

June 2024

KEEPING UP WITH KENYA

Monthly Newsletter

WHAT IS GOD TEACHING US?

Rachel

I spent some time studying Ruth and also started a study in Acts. My previous study in Romans opened my eyes to the significance of Boaz being a Jew and Ruth being a Gentile. Jews were not supposed to marry Gentiles, but Boaz followed the law of being a family redeemer. God was able to use the obedience of Ruth to follow the God of Naomi and the obedience of Boaz to follow the law of God to put a Gentile in the lineage of Christ. God can use ANYONE to accomplish His will! What an amazing truth for me as a Gentile on mission for God.

Ruth 4:13-22 & Matthew 1:1-17 show Ruth is part of the lineage of Christ.

Caleb

This month, my reading buddies and I finished our reading of the Bible in its entirety and have switched gears to dive into Paul's life. Paul's writings influenced the early church's faith and continues to guide the church today. Studying theology within Paul's letters and diving into his life has shown me how important mission work is and how important the work that Rachel and I are getting to do in Kenya. In Acts 20:24, my life verse, Paul shows his dedication to the Gospel and the mission that God placed on his life. I pray that we all seek to put the Gospel first and ourselves second.

Scripture Acts 20:24

"However, I consider my life worth nothing to me; my only aim is to finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me—the task of testifying to the good news of God's grace.



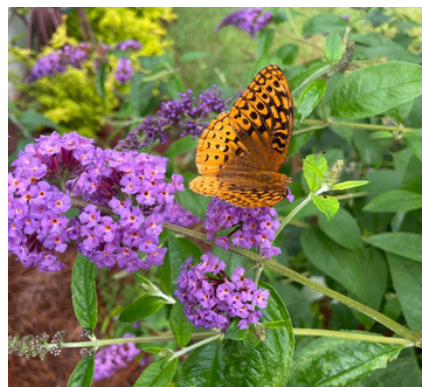
PERSONAL UPDATE

This newsletter will look different from most of our newsletters as we spent 5 weeks in the States and it gave us many opportunities to spend time together and with family and friends.



While home, we visited four churches. It was so fun to introduce each other to significant people in our lives!

- Venture: Caleb's church during college.
- Mercy Charlotte: The church we met at.
- Hickory Grove: Rachel's childhood church.
- Grace Bible: Caleb's church during his youth.



Our first few days home, Rachel's aunt and uncle gifted us five days in Georgia to celebrate our first anniversary. There was a beautiful butterfly garden on the property and a waterfall nearby. It was exactly what we needed to rest and recharge and we are so appreciative of this gift.



Rachel enjoyed a day at Carowinds with Tori to celebrate finishing two years in Kenya together.



Rachel donated 15 inches of hair



Rachel was blessed with many items off her Amazon wishlist for her kindergarten classroom!

Caleb got to join his improv troupe for a show. He's still got it! He had the audience laughing throughout the night.



Caleb took Rachel behind the scenes for a fireworks show with his former buddies. Rachel had a blast getting to see something that is so important to Caleb.

We spent time at the beach with Caleb's family!



Rachel spent a weekend away with her mom in Boone while Caleb went to a bachelor party in Gatlinburg.

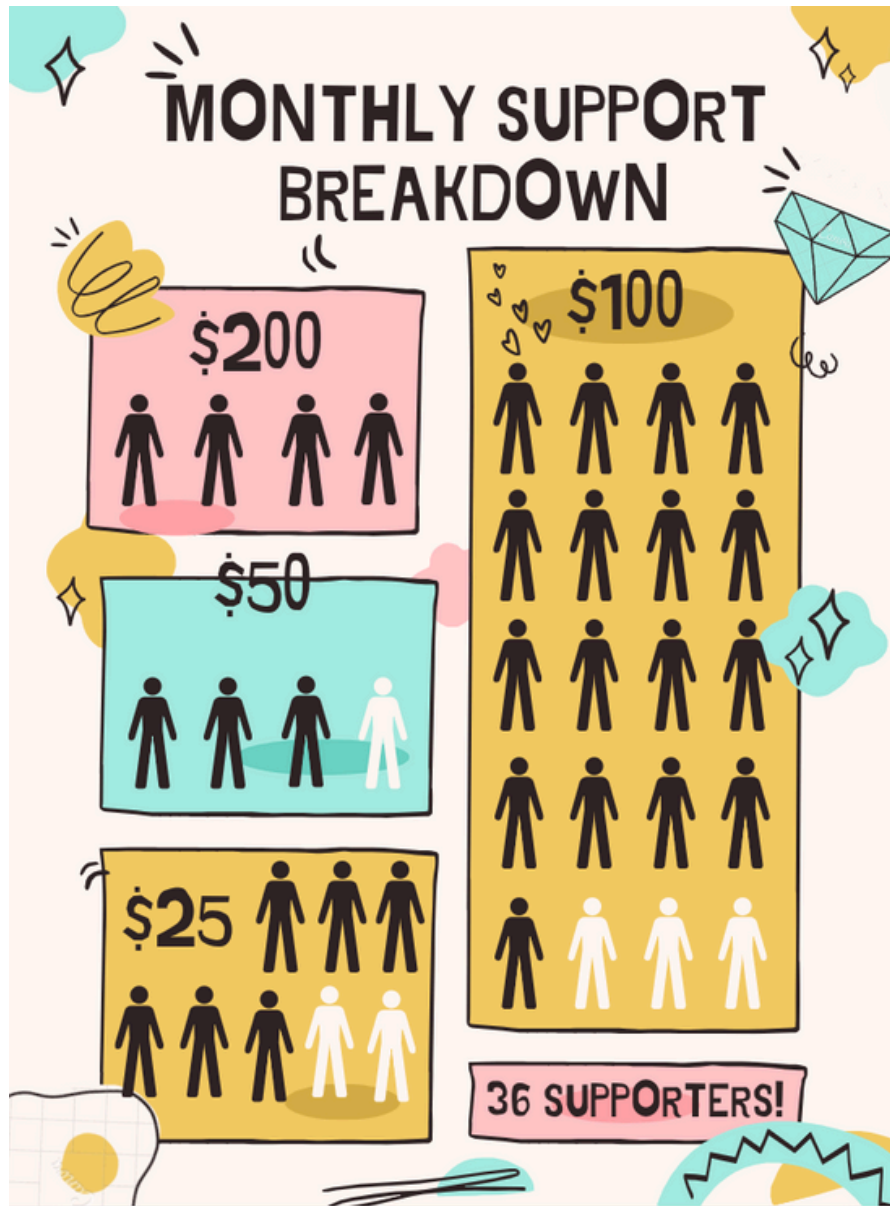


So many other memories made with family and friends!



SUPPORT RAISING UPDATE

Would you pray about financially supporting us at West Nairobi School?



SO CLOSE!

To meet our goal, we only need \$400 monthly from generous givers. Our time in the States gave us a break from support raising digitally and some time for face-to-face support meetings. We are trusting God to provide for us as we finish support raising from Kenya.

If you or someone you know would like to give, please email us at calebmdarden@gmail.com or rachelyoung826@yahoo.com.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Rachel

-Teacher workdays start on July 22 (starts a week earlier than Caleb since she is a new teacher this year)

-Support Raising

-Peace as I build a new routine during this school year

Caleb

-Teacher workdays start on July 29

-Potentially teaching an AP class this year and training will happen during the month of July

-Support Raising

West Nairobi School

-New staff coming from all around the world during the week of July 17

-Parents as they wrap up summer break with their kids and prepare for the next school year

-Staff to be spiritually rejuvenated to share the gospel and disciple students

Mercy House & Mercy Nairobi Church

-Member meeting on Sunday for church (we are excited to share updates from this meeting)

-Women at Mercy House as they wrap up their time in hair school