

November 2004

DEAR PRAYING FRIENDS:

The time has almost arrived for our departure on December 6! We are greatly indebted to your valuable partnership with us in prayer. We believe this is the backbone of our pre-field ministry over the past sixteen months, and it will continue to carry us during our time in Rwanda. THANK YOU!

NOTES OF PRAISE:

- Thank you for praying for the final details of shipping our twenty foot container to Rwanda. As best we can tell, the container is somewhere between Norfolk, Virginia, and the Suez Canal.
- Thank you for praying for us in our travels over the last month. Our trip to Portland, Maine, was a great time of building a stronger relationship with the church. Unfortunately, we canceled our trip to Iowa when all of us ended up sick with the flu.
- God has provided 100% of our needed monthly support!

ITEMS FOR PRAYER:

- Please continue to pray that our container would arrive intact and in perfect time. It is officially scheduled to arrive in early December. More likely, it will arrive sometime in January.
- Please pray for safe and healthy travels and meaningful memories during this final month in the USA. We will be sharing at Skokie Valley Baptist (our sending church) during the weekend of November 7. November 8-12 we will be in Nebraska saying goodbye to Jessica's family. November 14 we will be sharing at Calvary Baptist Church, in Altoona, Pennsylvania. November 15-21 we will be in Connecticut saying goodbye to Tim's family. We will be sharing with Faith Baptist Church's AWANA clubs on November 17. November 22-27 we will be in Pennsylvania saying goodbye to more of Tim's family.
- Please begin praying for wisdom in arranging for language helpers once we arrive in Rwanda. Pray that God would lead us to one man and one woman who will have the skill, desire, and vision to equip us to minister by helping us learn Kinyarwanda. What an important role they have! Please pray for these individuals, even though we don't know their names yet.

OCTOBER HIGHLIGHT:

Our shipping container has been a 'big' task. In a few months we've gone from not knowing what a shipping container is to packing and arranging for a container's shipment to the middle of Africa. We've heard horror stories of containers getting dropped into the ocean or of things getting stolen en route. So, on Monday, October 11, the day our container shipped, we were looking for confirmation that the Lord was watching over the details. After packing a few final pieces, Arnold (a teen from our church) and I stood beside the loaded container and prayed for a safe and timely journey. Shortly after, a crane and a semi arrived to haul it away. Trying to back down the narrow drive to the container, the semi got stuck in branches, and the driver claimed he couldn't do the job. The only option left was to pay a few hundred dollars more to get different equipment. So, I asked the driver, "what will it take to get you back to the container." He replied, "A ladder and a saw." Hmm. I asked the crane driver, "what would you say if I told you the last two things we packed in the container were a ladder and a saw." He commented, "I'd say someone is looking out for you." We opened the container, pulled out the ladder and saw, cut down a few branches, loaded the container onto the semi, and away it went - leaving in its trail reaffirmation that the Lord has His hand on even the simplest details of our move to Rwanda!

Thanks for praying!

Tim, Jessica, Thomas & Martin

P.S. We've set up a website to facilitate communicating from Rwanda. Check it out: www.skokievalley.org/brubaker.