

Jensen Missions

Iringa, Tanzania

East Africa

George and Joy
Jacob, Luke and Lindsey

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Drop us a line!

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We Made It!

We certainly started out our year with a bang! The month of January has been so packed with activity it is impossible to recount all that has happened. However, here is an abbreviated summary:

January 4: The moving truck came, was loaded, and we slept on the floor in our house one last night. Next morning, we were up at 4 and on the road a little past 6 a.m. We arrived in Iringa Wed. night, after a 16 1/2 hour trip. Stayed at a hotel in town.

January 7: The truck arrived in Iringa early evening, and we began unloading just as it turned dark. It took 7 hours and we finished at 2 a.m.

The following three weeks found us working feverishly to get our place functional. We (meaning mostly George) repaired leaky faucets, leaky toilets, leaky bathtubs, no water, no hot water, etc. etc. We've found bats in the attic and roaches on the floor. Lindsey painted our kitchen.

In addition to working on our house, George built a metal frame to hold a water tank for Carey's house, in addition to overseeing a number of fix-it projects on their house. Jacob, Luke and Lindsey spent a couple of long, long days painting several rooms in the Samford's house.

January 26: the Samfords arrived in Iringa and stayed with us for three nights. Their place was infested with fleas and roaches, and so it had to be fumigated before they could move in.

Be it ever so humble, there's no place like home!

Member of the Month

We would like to introduce you to Zawadi (Her name means "Gift". in English). Zawadi was the first Christian we visited, in our visitation program designed to get to know the church members in Iringa. Zawadi obeyed the gospel in September 2010. She was converted from the Islam religion. Zawadi has invited her neighbors to study the Bible and we now have a Bible study in her home each Tuesday afternoon. She asks for prayers that her husband, a Roman Catholic, will learn the truth.



Setting Up Shop....

One of the most important rooms in our house to set up as soon as possible is, without a doubt, the kitchen. Lindsey gave it a fresh coat of paint, which has helped the looks a great deal.

Unfortunately there was not a single cabinet in the kitchen;

however, all of us have thought that may be a blessing in disguise, because at least there are no hiding places for cockroaches. :)

Right now we are using a bookshelf and a dresser for storage, and a folding table for a work area, and that's working out pretty well. We would like to have a couple of free standing cabinets made, so that I can have some storage to protect things from the dust and dirt that loves to fly in, and also so that I can have a taller work space.

However, we hesitate to make too many improvements to the house for a landlord who is not

too keen on paying for anything. Nevertheless, the kitchen is quite functional and has already put out quite a few tasty meals that help keep body and soul together! *Joy*



A Great Door...Iringa

As I sat this morning on the wooden bench, straining to concentrate and comprehend as much of the sermon as I could, on one side was my faithful wife and on the other, two small boys. Before the lesson began I had shared my song pamphlet with the little boys and enjoyed how they sang with vigor the Swahili hymns.

Worship for us here on Sundays is quite a challenge. The only translation being done is when one of us prays or speaks in English; otherwise, only Swahili is heard. Today's service reminded me of those hot days in Moshi - as my hands, even my thumbs, would sweat as I tried not to damage my Bible as I turned the pages with care.

Amidst this I came across the words of that veteran missionary - "a great door and affectual is opened unto me, and there are many adversaries" (1 Corinthians 16:9). We certainly have no such opposition in the range faced by that great man of God, yet I was struck by the conjunction of this verse. Paul had a great door AND many adversaries.

I believe we have here in Iringa a great door, while at the same time we have a variety of obstacles to navigate. I am spurred on by the thought that the Philippian congregation was begun with Lydia and her household (Acts 16:15) and developed into a local body that captured the apostle's heart like no other (book of Philippians). We too have the same gospel that retains every kilogram of its power (Romans 1:16). GJ