

Hello friends and family,

We know it has been a long time since you have heard from us. The death of Tracy's brother Oliver and my mom Pam, two weeks apart really hit us hard. When we came back to Matoso, after the funeral in the States, we threw ourselves into our work as a way of dealing with our grief. Fortunately that wasn't too hard to do because with nearly 90 students we are looking after, there is no end of things to be taken care of.

The church members where we attend here in Kenya came to say Pole (sorry) for our loss, encourage and pray for us and brought us gifts. Another family who runs a bakery brought us a cake to honor mama by. Tracy's Uncle and two Aunts on her mom's side of the family sent money in memory of my mom for us to open up a canteen here on campus. Thanks to their generosity we are pleased to announce that Pam's Place is open for business and has been a big hit with all the students.



Right before we left for the States our paths crossed with Mary as she came to get her hair done in our hairdressing salon. As you can see from the photo below Mary had a large tumor on her jaw. Due to lack of finances and some fear, the family did not do anything about this tumor for many years.



As soon as we saw her God spoke to us to help her. We have friends that operate a clinic in Migori. They have teams of doctors come from the US every month to help the local people. We asked if they would be able to help Mary and they said "send her over". So while we had to travel to the US, Mary went to have surgery in Migori to remove the tumor. As you can see now she is a changed woman. She still has some work to go before she is wholly recovered but God has given her new life, literally. When the doctors saw the tumor they told Mary it was good that she came when she did because the tumor would have killed her. God is so good!

When we came back from the States in October we were met at the airport by our good friend from Canada Gwen Torrie. Tracy lived with Gwen's family 32 years ago when she attended college in Orillia. Gwen came to Africa and visited 4 countries while she was here. While she stayed with us she was most helpful. She really blessed the ladies from our church as well as our girls as she taught a day

long women's seminar. The seminar was a rousing success as she encouraged the ladies from the Word of God. Due to some more generosity, every woman in attendance received their own Bible. The ladies were so grateful since most of them couldn't afford to buy a Bible. Now they can have the word of God with them everywhere they go. Gwen also reached into several homes while she was with us, Mouline's, Quinter's, Elsa's and Isdora's. We are always welcomed with open arms and it is such a blessing to set foot in their homes and be able to pray with them. We really enjoyed Gwen's company and listening to her stories. We even got to experience an adventure at the equator which is not too far from the airport in Kisumu.



In other news, our Grade Three students recently sat for their Government exams. We are confident that all the students have passed but we are waiting the official report. It is amazing to see how God has changed these students. When they first arrived here last January, many of them were a bit "rough around the edges." In this past year many of them have asked Jesus into their hearts and they have been set free from their past. God has been with them throughout the year helping them to grow and learn. It has been such a privilege to be a part of the miracle God has done in their lives.



In closing we want to give God Glory and Thanks for all the mighty miracles we have witnessed this year. As always though, the greatest miracle of all is the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. We celebrated Christmas with the Sunday School children by giving out candy bags which they were excited to receive. We closed out the year by attending a crusade at Ibencho church where we witnessed yet another miracle of people giving their hearts to Jesus.



 **HAPPY** 
NEW YEAR