

# LOOKING FORWARD!

## From The Rogers Family

Don, Amy, Joshua, Nathaniel 2009



into place in 2009, and also have time with our Congo Director (Mudekereza Nsibula) who is traveling to Kenya for a week to meet with Don and other ELI missionary staff.

On February 3rd Don will travel from Eldoret, Kenya down to Nairobi to meet four pastors and Diana Hom (ELI Sponsorship Coordinator) from California and prepare for their January 4 departure for Southern Sudan on a MAF flight (Missionary Aviation Fellowship).



Teimuge (pictured here with Amy) and Julius Toroitich are also on the team to help in teaching these sessions.

We will also be carrying 20 evangelism tools in the form of hand crank MP3 players along with color flip charts that teach the love and plan of God for all people. (Read more on the "Saber" at Gospelrecordings.net) These amazing little players come with a good sounding



speaker and over 20 hours of important verbal messages that are all in the Dinka language!

Don will be spending time at the ELI Kolmarek Christian School (started 3 years ago) which now has over 200 children. These kids are now healthy because of the daily lunch they receive and are do-

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Dear friends and family,

As we begin this new year we cannot help but reflect on the important part that each of you have in our lives and ministry. 2008 was an amazing year of victories and challenges. We have needed your prayers and support greatly and we thank God that He has provided for us each month and has given us the great privilege of serving Him in the USA and in Africa as we seek to see lives changed and empowered.

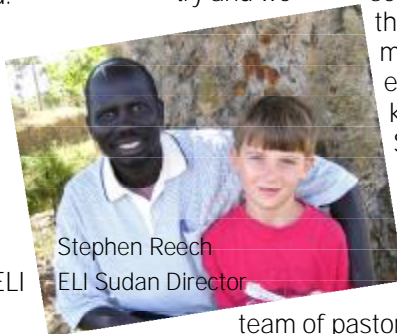


We have assembled a team of four pastors from Southern California (Jim Blythe—Long Beach; Kevin Robertson—LA; AJ Mora—LA; Dale Winslow—Azusa—Free Methodist Churches), and several other ELI staff from Kenya and the USA for a very important mission at our school and training center in Kolmarek, Southern Sudan.

We will be meeting with over 50 pastors from the Dinka tribe—many who have had very limited access to any training in Bible or leadership. Now is a very vital time for the church of Southern Sudan to be strengthened and equipped for ministry and we

see these pastors in the villages as instrumental leaders who if empowered with knowledge and God's Spirit will return to their homes and multiply what they have received into the lives of many others. Don and the

Pray for us this month. Around the time that you receive this — Don will be landing in Africa for a very important journey. First week (January 25-Feb. 3) he will be in Kenya meeting with the ELI Kenya leadership to strengthen relational ties



Stephen Reech  
ELI Sudan Director

team of pastors will be sharing instruction that will focus on the Old Testament (The OT has not yet been translated into the Dinka language), leadership, church administration, as well as important discussions on agriculture and income generating ideas.

Two of our Kenyan leaders, Samuel

among the staff and leadership, go over the goals and budget for 2009, visit the new dairy milk cooling operation site that ELI is putting



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ing well as they learn Gods' Word and educational skills that will shape the course of their futures. Don and the staff will be collecting updated stories and profiles on these children which will help to strengthen our communication with those of you who have chosen to sponsor one or more children at the school.

For three years now the children have been meeting in their classes but have been sitting on rocks, cans, or in the dirt . We have not had any desks. As the school opens for this new year (February 1st) the children will be sitting in new desks for the first time! We thank God for the sacrificial gifts that many of you have given so that we could build the school, feed the children a daily meal, share Gods' love, and now allow them to sit at desks. What a blessing! Don will return from Africa mid February and will then prepare to travel to NY to preach at a missions conference.

We ask you to pray diligently for Amy and the boys during this time apart. It is never easy but with your prayers and encouragement we know that God will guide and supply all that is needed for each one in our family. Amy continues to provide encouragement to our staff as she serves on the ELI Staff care team. Late night phone calls to Africa and coordinating special gatherings or gifts have been an important blessing to many this past year.



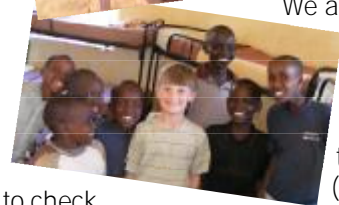
We ask that you also join us in prayer as we seek Gods timing for our family as a whole to locate to Kenya. Many of you have prayed diligently for Amy and her health. We are growing in confidence that life in the village can be an effective place to serve and at the same time monitor and maintain her proper blood consistency level (INR). Dealing with the blood clotting disorder has given us all a greater dependency on God and we appreciate so much the prayers and advice that we have received from many of you. We have been able to locate a special machine that will enable us to check

the INR levels so that Amy can make proper adjustments to medications (Coumadin) right in the village. We will be securing this machine within the next few months and will be testing it out here for a

season before heading onto the dirt roads of Africa. We are encouraged and we plan to head to Kenya with our boys for the summer and then to return to Kenya as a family in 2010.

Joshua is now in third grade and is doing very well— enjoying math, martial arts, and playground handball. He has an amazing eye for de-

tails and a keen memory. He is learning to make jumps on his bicycle and is always ready for a wrestling match (Pray for Don who just turned 50 ! smile). Nathaniel has a very dear disposition and at six years old now is gaining good ground in Kindergarten. The boys are attending



the local public school and God blessed us with a wonderful Christian teacher that gives special love and guidance as we grow to understand and adjust to Nathaniel's educational needs. Pray for him as we do all we can to provide a loving and good learning environment at home and school.

We are praying for several things to fall into place as we contemplate our families next transition to Africa. We will need to rent our home (Murrieta) - secure all necessary to maintain Amy's health— put together an educational program (home schooling materials and strategy) for both of our boys, and - we are praying that a teacher/nanny will be led to join our family for at least a two year commitment to help us with our home schooling efforts and also to assist in the neighboring ELL orphanage.

**"We are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works that God has had in mind for us all along."**  
Ephesians 2:10

There is much to share and we pray that the newsletters and communications from our home and office help to keep you in tune with our journey and mission. Thank you for your investment of prayer and finances that enable us to serve God through Empowering Lives.

We find it a great privilege to see lives changed and to know that we are ambassadors of Christ's love as we share His love in Word and in action.



We thank you for your encouragement and pray that God will guide you and draw you closer to His love with each day you live.

*In His love,*

**Don Amy  
Joshua & Nathaniel**