

March 2009

# SHELBY

**Mugende amahoro**

In Kinyarwanda, this means  
"Go in peace."



Chris leading a  
song in Kinyar-  
wanda

## SEEING JESUS THROUGH THE EYES OF OTHERS

Chris just finished his first term teaching the Gospel of John at a local Bible college. He gets a little break and then he will be teaching another course. At the end of this term, he showed the movie, "The Gospel of John". At the portrayal of Jesus' resurrection, the room erupted with "Amens". Taking of cue from this, Jill showed the movie with English subtitles in the English class she was teaching. There is a mixed group of students--from Catholic nuns to non-believers. All were impacted by the movie. It was like hearing and seeing the life of Christ for the first time through their eyes. They were so amazed to see what it could have been like. It was truly interactive viewing with the students talking to the screen--gasping at the miracles, tsking at the Jewish religious leaders, weeping at the death of Lazarus and Jesus, rejoicing at his resurrection. The students did not understand all the words but they understood Christ's love for his followers and how far that love took him--to his death--and that it didn't end there but in life to all who follow.



### CONTAINER ARRIVAL

Our container was cleared through customs this month. Here we are amidst all our boxes. We have been very blessed!

# March Madness

The NCAA basketball tournament has had us a little homesick. In America, we went for stretches with no TV, but when March rolled around, we would sign up for cable for a month to watch the games. We're missing the traditional "March Madness" but we've been busy this month with some new Rwanda madness.

Our container arrived and was cleared from customs on March 3. It's been nice to have some of the creature comforts. Chris has been riding his motorcycle around on these bumpy roads, leaving us with an extra vehicle at home.

In the middle of the month, we took a "spur of the moment" trip to Uganda. We realized that Jill, Fred and Tess's 90-day visitor visas had expired. Chris has a temporary work permit which extended his visa. We had to leave the country

and come back in to get a new visitor visa stamp. Our family, along with the Kimbrows, Koonces and Crowsons, took a quick trip to a small island in Uganda. We stayed in a tent at an eco-tourism spot where electricity was only available at certain times of day and our water was heated by fires. Fred and all the boys had a fantastic time exploring and swimming.

We have increased our time in formal language instruction by hiring an additional language helper that comes to our house three mornings a week. Dominic is an elementary school teacher who is out of work at the moment. With Dominic, Felix (our main teacher) and our individual study, we are dedicating about 20 hours a week to studying Kinyarwanda.

We've kept busy this month but if anyone finds a way to get us tournament games, we could make time to watch them. :)

## PRAYER REQUESTS

### 1. Amoses Arrival

Heath, Rebecca and now new-born baby Pete will arrive March 31. We are so excited for them to be here. Please pray for safe travels and smooth transition for them.

### 2. Container

Answered Prayer: We received tax-exempt status on our container. This was huge because the duty for the container was going to be VERY expensive.

### 3. ATN Registration

ATN (Africa Transformation Network), the organization through which we are receiving our visas has renewed its district registration. National registration has been lodged with the Ministry of Local Government. Please pray this registration will be granted soon.

### 3. April in Rwanda

Next month is a month of mourning in Rwanda as it marks the anniversary of the month the genocide occurred in 1994. We hear that things get pretty difficult during April. The country basically shuts down. Please pray for the people here during this time of remembering.

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How many abazungu can fit in one canoe?  
Our quick trip to Uganda.

