

RAIN

October to December is the season of short rains in Kenya, a time when people continually watch the sky, prepare their garden and fields and pray and hope for rain. If the rain comes in good quantity, there will be a good harvest and everyone is happy. If too much rain comes, there is flooding, power outages, and severe erosion. If not enough rain comes, there is drought, followed by a poor harvest and famine.

We have had some rain in Machakos but areas just a short drive away haven't had any rain yet. It is still early in the season and no one is getting too upset yet--but unless the rain comes soon, there could be problems. Farmers are preparing fields and planting seeds, getting ready for the hoped for rain.



Dry fields near Machakos awaiting rain.

ELECTIONS

As well as the rain, Kenyans are anticipating a general election in March of next year. The last elections, held in 2007, resulted in rioting, bloodshed and death, as well as leading to thousands of people becoming refugees in their own country.

While there have been some incidents, the political climate seems somewhat calmer and

almost everyone is praying that the elections will be peaceful and without the problems of last time.

OUR WORK

We have been busy these past few months, with teaching, working with the Guardians of Hope and various other activities that go with being CBM Global Field staff. This term, we are both teaching at EKIC Mitaboni, with Elizabeth teaching courses in Spiritual Formation and Pastoral Care and Counselling. Randy is teaching Communications Skills and Ethics at Mitaboni and Pastoral Ministry at the Machakos Campus of EKIC. As well, Randy taught Ethics for the Carey Theological School Master's and Doctoral program in August.



August Ethics class students at EKIC

Randy has also been doing some preaching and he visited the three Bible Schools run by the ABC as part of their Divinity School training program.

Elizabeth has been involved with the Guardians of Hope program, with at least one field visit since our last newsletter and a number of meetings about GOH related projects.

Overall, we have been sufficiently busy with no time to sit around and be bored and are looking forward to some time off when the term ends at the end of November.



Three Guardians of Hope and the children they care for.

WE GIVE THANKS

We are both enjoying teaching, especially now that the students are becoming comfortable with our Canadian accents and can understand more of what we are saying. We thank God for this.

We are also very happy in our new apartment, which we moved to at end of September. It is bigger and has room for guests. We give God praise that it became available, we are genuinely thankful for the nine students, and some good friends who helped us move. We are on the third floor so there were many steps to carry things up.

PLEASE PRAY

Please be in prayer for Kenya and its people, first that the expected rains would arrive and provide the right amount of water for the crops to grow well. Secondly, please be in prayer that the coming elections would be fair and peaceful.

The ABC is currently evaluating and revising its Divinity School curriculum and we are privileged to be involved in that process. We would appreciate your prayers as we work with the ABC in this important task.

Finally, while we are both getting more comfortable driving, the driving is still more dangerous than in Canada and we would appreciate your continued prayers for our safety.

ABOUT FAMILY

As many of you know we are the parents of three grown children and one foster son, whom we still claim, and the proud grandparents of Heidi, who will be a year old on December 30th and the

proud foster grandparents of Derek will be one in February. We are thankful that all are doing well and that we have been able to have regular Skype visits with Heidi and her parents. We miss them all and are truly excited that our daughter, Jenny, and her husband, Steve, are blessing us with a visit very soon. We can hardly wait to see them.

THANK YOU! Again, we thank you for your ongoing prayer and financial support. It means so much and we realize we could not be here, doing the things we are doing if it were not for your love and support. Thank you very much!

As things slow down a bit between teaching terms and Christmas approaches, we will be thinking of you at home, remembering all the traditional Christmas gatherings that we will be missing and even such things as snow. Since we will not be sending another newsletter before Christmas and the time for sending personal cards to everyone is non-existent, we want to take this opportunity to wish you all “a very Merry Christmas and a Peace-filled New Year.

We love to hear from churches and individuals. The best way to contact us is by email at either of these addresses:

Randy: rflegassie@hotmail.com

Elizabeth: paradocser@hotmail.com

Check out our blog at: legassie.wordpress.com

We are also on Skype and if you would like to contact us that way, let us know and we will seek to arrange a time that works for us all. We are also very interested in Skype visits with churches and groups. If you are also interested, please contact us and we will work out a time to talk.

We thank all of you who are already part of our financial support team, for making it possible for us to do the work God has called us to do. If you would like to become a part of our financial team support, please contact Barb Keys at CBM at the address on this newsletter, by phone at 1-905-821-3533 or by email at:

bkeys@cbmin.org

THANK YOU again to the volunteers at the Wolfville Ridge Baptist Church for all their work getting this newsletter out on our behalf--we really appreciate it.