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I'm glad Tija and I discussed our

expectations before we left the great U.S. of A. and made a conscious effort not to have any. Because there was no way we could have imagined the past 3 months. There have been sweet times and hard times mixed together in a stew of African goodness.

When we landed in Nairobi, Kenya and were whisked to the AIM guesthouse.

We spent the next 3 days in a groggy state of being; getting over jet lag and thankful that the guesthouse does their best to make food for westerners experiencing African culture for the first time.



The Mayfield Guesthouse in Nairobi

We then ventured 4 hours north to Nakuru where we had 3 weeks of Africa Based Orientation put on by AIM. We learned so much! A majority of the speakers were Kenyans who taught us things like African worldview, conflict resolution, the Gospel in African culture, Spiritual warfare, security and so much more! And got our first taste of African church (AND preached my first sermon in Africa...)

We were also there with a [TIMO](#) team from Namibia and several other smaller groups; 19 adults total. What a blessing to see what God is doing in different parts of Africa. And each day, the kids had their own program, learning much of the same things but at their level. It's hard for me to put into such a small space how valuable this train was and will be in our ministry here in Africa. God is so good at equipping us each step!



The kids got to ride on top with some TIMO members at ABO



Seth playing with the kids during our first African church experience

We then traveled back to our new, temporary home in Nairobi. We did a week of general language training as a family. Then I continued with a Swahili tutor for 3 weeks and Tija and the kids FINALLY established a home school schedule. They have a language helper come once a week during class time and they have enjoyed learning with fun games and drills.



Leah roasting some birthday marshmallows with Sela and a friend

Then the day came for me to report to the hanger; it's been a long time coming, 3.5 years to be exact, since we left Minnesota. And the reality is that it is still

just orientation and class time. But I at least get to WALK by airplanes every day...

This past Wednesday, I began to study for my commercial pilot conversion exam. It is very similar to an FAA exam except instead of a bank of 1500 questions to study, there are 14,000! Thankfully, they plan for 5 weeks of study to get all that info crammed into my brain.

The time is coming for us to decide which outpost we will be stationed at; Arua, Uganda or Lokichogio, Kenya. Part of the process will be to visit both bases to get a feel for where God can use us best. As I write this, Tija is upstairs packing. We leave for the Arua base tomorrow morning; a short 4 hour flight in one of our Cessna 206s.



Spending some quality time with our friends, the Kings who manage the AIMAIR base in Lokichogio

We ask for prayer in the following specific areas:

- That God will give us clarity where to be stationed.
- The kids will finish their school year strong
- We have an informative and productive time at a home school week in May located at Rift Valley Academy
- That Joel and Seth are accepted for the next school year at RVA
- That our work permits arrive in a timely fashion (supposed to be in the next 2 weeks!!)
- That we continue to make meaningful connections with our neighbors, even if it is short term

We thank God often for your faithful support. We know that our time here has been blessed because of your prayers. We want you to know that TeamYoung is being used by God each day and that the light of Christ is being shone in dark places in part because of you!

In Christ,
Pete (for Tija and the kids)



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