we went had 10 baptisms! There had been a drought, so there was no place to baptize for a while. When we were there, we went to an old rock quarry that had a little water in it for the baptisms. There still wasn't much water, so people had to be on their knees to be baptized.

The Uganda HQ church was built just prior to our going, but shortly after being finished a tornado came through wiping out a whole swath of things, including the newly finished church. Praise God no one was injured in it! There were several people praying in it, heard the loud wind, and ran out just in time before the roof ripped off and the church collapsed.

We returned to Kenya where we met the rest of the team. Sean had a difficult time getting to Kenya from the U.S., because his flight was cancelled from JFK to Nairobi, but with much persistence he made it.

We travelled to many churches in northwest Kenya, teaching everywhere. Our main HQ church is at Maturu, where we had a weekend conference. Pastor Maurice Chahilu is the main contact in the northern area. Lacey and Linda were excellent with working together and teaching the children, as well as having lots of interesting games and crafts for them. They were a big hit!

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Inside the Kenya HQ building, truths were being taught, and teachings absorbed by very interested Christians from all over the northern area. On Sunday several babies were dedicated, and there was one baptism. There is a new group of COGAF in the refugee camp in far northwest Kenya, and several of the people from there, including two pastors attended the conference.

Sean was only able to be with us for a week, so he left on Monday after the conference in Maturu.

From northwest Kenya we travelled to southwest Kenya, where Pastor James Nyangote is our main contact. Again, we visited many churches, teaching the truths of the coming kingdom of God, one God, Jesus, repentance/baptism, righteous living.

One of the places we had services was in the new church where John A'minga is pastor. Many attended, and were very happy to have a church to meet in. It was a blessing to meet everyone and to worship with them. Thank you all for your generous support for missions, to make things like this happen!



Lacey Dunn getting cozy with a giraffe



Joe preaching at Kenya HQ building

We visited numerous churches/house groups in both the northwest and the southwest of Kenya, and were pretty tired when we left! (Joe and I now live in Arizona (the Carlblom's, too!), and Kenya is a 10 hour time zone difference ahead of us; pretty hard to get used to!)

After finishing the work in this area, we travelled back to Nairobi, which takes ~8 hours by car. We spent the following day visiting the giraffe park before heading back home to the U.S. Joe & I were in Kenya/Uganda for a month; the others (excluding Sean) were there ~ 2 weeks.

Joe and I were planning to spend the next month in Malawi and Mozambique, but because of post-election rioting (which is still going on at this writing) we had to cancel that part of the trip.

Thank you all for your prayers and support! We don't take any of it for granted, and really appreciate it. May God bless each one as we serve Him together!

RUSSIA TRAVELS

Maksim denies himself daily to carry the Word near and far. He is currently in Eastern Russia visiting scattered brethren.

LINDA VISITS CAMP



Overseer of African ministries, Linda Limbe of Malawi Face-timed with students and staff at our national youth camp, FUEL, this July. We could have talked to her for days - what an inspiration!

HEALING IN KENYA



Thank you for providing life-saving amoeba and typhoid fever treatment to Pastor Richard Mogeni and a glucometer to help monitor Pastor James Nyangute's diabetes.

TO CHILE & BEYOND



It is hard to keep up with the Mauricio's of Peru; they stay so active in ministry! Edwin and Aleida visited a few families in Chile that they have been ministering to for years online.

It was an edifying time for all.

PERU TRIP

By Amber Cain

Thank you for spreading the gospel message in Peru. We are ever-grateful for your prayers for our trip this summer, your continued prayers for our brothers and sisters in Peru and your financial sacrifice that allowed us to go on this trip.

Team members: Rick McClain, Josiah & Amber Cain, Mackenzie McClain, Maggie Gallagher, Chris Mattison, Katie-Beth Fletcher & Alex Davila

LIMA:

Leader: Maria Poma Perez | Days spent in Lima: 1

We spent the day edifying Maria and her daughter, Rebeca. Together, we witnessed the changing of the guards at the Presidential Palace, learned about the church happenings over lunch, shopped for mission auction items, and attended a church service in the evening. Maria sends love and hugs to each of you here!

HUANCAYO:

Leaders: Jhon Ramirez, David Donayre & Alex Laymito Days spent in Huancayo: 4

One of our favorite parts about Huancayo was teaching children about God's unique plan for their lives at a preschool and elementary school. Within four days, we held five Bible schools, teaching around 175 kids! We spent the evenings worshipping and teaching with brethren at a home church and in local parks. We also experienced a Sunday morning church service in a market alley.

CHULUCANAS:

Leaders: Cesar Huertas & Jose Arambulo

Days spent in Chulucanas: 4

The evening we arrived in Chulucanas kids had been anxiously awaiting our arrival in the church for hours! We played games, sang songs, acted out Bible stories, made crafts and prayed with around 75 kids over the course of four Bible Schools. During the evenings, the church room was packed and over 60 people lined up outside of church to listen and interact. One night, we fellowshipped at church until nearly midnight on a school night! We also enjoyed building relationships with church leaders and visiting the home of Cesar. Our last night we rode motorcycle taxis to the town of Encantada where locals blocked the streets with rows of chairs for community street church!



Team with Maria & Rebeca in Lima



Bible study in Huancayo wearing new reading glasses!



Church leaders in Chulucanas



Children's church in the streets of Encantada