

"This far I have come, with the Lord on my side; I've seen He's faithful, for the Lord's Jehovah Jireh..." (chorus written by someone from Eldoret, Kenya)

July 2023

# PUTMAN NEWS



**Mungu ametutuma! God has sent us! (God has given us!)**



Christ Church, Barnston with  
St. Michael's, Pensby

Our Commissioning Service on July 9th was an incredibly meaningful and powerful day as we were officially 'sent' by our home church Christ Church, Barnston, with St. Michael's, Pensby to the Rift Valley Academy, Kijabe, Kenya!

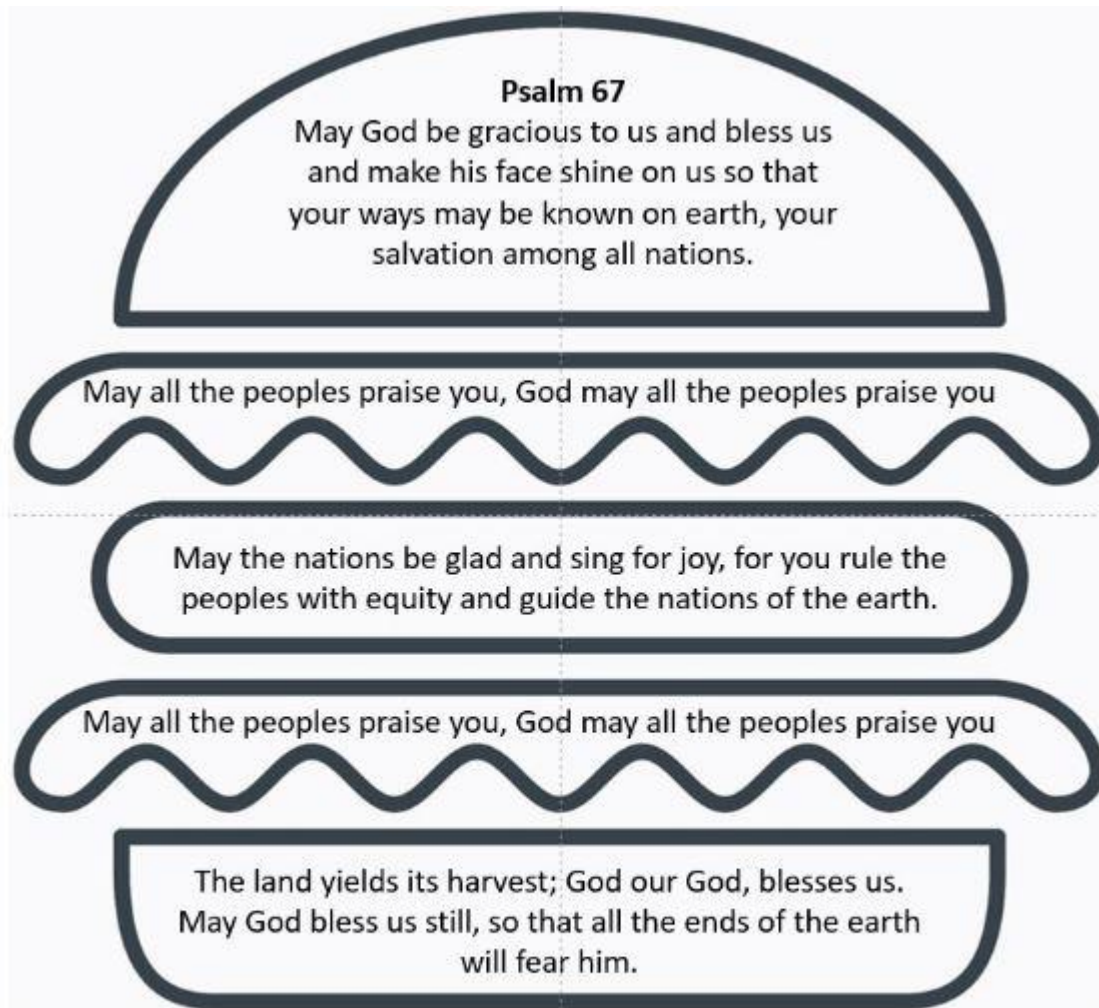
We were 'given away' as a father does with his daughter at a wedding, to live and serve in a new extension of the family of God with Africa Inland Mission.

Rift Valley Academy



Rev Chris Slater led the service and we were officially commissioned by reading out and agreeing some statements of faith, and the congregation confirmed their support through promising to pray and care for us. We were prayed for by our church wardens, Tim Matthews from Africa Inland Mission and some close friends.

John preached on Psalm 67 which we also focused on at our launch event in March. Below is the burger illustration of Psalm 67 that John used in his family sermon. It helps us see the pattern in the psalm; the way that the Lord's purpose for creation is central, and his blessing is what makes this possible, top and tailing everything and holding it together! After this we shared a wonderful church family bbq!



Let us not forget that God has blessed each of us that we may in turn be a blessing to others.

**A BIG THANK YOU!** To all of our friends and family who have rallied around us to help with finances (almost there but still a bit to go - keep praying!) and practical help in these last few weeks - your generosity, kindness and love has been felt deeply and will have been noted in heaven! We are all one body with many parts, each doing what we can to serve the enlargement of God's Kingdom on earth. God bless you all!



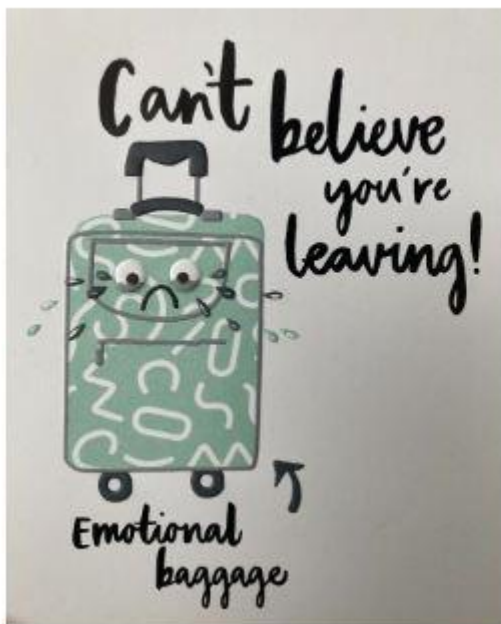
Give thanks to God that we have all now finished work and school, and that we were sent off with such love and affirmation.

Each of us has been showered with gifts, cards containing beautiful loving words, surprise parties, handmade personalised things, balloons, jewellery, money, cakes and plenty of hugs.

God has really been so close to us during this goodbye season.

Praise God that Sadie enjoyed one last school trip to Italy with the music department (her favourite people!)

*'If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts (to your children), how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him!'* Matt 7:11



We're off!! "Be strong and courageous. Do not be discouraged for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go."

MON 31 JUL 2023 - Manchester (MAN) to London (LHR) - Confirmed			
British Airways (BA) 1385			
Confirmation Number: [REDACTED]			
DEPART	NON-STOP	ARRIVE	
07:00	MAN → TH 10M	08:10	LHR
MON 31 JUL 2023 - London (LHR) to Nairobi (NBO) - Confirmed			
British Airways (BA) 65			
Confirmation Number: [REDACTED]			
DEPART	NON-STOP	ARRIVE	
10:10	LHR → BH 40M	20:50	NBO

Do pray for travelling mercies for us as we depart, and for Zoe's mum who will drive with us to the airport to say a final goodbye.

Please keep in touch and send us WhatsApps to fill us in on what's happening here!

With much love,

John, Zoe, Sadie and Amber

*'Now may the God of peace, who through the blood of the covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, equip you with every good thing to do His will.'* Hebrews 13:20-21