

Everyone knows I am not inclined to lists, but sometimes I actually make one. Today will go down in history as one of those rare times. Here's a list of cares and delights so that you may be involved with intercessions and accompany us in thrilling praises: (Please note that this same list is attached in the form of a MS Word document – just in case this e-mail one is difficult to decipher.)

#### OUR CONCERNS AND CARES

- **Micah** will be having **back surgery** tomorrow for a ruptured disc. This is a last resort after months of intense sciatic nerve pain and many medical evaluations and treatments.
- **Jim** continues to heal, but pray for accurate evaluations as we go to Lusaka tomorrow.
- We need our **entry permit** from immigrations. It has been 13 months, with us re-applying three times due to “LOST” files on the part of the government. Now we are being told that all holders of immigration permits in Zambia will be required to obtain new permits under the new government that was recently voted into office and that Rachel will also be required to hold one. How does one “replace” a permit that they never received? The immigration office will be our third world “Christmas Rush.”
- We will be making decisions by the end of the year regarding our **future housing** in the light of upcoming furlough and EBMZ property development. Pray for insights beyond ourselves.
- **Safe delivery** for Megan and Dave's fourth child. (It's a girl!) That will make a Grand Dozen!
- **Lucy Viyola** will be leaving the team for continuing education. She's been such a strong help and asset to the ministry! Please pray for her in these important ministry preparations. Pray for laborers to serve with us in her stead.
- **Male leadership** is needed in both churches; real laborers are few (and overworked).

#### OUR DELIGHTS

- The **Kauka Community school program** was outstanding, a wide open door that no man could shut, thanks to God! (Details in the Christmas Pageant account, yet to be sent from Lusaka tomorrow)
- **The Lord** has thrilled us with His close presence, His comfort, His provisions, His wisdom in these days! Praise Him with us! (I dare you to not forget **any** of his benefits!) He is just amazing!
- A **very special gift for the community school** (raised by VBS children in West Liberty) was lost when the mission closed its ministry this fall. We didn't know how to explain this to children, but GOD led one of our church partners to give almost-to-the-dollar what was lost, even though neither one knew about the other's giving/loss. Now we can continue to be a strong community asset and godly influence on the families of Kauka.

- **Becca** has received most of her support for her short term mission trip to Canada with WOL. Friends supplied travel funds for our girls for the Christmas break!
- The car is working - this week.

## OUR THANKSGIVING

- We thank the Lord as we remember **you** all. (Phil. 1:3) Through you, the Lord has supplied for the financial losses; strengthened our hearts (with cards, letters, packages); helped us press on; and changed the course of history (through effectual praying). You really make a difference! THANK YOU to all our churches, pastors, supporters, and prayers for investing in the work and people that God has for Himself here!!!!
- We are very grateful and very impressed by the commitment of **our home church** to keep us on the field. They have done more than a lions-share in providing a seamless transition for our support funds, health insurance, accountability, and other necessities for serving here. **Thank you, Pastor Miller, Jeff Brock, Grace Global Board, and Grace Family!** And thanks for two wonderful hours of Christmas cards/news!
- We deeply love and appreciate **our family**- children, parents, grands, siblings, nieces and nephews, and the entire growing clan. Their physical nearness is missed –holidays more acutely. This year the kids who are able are meeting Skyview Ranch and at Nathan’s for “family Christmas.” Pray we can join them via internet. (translated: pray for Zesco and internet signal to both work at the same time next week.)

My attempted list has deteriorated into paragraphs. I think I’ll make a list of all the failed attempts I’ve had at making lists! 😊

We love you and thank God for you all,  
Joyfully,

Jim and Rachel