



PACE

PAN AFRICAN CHRISTIAN EXCHANGE

“Serving Africa and the World”



“For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.” Jeremiah 29:11

May/June 2010

Time goes by so quickly...I am celebrating my 50th birthday today and the beginning of my sixth month back at PACE. I know the summer days are upon you with warm weather and children home from school. Here in Kenya, the opposite is happening as wintertime has brought temps of 40° at night and children are studying for midterm exams. The rains were a true blessing and have brought a rainy season like none in recent history. So much rain has brought a full harvest and now a second harvest is close to being ready. We praise the Lord for these blessings.

Getting Around...

In May, the mission teams began to arrive and there continues to be a steady flow of visitors. Things get very busy here when teams come with all the logistics that need to be planned. With the recent heavy rains, transportation has been difficult for the vehicles especially mine which is not four-wheel drive. Getting out to



the tarmac (which is the paved part of the road) can be all but impossible during these times of rain. My car was unable to move for over a month and so I decided to sell it and look for a four-wheel-drive vehicle. After weeks of looking and with Irungu's (my dear friend and *personal* mechanic) guidance, I



found a 2000 GDI. This car can maneuver these dirt roads and I feel blessed to have found such a good car at a very low price. The entire PACE staff and children were praying for a *good Joanie car* and their prayers were truly answered!

Wamba

The women of the AIC Church in Nyahururu were inspired to go on a mission trip to a remote area of Kenya that is 99% Muslim. Their desire was to build a home for a Pastor and his family who were currently residing in a shed. The 23 women were joined by 6 men and left on a 3-day trip to build this home. What should have been an 8-hour bus ride, took 16 hours due to 7 flat tires.



We realized (much too late) there were several factors contributing to this tire problem; the heat on these roads, the 2-tons of building materials we had to bring to this

remote area, and the fact that new tires were overdue for this vehicle. However, there was no going back when there was a mission to be accomplished. A lorry stopped during our last flat tire and we (well I should say the men) transferred the supplies from



our bus to the lorry and borrowed a tire to finish our journey. We arrived at midnight (we left at 8am) and were welcomed by the beating of drums and the singing from the locals to this electricity-free village under the stars. The next day a house was built in 14 hours and God was glorified in this area where this had never been seen before... strangers coming from a distant place and bringing supplies with them to build a house for a family they barely knew. The Samburu Tribe with their Muslim beliefs stood in



awe of what we who know Christ came to do. The celebration continued into the night and the stars seemed even brighter than before.

Lotar

A young boy who is 15 years old, Lotar, has become my adopted son. Lotar is an orphan from the Turkana Tribe of Maralal and has been a part of PACE for 18 months. The couple (Ken and Sue Black) that sponsors Lotar has been wonderful supporters of this young man and his education. However, Sue was recently shot in the leg by a gang of young men. Ken and Sue will be staying in Kijabe at the mission hospital there for another 2 months while Sue recuperates. Since Lotar usually goes to their home for midterm and term breaks, I have offered to have him



here with me. He is a very kind young man who is in his second year of school at the age of sixteen. Until he came to PACE, he had never gone to school or spoken any English at all but now communicates with me quite well. While staying with me in April, I noticed he was having problems with his stomach. I found out he had been suffering with stomach pains for a very long time but did not want to bother anyone about it. I took him to the clinic to have blood work done and found he had Malaria, Amoebas, and several Parasites. Any one of these ailments can be problematic but having all three was very serious. He was on medication for over a month and I will return with him this week for repeat blood work to see if all is well. He really is a good kid and is so receptive of the attention I give to him and very, very thankful. He calls me "Mama Joanie" and I praise God for bringing the two of us together in this way.

In Heaven's Eyes

PACE is involved with 8 Outreach Centers. Each of these centers focuses on a different need in this country. One of these centers has really touched my heart and I want to share them with you. The place is called "In Heaven's Eyes" and is a home for street kids (boys and girls). So many children who take to the streets begin using drugs (sniffing glue will suppress the appetite and cost only 5¢ a hit). Benson is a Pastor who has devoted his life to caring for the children that have been tossed aside in this society. He and his assistant Peterson go twice a week to town trying to get the kids to come "home" with them. The doors of *In Heaven's Eyes* are opened to these children providing them with food, shelter, and the Gospel. I go over there at least once a month to see the kids and more often lately with the teams that have come. The number of children has risen since I left last year from 34 to 63 children. Last week, I counted the number of children without shoes and found 39 did not have *any* shoes. As many of you know, shoes are something the Lord has laid on my heart. Perhaps its because I see children in America with many pairs and all I want to provide is one pair for each child to have the opportunity to attend school. Sending shoes here is not realistic because of the cost in shipping. The good news is that a good used pair of shoes is between \$3.50 and \$5.50 depending on the size of the shoe. For \$200, we would be able to provide shoes for all the children at *In Heaven's Eyes*. Many of you have asked me about the need of shoes and the costs involved. If you are interested in assisting in this project, "[Shoes for School](#)," I would be happy to send you pictures of the children with their *new* shoes. I trust and know the Lord will provide in His time for this need. (*See below for more information on [Shoes for School](#)*)

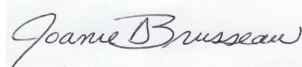
Praises and Prayers

- ❖ Praise the Lord with me for the following:
 - For Lotar coming into my life and the provision I am able to give him.
 - For clear direction in selling and buying another vehicle.
 - For the success of the Wamba mission.
 - For the teams who have come to visit PACE.
 - For the arrival of the new MAC and all the support provided (*Thanks Jordan!*).

- ❖ Please pray with me for the following:
 - For the [Shoes for School](#) project.
 - For additional funds for my support (a couple of people have had to discontinue their support due to financial challenges). I am still in need of \$200 monthly. Please prayerfully consider a monthly donation.
 - For the *Kenya Get Well* Team as they prepare for their Golf Tournament. The well will give PACE and the surrounding village a place to get water and the Life-Giving Water of the Gospel. For more information, go to www.kenyagetwell.com.
 - For continuing good reports in regards to my health issues.

Please stay in touch even if it is a quick e-mail to say "Hello". And of course, I want to hear from you of any prayer requests you may have that I can take part in.

In His Service,



To make a donation to the [Shoes for School](#) Project, send a check to Ripe for Harvest at P.O. Box 487, Monument, CO 80132.

Write #226 - SHOES in the memo line.

To make a donation to Joanie Brusseau write #226 in the memo line and follow same instructions above.