



The Shelby Family



Luke 1/19
Tonya 6/20

Abigail 8/11/96
Breanne 8/20/97
Caleb 11/25/00
Kay-Leigh 11/23/04

KENYA

your missionaries to East Africa since 1997

July 2008

SENDING CHURCH

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*"To give light to them
that sit in darkness
and in the shadow of
death..." Luke 1:79*

Dear Prayer Supporters,

Greetings from the Shelby Family. The kids are out of school and they are enjoying the time off. It is a little tough on the parents though because every week there are knots, bruises and stitches that keep us busy, especially on Caleb. Now I understand why my dad had mine and my two brothers hair shaved every summer. There is also an update back of this letter about Abigail concerning the tests (only available in the States) that she needs for juvenile osteoporosis, that she was diagnosed with last year.

South Nyanza Baptist College

We thank the Lord for the good group of students that He has given us this year. There is a good attitude and willingness to serve the Lord that is evident in the singing, testimonies, and preaching of the students. The majority of them are first year students. Please pray as we lay the grounding faiths into their hearts and lives. We have 43 Pastors and Students from 14 of the churches in our regional fellowship represented in the Bible College.

Bible Baptist Church—Rongo

There have been many opportunities to learn; but unfortunately, most of them are by mistakes of the past. Bible Baptist Church in the town of Rongo was the first church we started in 2001. The pastor had begun to try to run the church like a dictator by running off members who did not agree with him. He had tried to use the church and its plot to secure a trip to the States and financial gain from the use of the mission property through a Stateside-based Baptist organization in Florida called H.E.L.P.S. When we returned from our last furlough in 2006 to visit the church, instead of finding a church of nearly 200, there were barely 20 in attendance including children and my family of six.

Last year the church voted that this man leave the church, but he has refused up to now. Instead, he has managed to take me to court to keep me off of the property that we bought in 2003. The case has been in court every month since December 2007 but nothing has been heard. They have been using delaying tactics to make it last as long as they can. God has enabled the church in Kisii to run some of the services and Bible Teaching on their own, so that I can try to assist in Rongo to help and encourage the church to follow through with their decision for this man to leave. Please pray for wisdom and boldness to win this battle for the glory of God.

Displaced Pastor and Family

We want to thank you for your prayers and support for Pastor Richard Gesanda during this time of need for his house. The need was met for the doors and windows for his house. He hopes to be in the house in two weeks. Some of his children are still scared of many things at night because of all the things that they went through. Please continue to pray for their spirits to be encouraged.

For Souls in Kenya,

Luke and Tonya Shelby
Missionaries in Kenya

Update on Abigail

Many of you may remember how Abigail, our oldest daughter, severely broke her arm last July, had surgery to repair the arm, got a severe infection of the bone and had to be taken to the U.S. in order to get the proper medical care. The doctors said she would get functional use of the arm, but not full use. But we are happy to say that the Lord has answered all the prayers on her behalf. She has regained full use of her injured arm, and even had to start exercising her “good” arm so that it would not be weaker than the injured one! Isn’t God good! Some of you may also remember that while we were in the U.S., Abigail was diagnosed with “osteogenesis imperfecta,” which is a juvenile form of osteoporosis. We implemented the doctors plan of action of: massive amounts of calcium, high protein diet, and exercise. But he also said it was critical that Abigail be tested again at six months and then at the one year mark, in order to see if we have stopped or at least slowed down the bone deterioration. We have been searching for nine months, but we have not been able to locate a doctor here in Kenya or in South Africa, who is able to do all of the bone testing and able to read the results of the tests. So, we need to take her back to the U.S. for this testing.

October will be the one year mark. And because of the problems in court here and the resulting extra work that involves for Luke, he will not be able to take care of all the children by himself this time. So we are making plans for some of the family to go to the States in mid-September. If the tests show that the treatment is working properly, then further testing will not be needed until our regularly scheduled furlough in 2010.

The cost of the trip will be \$7,500- \$9,500. This amount will cover the round trip tickets; doctor visits, meds and supplies that the insurance may not cover, supplies for another year of Abigail’s treatment, and travel expenses while we will be in the states.

If the Lord lays this need on anyone’s heart, and you would like to help us get her to the U.S., then please send your check marked “Abigail’s Medical Trip” to our sending church or to B.I.M.I. It will be put into a special account for her. We thank all of you for your prayers and financial help for Abigail.

God bless you,

Tonya Shelby