

# Smith's Snapshots



## Serving Christ ~ Serving People

### Where We Have Been

We are delighted to report that God is moving mightily since we made the decision in February to partner with *World Reach* to minister to the people in Kenya. In four months we sold most of what we owned, our house, and closed our business.

We were tired when we left Austin, but we kept looking to God for strength. He proved to be faithful every time. Now the door is wide open for us to enter through and follow God's plan for our lives. Our commitment has been to make disciples wherever we are planted whether in our home or in the church. God has directed us to Kenya where we have served before. We started building relationships, however when we get there we will forge deep lasting ones that will bear fruit.

### Where We Are

Since being in the WR office starting June 19, we have been reminded that "we can not, shall not and will not" attempt to do God's work ourselves. As we have observed pictures on the walls of what God has done in the lives of people around the world, we are humbled to witness what God will accomplish when one "surrenders it all" to Him.

The ceremony for the 2017 Bible Institute graduates occurred earlier in June in Meru, Kenya where we will be next

month. Many of the graduates Bob recognized from the group he taught last year and in 2012.

The smiles on their faces said everything ~ ~ ~

ACCOMPLISHMENT, SATISFACTION and JOY.

Three years of hard work they labored through and finished.

Joy from the Holy Spirit's presence in men focused on the

Lord. It gave us a hunger even more to be among the people.



We have been learning valuable in house tools that will make us more effective the first 74 days that we visit.

On Saturday we went to the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute. The fallenness of humanity was so evident especially when we saw the memorial to the four young girls killed in the bomb explosion inside the Sixteenth Street Baptist church in 1963.

### PRAISES

- God is providing excellent ministry partners. He has raised 25% of our budget
- God has used the great staff at World Reach to help us through the initial process
- Great host family providing the guest house
- Good health

### PRAYER NEEDS

- Sell our car in Austin
- Expand ministry partners
- Obtain permanent visas
- Travel mercies

### DATES

JULY 18 ~ Leave for Kenya

SEPT 28 ~ Return to Austin

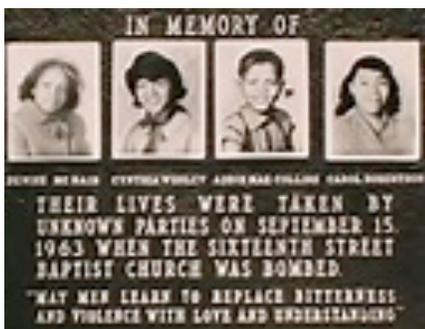
Oct 8 ~ Cross Cultural Training  
in N. Carolina

Nov 4 - Dec ~ Austin

Jan 2018 ~ KENYA (Long term)



World Reach Campus in Meru



As we witnessed all the people affected by hatred, we were asking ourselves, “Where was the church when all this happened?” We walked away saying, “Jesus is the only solution for the hatred in this world.” We want to be part of the solution which is discipling men, women and children who will follow Jesus Christ at any cost. Only Jesus can shatter the shackles of hatred.



Nathan was one of Bob’s students at the 2016 Bible Institute.

“Can a Man Love God and Hate His Brother?”



We are enjoying connecting with many friends sharing our excitement. Hearing your excitement of our journey and wanting to invest in God’s kingdom is an encouragement to us. We will keep you informed through newsletters and social media. This is will be a vital part of our ministry.

### Where We Are Going

Our journey to Kenya begins July 18. We anticipate obtaining our long term visas, meet with ministry leaders, pastors, head masters, and teachers in the community. We will determine the feasibility of buying a house versus renting, transportation and navigating our way around Meru. We look forward to forging deeper relationships with the Kenyan staff, learning their culture and beginning Swahili lessons. All of this could not be possible without your prayers and partnering with us. This is your journey and ours. Thank you for investing in God’s kingdom in Kenya.

For His Kingdom,

*Bob & Sherry*



Nathan, the graduate, full of joy with his family.



Bernard, the graduate, celebrating with his family.