

Dear Family and Friends,

As I am trying to write this our new kitten, Hershey, is climbing all over the keyboard. Difficult to type with a kitten around. He is named Hershey because he is too young to tell if he is a he or she. Our intern, Bonnie, thought of it. I think he will be a good kitten once he totally adjusts. Right now he still wants to be by one of us all the time. We lock him in the laundry room each night for now and he does fine. He has finally begun to eat and is not crying nearly as much. He has a very huge sounding cry for just a very small kitten. Of course with him came the fleas. I think we have sprayed him and the house enough to have gotten rid of them now. Our dog we brought from the states, Condi, is doing great. She does not appreciate the kitten in the laundry room. She can see him through the bar/screen door.

We have had water and electricity now for several days in a row. Once Ed and the electrician from the electric company figured out what was going on we have electricity some of most days. The water is usually off for awhile in the morning but comes on later. I know it will not be like this once dry season gets here but that is still some months away so we are enjoying it while we can.

We stayed in town for church this morning and went to Ibanda Post. The reason for going there was because there was to be a baptism of a man that just got out of prison. We were going to visit the prison with a Congolese man who has a ministry there. We did not get to go because the prison has some sort of sickness that has not been diagnosed and 2-4 prisoners are dying each day. Well the baptism was called off because the ex-prisoner has come down with whatever disease is killing the prisoners. Now he and his wife are sick with it. He said he could not come into the church for fear of spreading whatever it is. He has a good chance of beginning a new church in an unreached area if he can get well. Please be praying for him and his wife.

It rained very hard all afternoon today. We did get to go to the evening Bible Study for missionaries and other English speaking people. There were only 8 of us there because so many people were traveling. It was a very good time of prayer, study, and fellowship. Taylor and Bonnie, the interns, enjoyed it as well. Tomorrow we will begin the days of work. I do not have the household all the way set up yet but it is coming along. I still have some laundry to do because of all the sheets, towels, and clothes that were stored for a year in our absence. I would like to get some pictures hung when Ed gets the time. He will be in at least 3 days of meetings this week so I doubt if he will find time. I am going to Tracy's Heart tomorrow to check on things. I have already seen all the women we are helping. We are praying about and looking into a program to move the original 3 ladies into a small business loan situation where they can live independently of Tracy's Heart. This is a very crucial time for the program so please be praying that we can get these women sifted and bring others into Tracy's Heart.

Tuesday is a day for women here. The people here believe it is a day for women all over the world but I have not heard of it being outside of Africa. They women are going to march around the streets of town by the thousands. Then they will end will refreshments and a rally. The men and boys are supposed to clean the house and fix the meals that day. I am sure that will not happen in most homes but I may be surprised.

I will write again soon if I have internet. Thank you so much for your prayers and support. My fingers healed very quickly which is very unusual for me. The prayers did it I am sure. I am over the kidney infection as well. Now my only problem is that while visiting a very sick friend up in the hills of the city I stepped in a hole and twisted my right ankle. It is getting better quickly. I just have to be careful not twist it again before it is strong again. My friends call me accident prone. I do not understand where

they get the idea! God bless each of you and I hope you are beginning to feel like Spring is on the way.  
Love, Brenda