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Celebrations in Canada and Africa

Greetings Dear Friend!

It is the Ristau family's turn to let you know about them! Elise shares what their end of summer trip to Canada entailed as well as some family news. In the end of this letter, you get to participate via photo stories in two events that took place earlier this fall: the wedding of a LST student in Rwanda and the installation of Bishop Emile Nkurunziza in Burundi.

Ristau Family News



After a full year in Kenya, we, the Ristaus, were blessed to be able to make a visit back to Canada for the end of summer. Our two eldest children said their goodbyes to the LST and its people, as they would not be returning back. After one week back in our home area of Niagara Falls, Ontario, we began a three week road trip visiting as many friends and relations and congregations as humanly possible. With all seven of us plus an ever increasing amount of stuff in the van as people generously gave supplies for Kenya such as clothing, medical supplies and many many recorders along the way, it was pretty squishy by the end, but it was totally worth it! It was such a joy to see so many familiar faces after a long absence, not



to mention meeting lovely new people as well at all the churches. We never got tired of eating delicious DIFFERENT food every day (I actually like the traditional Kenyan ugali and greens but I do miss variety) and dessert after every meal. It was wonderful.

After our first mission fest at our home church in Niagara, we went on to visit churches in the Toronto area, Kitchener, Ottawa, the Ottawa valley, NYC, Connecticut and upstate NY. To all of you who hosted and fed us in your homes and parishes, our



most sincere thanks. Once we finished the grand tour, then we got down to the serious business of moving Simon, our eldest son, to his apartment in Ottawa (where he is working as an intern with a pro-life member of parliament) and final wedding preparation for our daughter's Katelyn's wedding to Matthew in early September.



Needless to say, there was not a lot of downtime during the trip home, nor sleep for that matter, but the time was too precious not to make the most of every second. The wedding was a joyful and blessed occasion after which we spent our remaining days saying goodbyes and packing up for the return voyage. I slept very well on those flights back to Kenya after so much dashing about! So it was good to be home but it also is good to be back here at LST which feels so much more like home compared to one year ago when everything was strange and new. And though it was sad leaving Katelyn and Simon behind, it helps knowing that they are happy and well in their respective new homes, not to mention that the internet is a wonderful thing for keeping in touch.



As soon as we were recovered from travel exhaustion, we got busy with homeschooling and farm chores and daily baseball with the May boys (i.e. the regular routine). On October first, we moved into our newly completed home which is beautiful.

Such a blessing to finally all be under one roof and to have a kitchen big enough to cook proper meals in and have a table at which we can all sit together.



Prosper & Marie

"He answered, 'Have you not read that he who created them from the beginning made them male and female, and said, 'Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh'? So they are no longer two but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let not man separate.'"

Matthew 19: 4-6



One of our dear students, Prosper Rukundo, from Rwanda found for himself a wonderful helpmate, Marie. The couple were wed in August with Bishop Seburikoko officiating the ceremony. Rev. May had a privilege to represent LIA in the celebration and extend first hand wishes of God's richest blessings to the couple. The whole LIA crowd joins in prayers

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for a life long marriage union between Prosper and Marie! Prosper is the first student who has brought his wife to the LST with him while the school is in session. Marie works together with the LST staff being a blessing to the whole community.

Newly Installed Bishop

Other event that LIA was invited in, was the installation of our long term friend, Bishop Emile Nkurunziza of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of



Burundi. Rev. May participated in the event that gathered together several bishops, other church leaders, and guests from all over Africa and other continents as well.

Bishop Emile has taught at the LST during the previous academic year and has served in the LIA board for several years. Join us in prayers for him and for the Lutheran church of Burundi that the new bishop would support and guide the pastors in God's wisdom.

"Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood... And now I commend you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified."
Acts 20: 28, 32



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