

## Equipping Africans to Study God's Word

December 1, 2020

Dear ministry partners,

As the unprecedented year 2020 winds down, Holly and I want to send you a year-end letter expressing our **sincere appreciation** for your continuing partnership with us. We know that many are stretched thin these days, and yet in

Christ there is an **underlying confidence** that God reigns and *"for those who love God, all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose."* (Rom.8:28) One of Holly's and my theme verses we've experienced over and over is Proverbs 16:9: *"The heart of man plans his way, but the LORD establishes his steps."* We may have a plan, but in these uncertain days we know that **God's way prevails**, and the sooner we accept it as good, the sooner we align with His will and become more useful to Him.



**Ministry reports** - Holly and I have each written [year-end ministry reviews](#). If you are interested, you can find them [HERE](#). In the reports, we share more details about our work, our plans for the future, financial updates, and prayer requests.

**What's the situation in Africa?** Our African ministry partners tell me that there are waves of increased COVID outbreaks in many nations, and governments are imposing increased restrictions which discourages the church leaders and members, for example in Kenya. I'm thankful to be able to offer spiritual and physical assistance to them since food and provisions are in short supply in some areas. At the same time, some countries have lifted restrictions, and since Africa is a part of the world least affected by COVID, many nations are on a fast track to reopen, like Tanzania. Brothers and sisters in Christ are allowed to meet



Long lines of Africans waiting for food distribution.



together in most places under varying guidelines. They continue to worship our great God, and trust in His provision through difficult times, and many are praying for our nation too.

**Any updates on your return to Africa?** We continue to pray as our mission leadership evaluates the changing landscape. We are hoping that by early 2021 I will be able to return to training pastors in Africa, and this is certainly what our African partners are requesting.



Local church service in Makueni County, Kenya, where we have trained pastors. Masks and distancing are required.

**What are you doing in the meantime?** My [year-end review](#) communicates more information, but I have been consumed with my doctoral dissertation since late March, and finally I am beginning to see the end approaching. Please pray for successful completion. Although I have tried numerous ways to establish online training with our African networks, I have hit many roadblocks as they do

not have the technological infrastructure necessary to connect in this way. Therefore, the need for me to return is paramount and felt acutely, but I'm thankful for the regular communication I am able to have with our African partners.

**Please continue to pray with us:**

1. Pray for African partners who are trying to serve God in the face of many challenges, and for travel restrictions to be lifted so I can resume the training to which God has called me.
2. Pray for wisdom for Holly as she mobilizes mission partnerships for mutual spiritual support.
3. Praise God that Adam, Andrew, and Alyssa are continuing with their college classes and seem to be progressing well.

Please let us know if there are specific ways we can be praying for you.  
If you are interested in offering a special end-of-the-year donation, please:

**CLICK HERE**

**Thank you** again, friends, for your **faithful and vital partnership** with us in our Lord's service. We wish you a **Christ-centered Christmas** as we celebrate the incarnate Son of God who took our sin-sickness upon Himself so we could receive His righteous purity. (2 Cor.5:21)

With our love,  
*Eric, Holly, Adam, Andrew, and Alyssa*

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