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With our hearts set toward Nairobi...

Ninety miles south of the Equator in central Kenya raising up at over 5,500 ft is the city of Nairobi. A melting pot of tribes from all over eastern Africa. The biggest slum in Africa is only a few miles from the towering skyscrapers of downtown. God willing, this city will be our new home in a few short years.

If you have been keeping up with our blog* you will know that we just returned from African Inland Mission's headquarters in Pearl River, New York where we attended Candidate Week. The week was a whirlwind of orientation to the organization, interviews, a counseling session, and lots of asking questions and learning from people who have spent years living in Africa. At the end of the week we were told that we had been accepted! With our minds and our hearts full, we said goodbye to the friends we had made with lots of hugs and multiple repetitions of, "we hope to see you in Africa soon!" The next step on our path is to be accepted with AIM Air, the aviation branch of AIM.



Life between now and then...

We recently had the privilege of listening to a former missionary pilot who had flown in Africa tell many stories about his experiences there, including one of a dramatic rescue. After a day of flying he had returned to his home base to find the message that a rebel group was moving toward a village with some missionaries in it and would be there by morning. The rebels had already earned a reputation for not liking foreigners, so with little time the pilot made for the village. He was able to get the wives and children out before night closed in and the men were able to hide in the jungle undetected when the rebels passed through.

These stories about what God is doing in Africa are a vivid reminder of how crucial aviation is to the work that is being done there. And that makes us thrilled to be serving right now at Moody Aviation, whose entire focus is to raise up the next generation of missionary pilots and mechanics. Though it is not nearly as glamorous, the work of equipping that is being done here at Moody Aviation in Spokane is essential to the sustenance of aviation missions around the planet.

Financial support
can be sent to
Proclaim Aviation
Ministries
PO Box 356
Worthington,
MN 56187



While we are incredibly excited about the road before us of moving to Africa and serving with AIM, we also realize that for the next two years we are still here. There are people in our lives with whom we have the privilege of being in relationship, of walking through life together and with whom we are eager to represent the grace of God. Our hearts begin to be torn even now at the prospect of leaving those people here.



Coming soon...(to a third world country)

So, what do the next few steps on our path look like? Well, **this summer we are planning an 8 week trip to Nairobi** with a small group of people. The purpose of this trip is both to be a vision trip for us while also taking on the role of team leaders for some students who need to complete a cross cultural internship for graduation. Regarding the vision aspect of the trip, our hope is that our time there will better help us to prepare for moving over there long term. Clarissa, especially, is quite eager to experience Africa for the first time.

Partners in the journey

We are unable to walk this path alone. We know that God is walking with us, leading us. We also need a community of people who are willing to plod alongside us. Would you consider joining alongside us in this ministry by praying for us? We would love to have 100 people commit to praying for us regularly. If you would like to be partner with us in prayer please send us an e-mail letting us know as it would be a huge encouragement to us.

We are deeply thankful for those who have partnered with us. We could not do it without you! As we have taken this next step, our financial needs have also increased. While we are still raising monthly support to be able to continue to serve at Moody, we estimate our trip to Kenya this summer will cost us an additional \$7,000.

PLEASE PRAY:

- * FOR OUR HEARTS TO NOT GET SO FOCUSED ON AFRICA THAT WE FORGET THE PEOPLE THAT GOD HAS PUT AROUND US.
- * THAT GOD WOULD PREPARE US FOR OUR TRIP TO KENYA THIS SUMMER
- * FOR GOD TO GIVE US PEACE AS WE TRUST HIM FOR OUR FINANCIAL NEEDS
- * THAT WE WOULD NOT GET DISCOURAGED AS WE LOOK AHEAD AT ALL THAT STILL NEEDS TO HAPPEN BEFORE WE CAN ACTUALLY GET ON A PLANE AND MOVE TO NAIROBI

PLEASE CONSIDER:

- * COMMITTING TO MONTHLY DONATIONS
- * SUPPORTING OUR TRIP TO KENYA THIS SUMMER
- * CONTRIBUTING TO THE REMAINING BALANCE (\$300) OF THE COST OF CANDIDATE WEEK

Although we are appointed as missionaries with Africa Inland Mission, we are still receiving all financial contributions through Proclaim Aviation Ministries. Please specify "Kenya Vision Trip" or "Candidate Week" if you choose to give to either of these.

As always, please feel free to contact us with any questions, or just to say hello!

Grace & Peace,

John + Clarissa Holtz

100%



We are currently at 48% of our monthly financial need. A big thank you to all of you who have helped to get us this far.

* If you do not yet receive our blog update emails and would like to, shoot us an email and we will add you to our list. We send out emails about twice a month and it is one of the primary ways we communicate with people.