



# LOOK TO THE HILLS

PETER & CATHERINE GITAU

JANUARY 2015  
NEWSLETTER No 7

*We hope your New Year has started well. As I think back to our new year it's still hard to believe that in the last couple of weeks we have been in 4 countries! We celebrated New Year in Germany, visiting with Pete's sister and our niece. New Year's Day we headed to Geneva, Switzerland, to stay with the Bonvallat family who started the camp in Rwanda. We didn't realise that they actually live just outside of Geneva, in France. So we added another country to our list of destinations! Our time with the Bonvallats was a wonderful time of fellowship & encouragement, an opportunity to ask questions, discover the origins of the camp & the Bonvallat's vision for it, to learn more about Rwanda, culture, language & the realities of living there. We came away from 5 days with them feeling that we have not only made wonderful new friends, but that we have a valuable connection with people who understand the ministry, the difficulties & the joys we will inevitably face as we start out on this journey.*

*Fun Fact: There are more women elected to parliament in Rwanda than any other country in the world.*

## Praise God:

- For answered prayer: in all of our travel we were safe, our energy was abundant despite perpetual jet-lag & all of our transitions were smooth - even wrangling 9 pieces of luggage & 2 kids between trains in Switzerland! And the kids have coped amazingly well.
- For the continued encouragement & support of people from around the world as we head into the unknown.

## Please pray:

- That the team in Rwanda will be able to find us a place to live before we arrive in February.
- For orientation that begins on January 20<sup>th</sup> - that it will be a time of learning, challenge & renewal.
- For safety as we travel in Kenya.
- That the visa application process in Rwanda will be a smooth one.

### Proverbs 27:9

*"Perfume & incense bring joy to the heart,  
& the pleasantness of a friend springs  
from their heartfelt advice."*



Settle in our own place in Kigali, language learning, Pete starts work

Inbound Orientation: living with a Rwandan family

3 weeks Africa Based Orientation (in Kenya)

Home Based Orientation

Building support team, working on theological requirements

Official Interviews, medicals etc

Initial application

The Timeline...

## RWANDA RWONDERINGS ...

*Makena - Will I be able to ride a scooter on the hills? I think that will be fun.*

*Keama - Are we EVER going to get there?*

*Catherine - Do we have everything we need?*

*Peter - What will traffic be like?*



*We all enjoyed the splendor & majesty (& snow!) of the French Alps.*

January 20<sup>th</sup> signals the beginning of ABO - Africa Based Orientation. It will be held in Nakuru, about a 3 hour drive from Nairobi. We are looking forward to the opportunity to learn more about AIM & to meet people at the same stage in the same process as us. Until then we are enjoying the opportunity to catch up with more family & many friends here in Nairobi.

Given that we are off to ABO soon, & our inbound orientation will begin as soon as we arrive in Rwanda, we need to give ourselves some time to adjust & settle. For this reason our communication via email, facebook etc will be limited. We may not produce a new newsletter until March or even April. In the meantime, we thank you for your continued support in all areas - we know that our roots\* are holding us strong as we stand in the winds of change & the unknown.

*Peter & Catherine*

*\*See newsletter 4 for an explanation!*

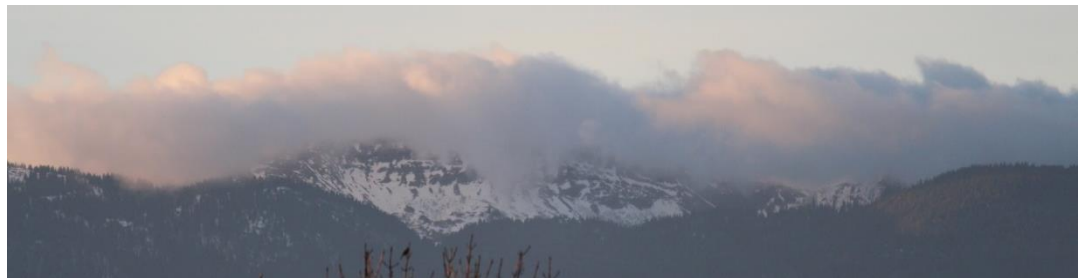
## FAQ...

*~ Do you have an arrival date yet?*

*Our estimated date of arrival in Kigali is February 13<sup>th</sup>. We are hoping to secure tickets before we leave for ABO.*

*~ You still don't have a place to live?*

*No, but the team have some leads. Honestly we aren't worried - The Lord has provided thus far, we're fairly confident He won't allow us to be homeless!*



*A brief glimpse of the Swiss Alps!*