

## MAY 2006 – PRAYER UPDATE

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### DEAR PRAYING FRIENDS –

Over the last month we've often imagine the change of seasons in the States, knowing that Spring is a beautiful time of year. Can you imagine perpetual Springtime? That's Rwanda. We're thankful that God has called us to work in this beautiful country. And, we thank God that He has given to us friends who are willing to pray for our family and ministry. Thank you.

### NOTES OF PRAISE –

- Our quick trip to Uganda to participate in WorldVenture's conference for new missionaries in East Africa was very helpful. Veteran missionaries as well as new missionaries gave really good insight into some of the issues we have faced and continue to wrestle with. We are really grateful for WorldVenture's concern for the spiritual and emotional health of its missionaries.
- Though we are still praying for wisdom regarding Thomas's schooling situation, we have some positive news to report. Jessica took Thomas to the French pre-school earlier this week so they could see the school and meet the teachers. Thomas really, really liked it. He's been asking to go back ever since! The language barrier shouldn't be too much of an issue, as some of the kids speak neither Kinyarwanda, French nor English!
- Jessica's sewing group had a special day to celebrate their last year of meeting together. The women have taken quite a bit of ownership over the group so that Jessica doesn't feel like she needs to be there every week. During the celebration they had a special time to thank Jessica for her faithfulness and generosity with the group. Over seventy people from the neighborhood (very few from the actual church) have attended over the last year and have heard the Word of God.

### ITEMS FOR PRAYER –

- Guess what? Another little Brubaker beauty is scheduled to arrive in November. Yes, Jessica is pregnant. She is about fourteen weeks into her pregnancy. She has had quite a bit of stomach sickness and weariness, so we covet your prayers for comfort and health for her and the baby. We are planning to deliver the baby here in Rwanda, within our own home.
- Wednesday and Thursday, May 17-18, Tim will be teaching in MNC's Pastoral Training School. He is busy finishing preparations in Kinyarwanda. Please pray that he would effectively communicate the Word of God (specifically the message of Galatians) to these pastors.
- On Tuesday, May 16, Jessica's mother (Darcy Perry) is arriving for a three week visit. She is coming with three friends (who will stay for one week). Please pray for safety in the journey, for all of their baggage to arrive, and for a fun and healthy visit.

### APRIL HIGHLIGHT –

Missionaries don't have any stress, right? Hah! As we mentioned above, our mission board hosted a three day conference in Kabale, Uganda, for first-termers (that means missionaries in their first four years of service) in East Africa. Once reaching the outskirts of Kabale, a small boat carried us to an island in the middle of Lake Bunyoni (7500 feet above sea-level, two degrees south of the equator, and frigidly cold at night). We slept in luxury tents where we awoke to a beautiful view of the lake. Throughout the day we discussed various issues that contribute to the stress of first-term missionaries. Are you wondering what causes missionary stress? Here are a few good general examples: (1) Loneliness; (2) Unmet expectations about missionary life; (3) Kids' schooling and needs; (4) Differences among spouses regarding sense of call, desire to continue, and satisfaction in ministry; (5) Communication barriers and language learning in host culture; (6) Difficulties with missionary teammates; (7) One spouse moves ahead of the other in ministry and language skills. So, if you are looking for general categories about which to pray for missionaries, these are a great place to start.

Thanks for Praying,

**TIM, JESSICA, THOMAS, MARTIN AND “?”**

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