

Look to the Hills

PETER & CATHERINE GITAU

gitaus.wordpress.com
3dchristiancamps.weebly.com

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If you had to describe the last couple of months in just a couple of words, what would you say? For us I think we would say new babies and spare parts! It's been an interesting, and busy couple of months.

3DCC

Planning is well underway for Teens Camp, coming up in November/December. The camp committee are busy putting together a leadership team, getting the word out about camp, organising application forms and putting together the daily program.

Pete continues to spend time out at the campsite each week: building beds, installing or replacing door handles and overseeing the continued maintenance of the site. He also spends time each week mentoring and discipling young leaders as well as continuing to coordinate and facilitate the Bible study group. Pray for him as he looks into the best way to equip the group to continue meeting while we are back in Australia on home assignment for the beginning of 2017.



Pete is also working in putting together a training curriculum for Outdoor Ed – there doesn't seem to be anything like it here, but it has become a big challenge trying to access the needed resources and making it relevant for Rwanda.

KICS (School)

Just last week we finished the first quarter of school. It's been a busy couple of months getting back into routine and getting to know my students, but it's been a great. Makena and Keama continue to enjoy school and spending time with their friends – one of the perks of being a 'staff kid' they enjoy is the extra time before and after school to be with their friends.

Fun fact: Traffic in Kigali is always worse the first week of the month – can you guess why?

John 13:34

A new command I give you; love one another.
As I have loved you, so you must love one another.

Praise God:

- That Pete's trip to Uganda went well – he was safe driving there and back and the conference went really well.
- For safety as we drive around – not something that we take for granted. In the last 4 months there have been 2 fatal traffic accidents on the road that we travel every day to go to and from home.
- For the recent interest in Pete/3DCC helping to run some outdoor/camping programs for other organisations – this is the direction we'd like to take the ministry so that it can become more self-sustaining.

Please continue to pray:

- For continued energy for the kids and me to make it to the end of the semester at school
- For safety in travel

Please pray:

- For our relationships with our neighbours – it's hard to build relationships when you struggle to talk with people.
- For the planning for Teens Camp – that people would commit to being leaders and working in the kitchen and that the Lord would be preparing the hearts of those He wants to come as campers.

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RWANDA RWANDERINGS...

We haven't been out of the city at all the last couple of months, but Kigali is a beautiful city, especially now the rains have started. There aren't many places to go without a view. School is in an area called Gaculiro – the views from there across the city are pretty amazing.



FAMILY

So getting back to the new babies and spare parts....

We have welcomed 9 new additions to the family in the last month – Harriet had puppies about 3 weeks ago. They are all super cute, and we spend far too much time playing with them and watching them, but caring for them is a *lot* of work.



We also welcomed to the world beautiful little Azielle – new daughter of our good friend and language helper Juliette. It's safe to say we are all quite smitten with her and we are looking forward to watching her grow.



The not so exciting part of the last month has been the hunt for spare parts. We had the unfortunate experience of having the car broken into. Twice. In 2 days. The second time the thief broke a window to get in and took the control panels for the windows from the front doors. Seemed like a strange thing to steal, until Pete went searching at the spare parts shop for replacements and discovered that 2nd hand replacements would be around \$400. Then and there he realised why ours were stolen, and decided not to perpetuate the cycle of crime by purchasing replacements from the 'spare parts' shop. Thankfully we were able to get replacement parts brand new, for less than a quarter of the cost of the second hand ones, by mail from Japan. Even though we are beginning to see the humour in the situation now, it brings into perspective the massive divide between those who have and those who do not, and the lengths some people will go to, to make some money. It also brings very close to home Jesus' directive to love your neighbour, especially when considering there's a good chance it was one of our neighbours who broke into the car. We have found it hard to connect with our neighbours in this community, and this experience seems to only serve in setting the process back further.

HOME ASSIGNMENT

Some exciting news from last month is that we have booked tickets to head home for Home Assignment! Home Assignment, (also known by some as furlough), is a time for us to get some rest and to reconnect with our family, friends and all the amazing people who support us in our lives here. We are beginning to plan trips to visit the various churches and communities that support us and are excited about sharing our lives here in Rwanda. If you would like us to visit your church, Bible study group, school, or anywhere else, please get in touch as soon as possible – our time will need to be well managed in order to get around to everyone. We are really looking forward to this time of reconnecting and experiencing some of the comforts and conveniences of home, already we are having, "When we are in Australia can we....." conversations – food seems to be pretty high on the list! And visiting the beach.

One of the more daunting aspects of home assignment is the requirement that we get our financial support up to where it needs to be (currently we are at about 70%) before we return to Rwanda at the end of May. We are confident that we are in the place that God wants us, and we completely trust that He will provide, but we'd appreciate your prayers in this. And if you feel at all led to join our financial support team, or if you'd like to know more about supporting us in any way, we'd love to chat with you about that.

Until we see you in about 4 months, know you are in our thoughts and prayers,

Peter &
Catherine