



The Singleton Story

POINSETTIAS AROUND

DECEMBER 2012

Each Christmas our children's favorite part of the morning was turning their stockings upside down and searching through the treasure that "Santa" had left. There may have been one or two of our young'uns who removed the loot one piece at a time, but the usual tactic was the "dump method." Regardless, there was "oohing" and "aahing" as the candy and gifts were consumed and admired. If our children got coal, it was usually candy that came from parents who were smiling.

As we look over the past year we are filled with "oohing" and "aahing" over what God has done in our families, our lives, and in Zambia. We would like to share with you the treasure that God has given us this past year, so that you can join us in glorifying and praising Him.

Our children continue to bless us--**Micah**, a district manager for Starbucks, and **Marie**, an emergency room RN, skillfully and lovingly balance life with five children, Jude, Atticus, Soren, Flannery, and Truman. **Keith**, a full-time student pursuing a doctorate in physical therapy, and **Audrey**, wholeheartedly supporting Keith in this endeavor by working full-time for Starbucks, are raising two little girls, Lucy and Lorelai. **Neal**, a customer service concierge for Noel Group, loves cooking and Wisconsin. Also at Starbucks is **Adam**, a shift-supervisor, who plans to move to Pittsburgh after the first of the year. Ooh, aah!

Fifteen pastors began their APC studies in 2012. Their priority for the first year is learning exegesis, a crucial skill for all of their work as pastors. These fifteen men have benefitted from visiting American pastors and leaders who have assisted Tracy in

teaching; men like: **Bruce McKanna, Eric Forman, Nelson Reed, Pete Williamson, Bruce Ingram, and Luke Reinstra**. Their teaching not only helped Tracy during this year of transition, but their presence also encouraged and ministered grace to Tracy and I. Ooh, aah!

Karen assisted at a women's conference for APC wives with **Katie McKanna** in May, speaking on the subject of watching over one's heart. God gave grace and skill to get the point across, using a game, skit, and several object lessons. The women still speak of these talks, vividly recalling the meaning. It was a great time of bonding and refreshment for the ladies. Tracy held a retreat for the husbands in September to kick off the new term and forge deeper relationships among the men. Ooh, aah!

God reminded us how much He loves us while we were in Malawi. Asked by our mission to travel there to minister to a family in crisis, we experienced such an outpouring of God's grace and provision through a number of people there, **the Dehnerts and Kukondas**. The Kukondas remind us of Babette, a wonderful chef in the movie, **Babette's Feast**. Ooh, aah!

We wish you a blessed Christmas and a new year full of His joy. May God receive all the glory!

Tracy and Karen



OUR CHRISTMAS TREE~we decorate our Norfolk Island pine tree with jacaranda seed pods that are spray-painted silver and gold. Unfortunately, some of them have split open, spilling out their seeds.



CHRISTMAS 2011~thanks to a generous gift from EFC of Sycamore-DeKalb, we were able to distribute 13 buckets of food to families in our community.



Top left: the congregation of Pastor Tembo's church; below that, Tracy introducing Bruce Ingram, International Coordinator for PLD. Above right: Tracy teaching in APC's new facility



This past August APC moved for the fifth time in five years. Currently we are holding class in a church building, and this is where we hope to stay for a while!



Mountainous Malawi



Hayes and Mercia Kukonda poured grace out upon us while we were in Malawi. Not only were the meals scrumptious, but they cared for us in ways we didn't even know we needed. Here they are in front of their restaurant, *The Grey House*.

Each Wednesday, the Kukondas feed 30-50 orphans, most of them HIV positive, out of their own pockets. After the children finish their doctors' appointments at the hospital across the street, they come visit Papa Hayes and Mama Mercia for some TLC. In addition to receiving love and full bellies, they hear the Gospel from Beauty, one of the Kukondas' employees.



Beauty Praying

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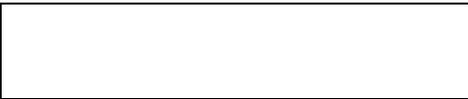
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Global Quotes

"We must be global Christians with a global vision because our God is a global God."
 (John Stott)

"Missions is not the ultimate goal of the church. Worship is. Missions exist because worship doesn't."
 (John Piper)





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