



CHRIST CHURCH BARNSTON  ST MICHAEL'S PENSBY



PUTMANS' PROGRESS

May the peoples praise you, O God; may all the peoples praise you. Psalm 67: 3&5

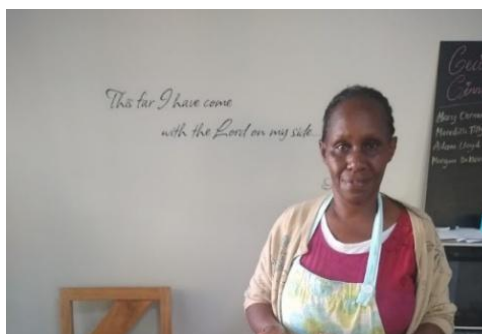
Celebration. Connection. Consolidation. Continuation.



As we approach the end of our third year working here at Rift Valley Academy with Africa Inland Mission, we are looking back with thanksgiving on how the Lord has provided for our every need, from the initial application process, to vaccinations, a vision trip in December/January 2023, packing up and renting out our house, adjusting to new cultural norms, learning about the American Educational System, to friendships, job roles, food and family visits. Wow. God thought of everything! One of our good friends gave us this picture as a leaving gift. It sits on our dining room wall and reminds us that God does not send people only to let their resources run out!

Where God guides, he provides!

During our 2023 vision trip, we spent a few days with some other mission partners in Eldoret, Kenya where they run an orphanage and school for children with HIV. During those few days, we learned a song that one of the girls had written which boasts, "This far I have come with the Lord on my side. I've seen He's faithful, for the Lord's Jehovah Jireh!" This song became an anthem for our transition process from the UK to Kenya. It still jerks a joyful tear to this day and has since been made into a wall sticker for our kitchen!



"This far I have come, with the Lord on my side. I've seen He's faithful, for the Lord's Jehovah Jireh!"

Cecilia, our household employee stands in front of the sticker



On 12th March 2023 we held an official launch event at our home church, Christ Church, Barnston and St. Michael's, Pensby in the Wirral. We shared about how God had led us into this work with AIM and how he had provided open doors up until that point. At this event we explained about how being an AIM member works; how we are volunteers funded by supporting churches and individuals partnering with us financially to cover the essential costs of living and working in Kenya. AIM set a budget for us based on our family needs which included school fees for the girls and AIM membership. AIM provide a number of services to us including looking after our pensions, taxes in the UK, essential travel, helping repatriate our daughters into the UK after graduation, and us as a family when the time comes.

We were blown away by the speed at which God poured the money in, and by July that year we were cleared to book our plane tickets! He is able, and through the obedience of his children we were sent.

God used your commitment to the gospel and generosity to send us!

As we continue after three years completed, with Sadie graduating and moving back to the UK for university, our circumstances are changing a little.

We will be staying in the dorm with a new cohort of 7th grade girls and will have them for two years with us.

Zoe will continue to be Mrs. Putman in Kindergarten every morning and being 'Aunt Zoe' in the dorm too.

John will be taking a sideways step out of teaching and into a pastoral role as the Hub Co-ordinator. The Hub is a pastoral team made of representatives from academics, student life, student health, counselling, spiritual life and senior leadership. John's role will be to receive concerns referrals and direct them to the relevant department and liaise with parents about the co-ordination of care, interventions and support any student might need. This will also involve sitting on the discipline committee and handling the growing number of parental "off continent" requests. He will continue to coach sport every day each term, and be on the preaching, worship, Child Safety interviewing, UK further education and African Field Studies teams too.

Amber will become a 10th Grader or 'Sophomore' and be adapting to life without her sister.

Prayer Points

- ⇒ **Please pray for a positive finish to our last term with our current crop of dorm girls.**
- ⇒ **Please pray the same for our last couple of months as a family of four living together.**
- ⇒ **John is preaching on Hebrews 9:1-28 on June 21st.**
- ⇒ **Pray for Sadie as she prepares to graduate and say goodbye to RVA and all her friends.**
- ⇒ **Praise God that we have been asked to pay for work permits! We really hope this will lead to a swift process towards actually having them!**

In order to be able to share more regularly and personally about our every day lives, we would like to open up a WhatsApp group which can be joined by scanning the code below. We will share pictures and videos of our world here at RVA to hopefully help you catch more of the vision and be excited with us about this work we are doing that we so believe in.



JOIN OUR NEW WhatsApp group!

Just scan this code and request membership to connect with us more closely and more often!


This will be a broadcast group which means it's a one-way conversation from us to you, but you're always welcome to reply to us privately with questions or encouragements. We love to hear from people!

Finance Update

It's been over three years since we mentioned fundraising. We have lost a few financial supporters during that time, as people inevitably move on in their lives and giving commitments. At the same time, we have also incurred some unexpected increases in costs as well as higher inflation than expected. For example, our work permits have taken almost three years in the system being processed whilst the Kenyan government has been reclassifying the categories of permits. In short, our permits will cost us around 15 times what we anticipated. We are so grateful to everyone who gives and with such generous hearts.

Our latest budget projection shows that we are currently needing to raise an extra £873 per month.

We are now looking to increase and diversify our support through engaging more partners (both churches and individuals) to join with us in this valuable ministry. Here are some ways you could help:

- Are you able to **raise your giving**  by a few percent to help with inflation costs?
- Would you like to sponsor our work permits, car insurance, girls' school fees or a specific item in our budget with a **one-off donation?** 
- Could you **speak about our work**  at your church? (we would provide presentation materials/script)

Get in touch!

[John and Zoe Putman - AIM Europe](#)

You can find details about how to give on our AIM webpage – click the link, scan the code, or type in - eu.aimint.org/people/theputmans/

