

Greetings from Alabama!!!

Happy Fall weather time! Last update I mentioned how hot it has been and it is nice to be able to talk about cooler temperatures. I usually don't like cold weather, but I'm actually looking forward to it this year. It's been about four years since we've experienced winter in America and we don't really have the clothing for it, but thankfully there have been outlet malls with good sales on our traveling routes, so bring on the winter weather!

Jeri and I got to be a part of three different missions conferences in September at Oakland Heights BC in Cartersville, GA, First Bible BC in Blue Springs, MO, and then at our home church, Decatur BC in Decatur, AL. We have been partnered with all three of these churches from the very beginning of our time in Kenya, which as of October 27 makes nine years since we landed in Nairobi with just the four of us and eleven suitcases. Each of these churches feel like home. We've made so many great friendships at each of these places that we pick right back up where we left off from the last time we've seen each other. There are way too many people to mention who have fed us, housed us, gave us coffee, loved on us, and prayed with us, so if you fit in any of those categories just know that we are grateful for you and love you.

As mentioned previously, it is such a joy to see our kids involved with things at church. Jeri made a FB post recently and quoted 3 John 1:4, "I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth." She gives a great description of how this has played out in our lives (her description is much better than mine, be sure to check it out). One of the things that we have continuously prayed for is that the Lord would reveal Himself to both Selena and Micaiah as they pursue Him, not just that they would see Him working in mine and Jeri's lives, but He would prove Himself faithful to each of them in their own walks. We've prayed that they wouldn't have any resentment towards us or Him because of the way we've served, and it is really another testament to His faithfulness that they both love serving Him themselves. Selena had the opportunity to go on a missions journey to Europe; in Croatia, she got to minister to other MKs (missionary kids) at a conference for missionary families serving across Europe, then she was able to go to Kosovo where she was part of an evangelism team with a new church plant there. Micaiah has started in our church's discipleship process and has been involved with the young adult ministry. Our church had its fall festival last weekend and Micaiah dressed up as one of the characters people could get their picture taken with. This is a big outreach event for the community with the purpose of sharing Christ with others. Jeri and I were about to leave and she went to check and see if Micaiah needed anything before we left and she walked up on him praying with a young man named Anthony, whom Micaiah had been sharing Jesus with.

Our church has been working on remodeling a house on the property next door to be used as a mission house, and at the end of September, we got to be the first to use it. We're thankful for a church that has helped to meet not only our needs, but the needs of other missionaries sent out by DBC, to be sure we have a place to stay when coming back to Alabama. Since June, we've been staying in the home of Darrell and Felicia Easterling, members of DBC, and they have been great hosts, but I am sure they are happy to get their house back to themselves. They are definitely included in those listed above! Even though Micaiah has come to stay there with us, Jeri and I are continuing our empty nester beginnings. In all of the places we've traveled, it has just been the two of us, and we are enjoying our time together. We recently got to return to North Carolina and spend some time with my family and I got to preach at my grandmother's church. It is always a special place to be. Hearing my dad joke around with his brothers as they reminisce on the trouble they got into as kids (I'm pretty sure my dad was at the center of all of it), listening to my grandmother, Ma Flo, as she's called, elaborate on those stories (again, confirming my dad was at the center of things), and especially having the opportunity to stand in front of them and present the Word of God and the truth of the Gospel reminds me of God's love for us and the ways He reveals Himself to us in our everyday lives. There is a song this makes me think of called Voice of God by Dante Bowe, and it talks about the different ways God reveals Himself to us. I won't recite the lyrics, but you should look it up and give it a listen. I am still learning more about this side of my family and we are growing closer as time goes on. Last week, I got to talk to my brother, Kevin, who I have not yet met, and I wasn't sure if I'd ever get to meet him. It was a short, but good conversation. We grew up in the same town and learned that I am actually only eleven days older than him. Would you pray with me that the Lord would allow more conversations with Kevin and that I would be able to share the love of Jesus with him?

Things are continuing on in Kenya and there will be Bible school graduations beginning the first week of November and continuing into December. With those that are scheduled (5 out of 8 schools) there will be thirty one students graduating. They have made it an entire school year without us directly involved. That's an entire school year in which the churches there have come together and have met the needs of the schools. It hasn't been without challenges, and we continue to hear about those challenges, but the Lord is helping them through each challenge they face and is proving that He is all they need. January will bring a new school year and a continuance of this past year's challenges and our prayer is that everyone will be reminded of how the Lord has supplied and will continue to do so.

Our furlough is getting closer to being over, but we would still like to connect with new ministry partners. It has been over three years since we were approved as BBFI missionaries, and there are some costs involved which we need to continue to raise support for, like for health insurance, and the cost of living in Nairobi is a bit higher than in Eldoret. The Lord has always proved Himself faithful during our time in Kenya, and we know He will continue doing so. Being a part of BBFI gives us a great network of churches to reach out to, so please pray we are able to make the connections the Lord wants us to, not just within BBFI but with like minded churches/individuals elsewhere. If you would like for us to come and report to your church, present the ministry, or are willing to recommend us to a church, please let us know.

We love you!
Shaun, Jeri, Selena, Micaiah

Here are some specific items you can be praying about on our behalf:

1. Pray that God continues to grow His church in Kenya and Uganda.
2. Pray for changes that have been made and for our national leadership to continue trusting the Lord.
3. Pray for the needs of our churches as they navigate without the missionary there.
4. Pray for our Bible schools, teachers, students, and churches as they have taken on full ownership of the schools.
5. Pray as national leadership comes together to discuss moving forward.
6. Pray as we continue to seek the Lord for His plan for us in Kenya and our involvement with Living Faith Nairobi.
7. Pray as we continue our 2026 furlough, new churches to be partnered with.
8. Pray for opportunities for us to share the Gospel.
9. Pray for Micaiah as he adjusts to life in America, for him and Selena as they juggle school, work, church, and life.
10. Pray as we begin a plan for churches to become autonomous.
11. Pray for our travels over the month of November. Jeri and I will be traveling to Southern California October. 31-Nov 12.
12. Jeri's step Dad, Charlie, has been diagnosed with stage 4 lung cancer. Please pray for him and Jeri's mom, Judy, as they trust in the Lord for what He would have them to do.
13. We were a little premature in saying Micaiah's long term living arrangements had been worked out. Please continue to pray for the Lord to provide a long term place for him to live.

