March 2008

". . .If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?" (Romans 8:30-32).

God with Us in the Middle of Crisis:

The past two months have been rather unsettling, but by God's grace this Village has remained a haven of safety and calmness. Thank you to all of you who have remembered to pray for God's intervention and assistance. He has certainly answered your prayers. In the period following national elections, Kenya has seen a lot of conflict and insecurity. The Kenyan people are sad over the events that are happening in their country but not upset with the missionaries that are here trying to help. In danger's face, God gave us a unique opportunity to minister to some of our employees who were in danger or were afraid. God convinced every ROS (Rafiki Overseas Staff) here that this was a time to stay and faithfully love our brothers and sisters in Christ. During the riots we went into the neighborhood and rescued several employees. We were also able to help those who had lost loved ones and houses. Many employees have expressed their appreciation of our love for them in their time of distress. We also appreciate your concern and prayer. Thank you for standing with us and with your African brothers and sisters.

We have begun to watch the local news more and consider our traveling routes as we go out for supplies. Every day we thank God for the protection He has given to each person in our Village. We continue to pray for the two political parties to iron out ways to work together and to remove the injustices that have divided this nation.

Prices have drastically gone up on almost everything and there are shortages of some items. We have started making every possible effort to cut consumption and costs; cutting the number of chickens we buy per week, cutting back on how often we run the dryer. We are pretty much cutting back on everything so we will be able to pay salaries and buy food. *Pray for us to be wise in our spending and to trust in God for His ample provision. Our Kenyan employees are also struggling with higher prices, so please pray for them as well.*



JUNIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENT FELISTER READS TO KINDERGARTEN STUDENT MOSES

Koepkes on Furlough during Summer of 2008

We will be home this summer and then not for another two years (2010). Please check to see if there is interest in having us come and talk while we are home to give you an update. If we are traveling close to where you live please contact us so we can share with you what God is doing through Rafiki in Africa.

Tentative schedule—where we expect to be:

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|---------------------|------------------------------|
| May 17 | Arrive in Chicago |
| May 17 – 19 | Rockford, Illinois |
| May 20 | Arrive in San Antonio, Texas |
| May 25 | Arrive in Abilene, Texas |
| First week in June | El Paso, Texas |
| Second week in June | Abilene, Texas |
| June 20 – July 4 | Florida, Rafiki Home Office |
| | and St Augustine |
| July 10 – 21 | South Dakota |
| July 23 | Edmond, Oklahoma |
| July 25 – August 5 | Back in Texas |
| August 6 | Return to Kenya |

Coffee invites—no confirmed dates:

Colleyville, Texas Allen, Texas Houston, Texas Weatherford, Texas Dallas, Texas

Prayer Requests:

- For the political agreement process in Kenya to continue to successful conclusion
- That God will use this time of crisis to draw many Kenyans to Himself
- Health and protection for the eighty children and ROS at Rafiki
- For MiniMissionary doctors and nurses to come and make a May community clinic possible. (February's clinic was cancelled.)
- That MiniMissionaries will be available to cover while we are gone during furlough
- For rain to provide an abundance of food from our garden
- For Doug to have wisdom while training the guards in self-defense techniques
- For our daughter Rebecca to be able to attend a driver's education class and successfully get a license and reliable vehicle for next year
- That routine doctor appointments during furlough will stay routine
- For healing for Doug's left knee that has been hurting
- For healing for Carolyn's left shoulder that has been hurting
- · For safety in travel
- That American Airlines will give us a missionary bag from San Antonio to Dallas airports
- Our daughter Jessica who gave birth on March 4. (Pray for health of mother and baby.)
- For the opportunity to share with many people what God is doing to help His people in Kenya through the work of Rafiki



MINIMISSIONARY ANNA AND RAFIKI CHILDREN

Rafiki would love for more people to have the opportunity to see what we are doing in our Rafiki Villages. Rafiki MiniMissions provide opportunities for you to put "God's Word to Work" through your service at a Rafiki Village. Your short-term service helps provide hope for vulnerable girls and boys from our community, and the orphans in our care.

A MiniMission trip consists of fourteen days to one month of service (longer stays may be discussed based upon need of the Village). The duration of the trip depends upon the needs of the Villages and your availability.

Please visit our website at www.rafiki-foundation.org to find out other information about our Rafiki MiniMissions, such as:

What does one do on a MiniMission trip? Who may serve? What is the cost? What preparation is needed? What are the travel and accommodation arrangements?

Rafiki will be holding three more MiniMissions training sessions this spring and they are filling up fast. These trainings will be in Eustis, Florida, on April 11 and 12, May 2 and 3, and May 30 and 31.

Love,

Doug: Carrys Rebecca. Sarah

Carolyn, Doug, Sarah, and Rebecca Koepke

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