



We are back!

Shoot us an email, and we'll squeeze you in the travel plans!

Greetings in the name of our Savior, Jesus! After 18 months in Kenya, the Page Family is back in the US! What a blessing to be back with friends and family! As you probably are aware, we are on our first furlough back in the US. We will be travelling the east coast between now and the end of April speaking to churches and spending time with friends and family. It's not too late if you would like us to come visit with you, your small group, Bible Study, or church. Shoot us an email, and we'll squeeze you in the travel plans!

January was an absolute blur for our family. After a wonderful Christmas and New Year (yep, Clemson crushed LSU!), Tammy and the kids jumped back in full-time with homeschooling and clubs at Braeburn . . . but with an added twist. We had to think about packing again! We started pulling out our suitcases and plastic containers for the trip back only to find out that we have SUPER-RATS living on our compound. Not only did they chew through two of our nicer suitcases (not sure why they didn't like the old ones), but they also chewed through one of our hard-plastic storage containers. These rats must have depleted uranium teeth! Oh yeah, they also gave birth in one of the suitcases; pretty gross! We ended up bringing empty containers with us so that we would have extra suitcases when we come back to Kenya at the end of April. Homeschool curriculum for four kids for two years, plus a two-year supply of American candy, pepperoni, and beef jerky will get pretty heavy!

Agape in January was also a beehive of activity. We held our 2nd Annual Staff Appreciation Lunch at our house and had 71 of Agape's staff members join us. The term "lunch" is a bit of a misnomer, as we started around 12:15 and didn't finish until well after 5 PM! The staff and missionaries had a blast and all left filled with mbuzi (goat), kuku (chicken), chapatis (thick tortilla), kachumbari (mixed veggies), sukuma (kale) to name a few of the items on the menu. We also played an awesome game where our staff had an opportunity to win cash and prizes!

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We also started a new, improved, and leaner school in January dropping our enrollment from 180 down to around 35 students. After a lot of prayer, Agape's missionaries decided to no longer allow day students from the community to attend Agape's school. We felt led to focus on the former street boys resident on campus and worked to help the families of our community students find new schools for their children. We definitely had some hesitant Kenyan staff members when we first discussed this plan, but it has been amazing to see already how much of a difference we are able to make. Our teachers have been amazed at how much easier it is to teach a smaller class and also at how few discipline problems they now have. Praise the Lord! Over the rest of the year, Agape will continue transforming its school to establish more of a remedial education program. We will focus on developing individual education plans (IEPs) for our boys in order to better prepare them for eventual reunification with their families. Please keep this transformation project in your prayers!

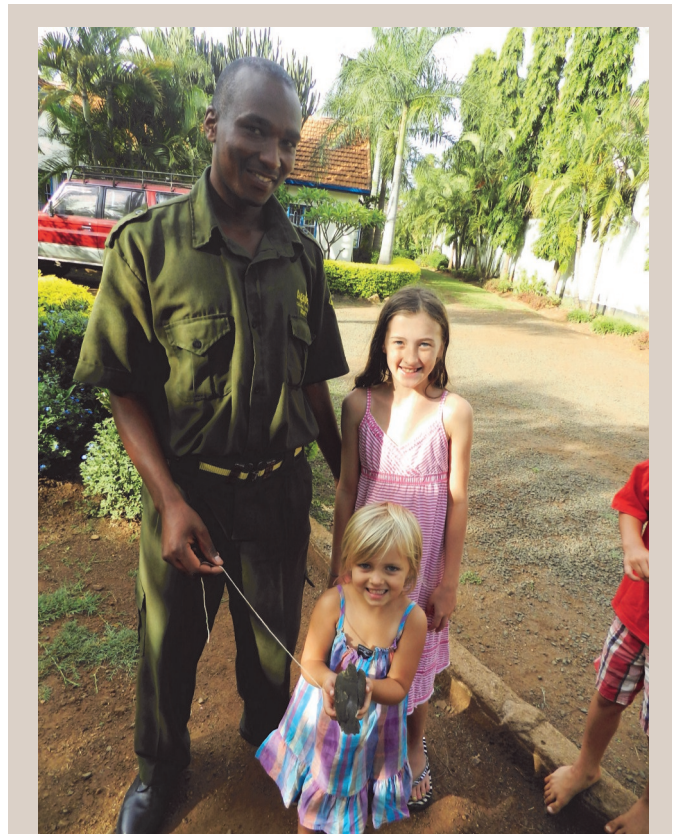
In addition, we were all busy preparing for Agape's temporary shutdown in March for the Kenyan elections. This will be the first time in Agape's 20-year history that we won't be open for business. But there is a very big risk that Kisumu will be a mess when they hold their national elections on March 4th. We've adopted the policy: "Pray for the best. Prepare for the worst." Please keep Kenya in your prayers; many Kenyans died, lost their homes and businesses back in 2007. We're all praying that 2013 will not be a repeat!

We hope that we will get a chance to see you over the next three months, but if we don't, you are always welcome to come visit us in Kenya! We love visitors, so drop on by! Karibu (welcome)! Thank you all for your continued prayers and support; we couldn't be serving here in Kenya without you!!! Kwaheri (Goodbye)!!!

God Bless,
The Pages

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the.agapepages.blogspot.com



Bringing hope to children at risk

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