



Dear Friends,

Our second week back has seen us involved in officially welcoming patients to the hospital for surgery!! Dr. Bert Oubre, along with our newly hired Sudanese doctor, Dr. Deng, and medical team, performed 13 surgeries during this week. The most satisfying by far was our youngest patient. Nyanchiek in Dinka means "born with a defect." That is a heavy burden to bear for any child. By God's grace we were able to change that. You see, Nyanchiek was born with a cleft lip, a horrible, ugly thing, but in the right hands quickly changed. Four year old Nyanchiek bravely allowed herself to be sedated by the strange white people and submitted to the surgery. Dave & I went to see her after recovery and presented her with a new dress "for being so brave and strong." The rest of the ward broke out into spontaneous applause as she donned her new outfit for the one who was once called "defective." Nyanchiek is no more! She has been given a new name to go with her new smile! From now on she will be known as, Deborah, in honor of Dr. Bert's wife.

We have been a hive of activity since our arrival. We now have the new dining hall floor poured, the pad to the eye/dental clinic poured and the prefab building erected. The eye team arrives on February 5th to begin trachoma surgeries. We are also preparing things for the anticipated arrival of both the container bringing the backhoe and interior walls to the hospital as well as our supply truck from Nairobi. We are presently out of gravel and cement to do anymore significant cement projects. Thankfully though, we DO have sand. ☺

There are some 17,000 containers sitting on the wharf in the port city of Mombasa, Kenya. (ours included) waiting for trucks to transport them to their destinations. Travel is still restricted and dangerous due to riots and bandits on the roads attacking trucks and travelers. Please continue to pray for stability and peace to return to Kenya.

We are very thankful that our own security situation here in Werkok has stabilized. Our area is still widely evacuated due to the unrest during November and December, but we have had no more threats of attacks by the Murle and peace continues.

Please continue to pray for:

Peace and stability to be restored to Kenya

The safe arrival of our container from the States with the backhoe and building materials

The arrival of our supply truck from Nairobi.

Pray for Dr. Deng as he settles into the routine of running the hospital and working with us

Pray for the other teams coming to assist with work on the hospital

Pray for us as a family as we juggle the many demands on our time

Thank you for your continued prayers and support of our ministry here among the Sudanese people.

In His Grip,

Dave & Joy Mueller

February 2008