



CHARTING ON MY LIFE IN RWANDA

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Super MOON! (I COULDN'T PICK a baby OF THE MONTH, there WERE SO MANY to CHOOSE FROM!)

The aftermath of this month's super moon was many more deliveries. We have six very sick babies at the moment. The first is only alive because of prayer and God's power, not us, for sure!! His mother is such a sweet woman who loves her son so much! Today he took a step backward as his blood is running out of platelets to stop any bleeding if he should have it—but a step forward as his intestines started working again. So we keep caring for him and praying!

The second baby was fine at birth and now has a significant infection. And another boy needed oxygen and a blood transfusion after a bad case of jaundice and infection. His mother was in tears today, convinced that her son will die. Thankfully, we could reassure her that her son at the moment is nowhere near death.

A fourth, a 10 pound girl, is in severe respiratory distress. We keep praying the hospital won't lose power because her oxygen quickly drops from 95% to 40% if the oxygen is off. The fifth, a little 2.6 pound girl, was born yesterday to a young mama who's afraid her daughter won't make it. Pray for peace for this mama.

The last is a boy suffering from a difficult delivery. The grandmother stood over his bed, keeping watch most of the day. When a wooden stool was finally empty, I took it over to her. The look of amazement on her face that I took the time to care for her surprised me.

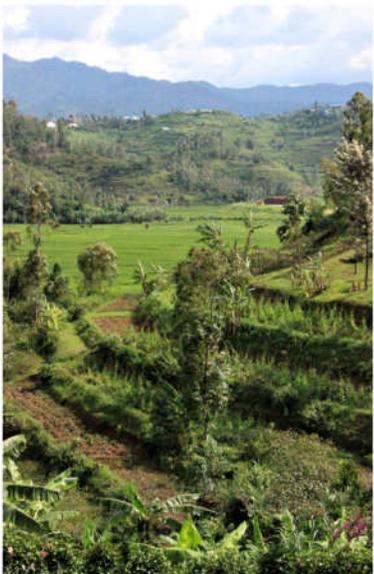
This past month has had a lot of concerns, drama, and hospital politics. Yet as I look at each of these babies—they are why I'm here! A Rwandan pastor with the vision clinic shared her story—how when she was born premature and not breathing, she was taken to the morgue. But the next morning when the workers arrived, she was found crying. God's power protected and healed her, and the work she's doing for Him now is amazing as she teaches pastors, works with women's groups, and this week evangelized at our vision clinic.

Right now only God knows his plans for these six babies. It's an honor to be a part of their lives for a short time. I'm thankful for the peace He gives me that this is where I should be. I don't know about next month or next year, but for today, I'm in the center of his will. (Up-date: the first baby passed away today, the 10lb girl is improving but still sick, the rest are doing well.)



THANK YOU!!

Thank you for another year of support and prayers. Ten years now! I arrived in Rwanda September of 2007. I appreciate your faithfulness and for continuing with me in this life God has called me to.





VISION CLINIC!

My parents go on mission trips, hosting vision clinics, giving out eyeglasses to those in need. I've always wanted to go, but the timing was never right. However, this week a vision clinic came to Kibogora. Perfect! I didn't have to travel. I helped with the setup of the clinic, the first day's getting things organized, and the flow of people. Now the team is a well-oiled machine, giving out 250 pairs of glasses a day which has far exceeded their expectation of 150.

The vision team had many stories to share about people who came for glasses. A blind 12 year old girl was brought by her parents, but the team wasn't able to help her with glasses. They referred her to the eye nurses at the hospital who found she'd been born with congenital cataracts.

When she has cataract surgery in January, she'll be able to see! Twelve years of blindness because of a lack of information—this story touched me the most.

Thank you to all the hat, blanket, gown, toys and diaper cover makers!!



END OF Year Giving!

If you're looking for end of the year giving, we're in the process of raising money for a new maternity and neonatal building. At the end of November our NICU passed last year's record of 847 babies and is now into the 930s. We really do need a larger space with better ventilation for the safety of the babies, mothers, and nurses. This past week with so many sick babies the temperature in our room increased from really hot to really really hot and one of our mamas passed out. Thankfully someone caught her and safely lowered her to the ground.

You can send a donation on line or by check made out to...

Free Methodist Church - USA
770 N High School Rd
Indianapolis IN 46214

Designation: Kibogora Maternity Building
<https://give.fmcusa.org/donation/df-eprwkibmater>

Designation: Julie Yerger Support
<https://give.fmcusa.org/sslpage.aspx?pid=541>

Prayer Requests

- Healing for the babies in Neonatology
- Christmas away from family for the new volunteers at Kibogora
- Wisdom for Hospital administrators

Praises

- Improvement in the condition of the 10lb baby!
- That I don't have to experience a cold winter this year :-)
- Progress being made on a new maternity building



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