



Tim & Jessica Brubaker

Prayer Update - December 2006

*Serving with Mission pour la Nouvelle Creature
to train pastors and church leaders in Rwanda.*

DEAR PRAYING FRIENDS

Two years ago on this day (December 7), our family stepped off of a plane into Rwanda – with one less child, no home, a bunch of boxes, and no ability to communicate in Kinyarwanda. For us, this is a day to celebrate God’s faithfulness to our family. And, in such recollection, we must thank you for your part in praying for us and supporting us on this journey.

NOTES OF PRAISE

Cecilia’s Birth: Thank you for faithfully praying for Jessica’s pregnancy throughout the last nine months. Everyone seems to be happy and healthy. Also, we need to make a correction. In converting kilograms to pounds, we originally multiplied wrong. Cecilia actually weighed 9 lbs at birth!

Tim’s Preaching: Thank you for praying for Tim’s preaching in downtown Kigali on December 3. Everything went quite well.

Field Meetings: The third week of November was spent in meetings with other missionary coworkers in Rwanda, as well as missionary leaders from East and Central Africa. We had good times of prayer and discussion, with the fruit of those meetings being exciting ideas for the future of MNC.

Good Health: Though the boys still have a lingering cough, we have all (for the most part) healed from our various rainy season sicknesses.



Cecilia Lehne Iradukunda Brubaker

ITEMS FOR PRAYER



Lesson Preparation: Please continue to pray for Tim as he spends large amounts of time studying and preparing curriculum material for the beginning of 2007. Pray that he would prepare material that is contextually sensitive, biblically sound, and appropriate for the pastors he will be teaching.

Schooling: Though we are still two years away from returning to the USA for a one year furlough, we have already begun planning what we will do for our kids’ schooling during that time. We had originally thought that they could continue studying in French. But, the French-speaking school in Chicago has turned out to be exorbitantly expensive. Please pray for wisdom as we think through schooling options for our boys during that time.



MORE ITEMS FOR PRAYER

Coworkers Arrival: On Tuesday, December 19, our coworkers Gary and Barbara Bennett will be returning to Rwanda with their two girls Melissa and Megan. Please pray for a good season of transition, as well as safety in travel.

MNC's Future: During our meetings in mid-November, we discussed the future of MNC's ministry in Rwanda. Though we realize that our current level of teaching is meeting a unique need among Rwandan church leaders, we also realize that with the rising level of education in Rwanda, future church leaders will be needing a university level degree. Currently there are very few options available within Rwanda for university level Bible training. Thus, we are prayerfully considering if God would have us move down this road to help meet this future need. We appreciate your prayers for this HUGE issue!

Visitors: On January 2, 2007, Tom and Gail Brubaker will be visiting us from Pennsylvania (Tom is Tim's father). Please pray for safety in travel, good health, and a great time of visiting with all of us.

NOVEMBER HIGHLIGHT

Cecilia Lehne Iradukunda Brubaker! (Could there be a bigger highlight?) Though there is much that could be said about her birth, a highlight from the last month was the naming ceremony that we held in our home. On Saturday, November 25, over seventy Rwandese friends streamed into our living room for a time of celebrating Cecilia's birth with us. Children sat in the middle of the room on grass mats. Adults sat in chairs forming a semi-circle around the room. The focus of the room was Jessica and Cecilia. Together we sang, prayed and laughed. After about two hours, the official naming ceremony began. Our pastor's wife held Cecilia and stood in the middle of the room. The children formed a long line out the front door. One-by-one they filed past the baby, looked at her, and then looked at us, saying, "Name her..." After the children, the adults filed by, following the same routine, "Name her..." Some of the names were humorous (like "Daddy's little girl," "Dad's favorite," etc...). Others were excessively long (one name had thirty-two letters). Others were serious and reminded of various positive qualities (purity, virginity, peace, fearing God, praise, goodness, etc...). After all had filed by, Tim stood, holding Cecilia, and announced her "official" name – Cecilia Lehne Iradukunda Brubaker. "Iradukunda" was the name suggested by a young girl from our neighborhood. It means, "He [God] loves us." What is more important than that? God's love is the foundation of all that we believe in, hope for, and rely upon.



Kids sit in the middle of our living-room, drinking soda and waiting for a chance to give our little girl a name.

Thanks for Praying,

Tim, Jessica, Thomas, Martin & Cecilia

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