



CHARTING ON MY LIFE IN RWANDA

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Return to Rwanda!

Coming back to Rwanda, I stepped back into the life I left a year ago. It's wonderful to see friends and coworkers again and get back to nursing, settling into my home, and enjoying sunshine and warm weather. But it's also a reminder of reality—babies suffering and a different level of poverty than in the USA.

It's a life I love and that challenges me. All of us have things that frustrate us or are painful experiences, but seeing how God works here in the midst of the painful makes it worth it. God is so good—babies improving, nurses wanting to learn, and Neo graduate babies, who were once so sick or tiny, now 3-5 years old and thriving!

Graduates

When I first started working in June, God put a number of families in my path as an encouragement to keep me working at the hospital. Four years ago Emmanuel, born at 2.2 lbs., was one of the very first babies of his size to survive. His baby brother was just born—under 4 lbs. and in Neonatology, so his mother brought Emmanuel in to visit us. What a delight to see him full of life—able to hear and see, walk, talk, and count!



Just today a mama grabbed my arm and showed me her son who's five years old now. He had been 35 weeks when born, just a month after I started working in Neonatal in 2012. I remember that morning five years ago when I found the parents and nurses around his bed, praying their hearts out. They thought he was dying, but

actually, his blood sugar was just very high because his IV hadn't run properly. God heard and answered their prayers. Today this boy is thriving.

Baby of the Month: Louisa

Born at 35 weeks, he was doing quite well until at ten days old, we had to put him on oxygen. It turned out because he was being tube fed, he was getting too much milk. We wondered if the oxygen was needed because of extra fluid in his circulatory system which his heart couldn't handle, and thus extra fluid was building up in his lungs. His fluids were reduced and the oxygen was stopped.

But then a week later he ended up with too much fluid and had to go back on oxygen again. Breastfeeding fully by now, his breathing became labored again. I'm worried he may have a heart problem that we haven't been able to diagnose. His mama is such a happy woman as she responds to her baby, a real encouragement to me. I'm praying we can find the problem and resolve it...or for a supernatural healing.





75th ANNIVERSARY OF THE FREE METHODIST CHURCH

August 13th was the 75th anniversary of the Free Methodist Church in Rwanda. What a huge event it was with a parade, singing and dancing, sermons, and more. So many people came to rejoice over the past 75 years, and I pray they'll seek God's plans for the next 75 years.



My Parents To Visit

My parents arrive in September to work with me for ten weeks. This time we're taking the first week to go on safari in Kenya (my Christmas present...early). We haven't been on safari before, so we're excited. Then Dad has nine weeks to build cabinets for a mission station kitchen.

Mom has the same amount of time to finish a very long list of odd jobs that no one else has time to do. 😊

Prayer Requests

Wisdom that the new changes I'm starting to make in Neonatal are the right ones
A willingness to learn for the new doctors assigned to Neonatal
Hospital administration team



Praises

Getting to see the Neonatal graduates doing well
Returning to my Rwandan home
Peaceful Rwandan presidential elections in August



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