

# Look to the Hills

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NEWSLETTER No 20

Hard to believe that in a couple of weeks we will be leaving Kigali for 4 months to enjoy the sights, smells, friendships and the relative ease of everyday life that come with being 'home'. We are so excited to have time to reconnect with friends new and old, and are also looking forward to the beach, hot water on tap and showers with pressure!

## 3DCC

Teens camp went really well – thank you so much to all of you who prayed with us through camp, and for all the feedback on the 3DCC Facebook page. It was an exhausting couple of weeks for the leaders (counsellors) but the campers had a great time and hearts were touched. Friends of ours who work in a small village church with a marginalised people group sent a couple of teen girls to camp. They report that "they came back tired and weary from the long days, so much food and games. We believe there [was] a spiritual impact as well."

Please pray for Pete and the committee as they wade through the very real challenge of finding mentors to follow up with the teens that came to camp. While there are connections in each of the churches that send teens to camp - usually young adults who have done Forma'Camp who are in a prime position to disciple the teens - the sad reality is that it doesn't always happen. Things are complicated even further with the majority of the teens going to boarding schools spread throughout the country where there aren't necessarily strong Christian mentors available to come alongside them.

Just before Christmas we had a 3DCC Christmas party. Around 25 people - leaders from the Forma and Teens camps from the past 6 years, committee members both past and present and some of our camp 'parents' and teachers were able to come and celebrate the ministry and the lives



Fun fact: New Years is a bigger celebration here than Christmas, but carols are still played on the radio in January!

## Philippians 1:4b-6

I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first days until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

## Praise God:

- For answered prayers and a successful Teens Camp
- For recent connections our kids have made with local kids in our community
- For a joyful and enjoyable Christmas
- For the opportunity Pete/3DCC has in running outdoor/camping programs for KICS
- That the kids and I made it to the end of the semester at school intact!

## Please pray:

- That we are able to adequately prepare the kids for home assignment – it's somewhat of an overwhelming process for us as adults, we want to make it as smooth as possible for the kids. Pray that we would have wisdom to know how best to do that.
- That the kids would finish well at KICS and be able to say goodbyes – the nature of an international community means some of their friends will be gone when we return to Rwanda
- For safety and smooth travel between Rwanda and Australia, via Nairobi and Dubai
- For our finances and that people would be prompted and willing to join our support team

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Among all African Peoples

## RWANDA RWANDERINGS...

We made a couple of trips to Musanze and Gisenyi in December – we celebrated Christmas with our AIM team in Musanze and a week later went back for a wedding in Gisenyi. Every time we drive that road we are reminded of the spectacular beauty of this country.



that have been impacted through the various camps. It was a great time of fellowship and celebrating the 3DCC ministry.

January is usually a time when the ministry winds down and Pete and the committee get some rest. However this year, Pete has been planning and is now helping to run a 9 day camping/hiking experience for 22 middle and high school students from KICS. The students will be hiking a section of the Congo-Nile Trail and learning all kinds of outdoor/survival skills. He will also be running a 2 night camp for KICS grade 5 students out at the campsite. I'm looking forward to being involved in this camp as well.

### KICS (School)

Officially I am done with full-time teaching at KICS. There were 2 small classes of first graders this year, and because I can't finish the year the classes will be combined for the remainder of the year. I thoroughly enjoyed team-teaching with the other first grade teacher (Keama's teacher) for the last couple of weeks of term. I'll be back in January in the afternoons to help out with some of the fun activities that are planned for the first couple of weeks of school. We will all finish at KICS on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January.



### FAMILY

We enjoyed a quiet Christmas at home. Pete's mum and our niece travelled by bus from Nairobi to spend Christmas with us; it was nice to have that time with them. Christmas day we had some friends over for lunch and enjoyed a time of fellowship and fun with them and introduced most of them to an Aussie-style Christmas meal of cold meat and salads!

The kids are enjoying school so far, though they are not looking forward to saying goodbye to friends. Because we will be doing so much travel while we are in Australia we will be home-schooling; I think we all have mixed feelings about that!

### HOME ASSIGNMENT

Home Assignment is coming up fast! Hard to believe that in hardly any time at all we will be standing on Aussie soil again. Our time is going to be jam-packed, and it's been quite a juggle to fit in time in all the places we need to visit. We feel so privileged to have connections and relationships in so many communities, but it's going to involve a lot of travel to visit everyone from the Central Coast to Hobart, Nowra to Orange and many places in-between. Please let us know as soon as you can if you'd like some time with us. As much as we'd love to just let it happen and go with the flow, it's going to make life a lot easier if we know where we need to be and when.

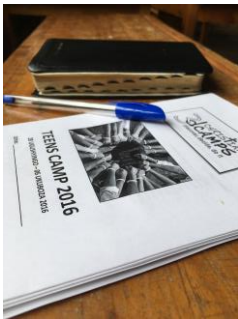
One of our biggest challenges while home is going to be to build our financial support base. We appreciate immensely all of you who have committed to supporting us financially; we wouldn't be here without you! Unfortunately however, and for various reasons, we have been under supported these last 2 years. We will need to increase our support base and get it back up to 100%, before we can return to Rwanda as planned at the end of May. We'd love it if you could join us praying about this. We are also wondering if you would be willing to organise a coffee and dessert night for us to share about our ministry here with those who may be interested in supporting us prayerfully, financially or just by keeping up-to-date with the ministry?

On the next page you will find some photos from camp and a rough itinerary (subject to change!!) of where we will be and when while we are home.

Looking forward to catching up soon,

*Pete &  
Catherine*

Please contact us if you would like a copy of our Home Assignment calendar.  
Thanks.



*Teens Camp 2016*



*Campers gathered, waiting for the buses to get to camp*



*Pete oversees some roof repairs*



*Those roof repairs were needed!*



*Our AMAZING kitchen team*



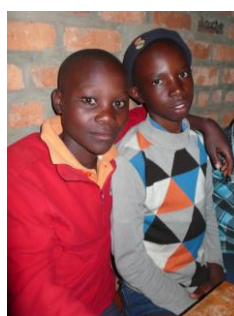
*Campers in a teaching session*



*Group devotions/discussion*



*Camp games*



*New friends*



*Dampers on a stick has become a tradition!*