

Into the Deep: Serving Christ Together in Kenya

November 27, 2018

Giving Thanks

Thanksgiving is not a holiday in Kenya, but we still want to give an intentional and heartfelt **THANK YOU** during this season to all of you who support our ministry here through your financial gifts, prayers, encouragement, and even personal visits. We see God at work... in the lives of our residents, our patients, and our local church.

Thank you for helping us be here and join Him in what He is doing in East Africa through Tenwek Hospital. The past few months have been busy and exciting... Here are a few updates since our last letter:

- * We held interviews and accepted 3 new general surgery and 3 new orthopedic residents who will begin in January.
- * Development of an OB/GYN residency program was approved by PAACS, with the first proposed site at Tenwek, possibly as early as January 2020.
- * Heath passed his Surgical Critical Care boards.
- * All of our residents (2nd and 5th years) passed their written exams and will now travel to Rwanda next week for oral exams with the College of Surgeons of Eastern, Central, and Southern Africa (COSECSA). Heath will attend as well as an examiner.
- * Our hospital held an impactful "Medical Mission Emphasis week." Why would a mission hospital hold a mission week? Because we are ALL on mission and have a calling to use our gifts and abilities to serve others with God's love. Also, we don't just receive missionaries at Tenwek Hospital, we send them out as well!

My Grown Up Christmas List 2018

'Tis the season... for our grown-up Christmas list again! It's hard to believe that this will be our 5th Christmas since moving to Kenya in June



Praises

Read "Giving Thanks" for an update on the exciting happenings over the past two months. Also see pictures below.

If you missed our last update, [click here](#) to read it.



Angela with the OB/GYN Investigative Task Force at the PAACS Commission meeting.



Surgery resident, Patricia Chesang, sharing at Medical Missions Week about her recent rotation at a mission hospital in Burundi.

Prayer Needs

-For our 2nd and 5th year residents as they take oral board exams with COSECSA on December 3rd-5th

2014. Our first Christmas, we did not have a Christmas wish list. We were still trying to get our minds around our new life... missing "home"... surrounded by an unfamiliar culture... one with so much need... wanting to serve our Kenyan community in sustainable and meaningful ways but not sure yet what that looked like. But since then, Christmas has become our favorite time of year to be in Kenya. It is the time of year when we are most able to connect our two "homes" as we connect the giving spirit of our US home to the urgent needs around us in our Kenyan home. Our wishes have gotten bigger each year, largely because we continue to see God provide above and beyond our expectations. Each year God has used YOU as a means of His provision to our ministry here at Tenwek Hospital.

This year we have two areas of needed support. First is our **personal ministry fund**. Through having a healthy ministry fund, we have been able to respond generously to the needs around us and engage in ministry development. Some examples of this over the past year include contributing to patient needs, purchasing software for the new IV pumps, hosting teaching conferences here at Tenwek, helping to purchase back-up battery systems for ICU/HDU, allowing us to attend important conferences for program development and resident education, plus hosting countless meals and fellowships in our home to foster relationships and welcome visitors. These costs are above and beyond our basic monthly budget. Our account is currently low and your one-time gifts can help us enter the new year with the same ability to engage actively in ministry here next year. To donate directly to our ministry fund, [click here](#).

Second, we are launching a campaign this Christmas for **Resident Housing**. Our calling to Tenwek Hospital was based on the need for well-trained surgeons in the developing world. Since we have been in Kenya, additional world-wide data has shown that roughly 5 billion people do not have access to safe, timely, affordable surgery. The people most affected by this fact are those in developing areas such as sub-Saharan Africa. We are privileged to be a part of an amazing program that is training **Christian surgeons in rural Africa**.

- For our soon-to-graduate residents (Lando, Wairimu, Fasto, and Victor) to have God's leading as they make job decisions

-For Heath to have wisdom in the many challenging situations that come along with residency leadership

-For Angela and the OB/GYN department as they work toward development of an OB/GYN residency

-For our girls to know Jesus and for us to have wisdom in parenting them

-Continue to pray for Tenwek administration and our new staff as they face the many challenges of running a mission hospital

Christmases Past:

Reviewing the *amazing* ways in which God has used *you* to meet the needs of so many in East Africa through our Christmas wish lists...



Christmas 2015: Orphan care and Compassionate care funds

Currently we have residency programs in general surgery and orthopedic surgery. Graduates from our general surgery program are all working in East Africa, many of them in mission hospitals. The orthopedics program will graduate their first residents this year. However, we have been given a big opportunity to expand residency level training at Tenwek even further.

At the beginning of 2018, we accepted our first Cardiothoracic fellow into a three year program. Tenwek is also moving forward with starting an **OB/GYN residency program** through the Pan African Academy of Christian Surgeons with a tentative launch date as early as 2020. There is also enthusiasm for starting a neurosurgery residency program in the next few years. All of this is exciting and has the potential to make a big impact on health care in our part of the world.

However, we have reached a major road block in our efforts. We have no housing for these trainees and will not be able to advance these programs until suitable housing is built. Because of our rural setting, suitable housing close to the hospital is not available and therefore the hospital has to provide housing for those working at Tenwek. Currently we have housing to accommodate 23 residents. To begin any new program we need 16 more, but ultimately need about 35 more to allow us fill each of the proposed new programs as well as the existing ones. We have located property for a new building which will provide between 10 and 16 new apartments. Once this is built, we can then begin these new programs. The estimated budget for the building of this building including all the furnishings is \$650,000. This is a lot of money. However, if you think about it, this investment is a good one... one with long-lasting impact and eternal value! Our current buildings have allowed for the training and graduation of 12 surgeons with an additional 19 currently in the program who will graduate in the next 5 years. Additional housing will increase this number substantially as well as allow expansion of specialty training for many years to come. **Are you willing to invest in equipping the next generation of physicians in East Africa and thus improve healthcare in an area with incredible need?**

This CyberWeek, GivingTuesday, and Christmas season, consider spending money on sharing



Christmas 2016: Ultrasound Machine for surgery department



Christmas 2017: IV Pumps for ICU and Maternity

We also love getting Christmas cards!

Mail to:
Many Family
PO Box 39
Bomet 20400
KENYA
(Use one global stamp or 4 regular stamps)

Want to support our ministry financially?

Our work in Kenya is only possible because of our amazing team of supporters! We would love to have you on our team!

[Donate directly to our ministry.](#)

Want to go deeper?

Christ's love through medical training and discipleship!

To give, [click here](#) to link to Friends of Tenwek donation page... and choose "Resident Housing Fund" on the drop-down menu.



Some residents and faculty with a current trainee apartment building in the background.

We pray that you will know the love and the light of Jesus in new and powerful ways during this Christmas season.

Thank you for supporting us and our ministry in Kenya,

*The Many Family
(Heath, Angela, Rees, and Mary Taylor)*

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