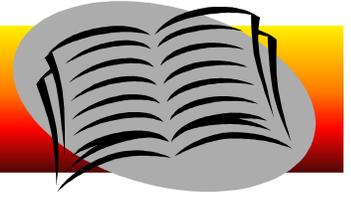


# THE SAUNDERS STORY

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**Breaking News: The Kijabe Motel has been renamed Kijabe Guesthouse. It sounds more inviting and doesn't have the connotation of offering food.**

## MINISTRY UPDATE

Picture this. You have traveled over 8 hours by bus, at night, on bumpy pot holed roads, sharing the seat with 3 other people and their luggage. You arrive at your destination; a mission hospital. You take your sick mother in and you have to wait 4 hours to see a doctor. Your mom is admitted because she needs surgery; which they will do tomorrow. You are asked to stay close by because your mom only speaks her tribal language and you need to help translate, but you can not stay at the hospital. The nurse tells you that there is a guesthouse about 5 minutes from the hospital so you go to talk to the managers. Bad news! You find out that the guesthouse is full; there are no beds for you to sleep in. What do you do?

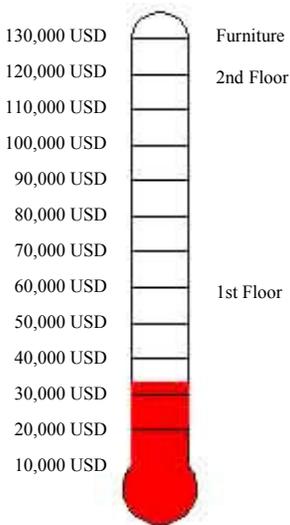
Unfortunately, we are seeing more and more times when we are full and have to turn people away. We admit that we don't know every-

one's story. Some may live in Nairobi (an hour away) and can commute back and forth (for a price though). But we do know that some come from further than Nairobi and they really have no place to go. What do they do you ask. Honestly, we don't know. Some sleep outside near the hospital, some sleep in their car (if they have one), some may convince a nurse to let them stay at the hospital and some may just go home.

We are sharing this with you because we are becoming more and more burdened to start building the new guesthouse, but the Lord has not yet provided the finances for us to do so. Please pray with us that God will provide the necessary funds and that we will be patient during this time period. It pains our hearts to have to turn people away and not be able to minister to them in some way. We are praying that the Lord would

provide funds for us to start building the first floor of the guesthouse by the end of the year. We have talked with one architect and hope to talk with another in several weeks (he is coming out from the states on a mission trip with a church). We continue to see the importance for prayer and would ask each of you to remember this burden with us in prayer. Prayer can move mountains and we have no doubt that our faithful God will provide.

Last year we started to keep track of who stays at the guesthouse. It is quite interesting as we had over 5,200 people stay at the guesthouse in 2007. 45% were Kenyans, Ugandans and Tanzanians. 48% were missionaries of different ethnic backgrounds including American, Canadian, Korean, German and others. 8% were Somali's. What a diverse group of people and each group has their



### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- **MINISTRY UPDATE**
- **GUESTHOUSE UPDATE**
- **FAMILY UPDATE**
- **PRAISE & PRAYER REQUEST**

## UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL

Approximately one month after we returned from the States, Esau, the supervisor at the guesthouse, felt that he needed to leave and move closer to his family. We have been fortunate to hire Ann Wanjiku. She is hard working, thorough and great with the guests.

Ann was born in Kiambu (between Kijabe and Nairobi) June 6th, 1957. She is the 7th child of 8. Her parents are believers and took her and her brothers and sisters to church every week. But it wasn't until she was a young

adult that the word of God in a sermon convicted her. Since then she has grown in her relationship with the Lord and is a really faithful prayer warrior. She met her husband at this church and they have been married for 25 years. They have 3 daughters, 2 who are married with



children and one who is a sophomore in high school. Ann has worked at a savings and credit society, a private school and the Kenyan National Examination Council. Unfortunately, her husband lost his job in Nairobi a few years ago, so they moved to his parents farm near Kijabe. He is still looking for work, although he does odd jobs now and then (like fixing our refrigerator). Please pray with us that the Lord will provide for their needs. And praise the Lord with us for this new worker. She is truly an asset.

## MINISTRY UPDATE

own needs as we minister to them. What a melting pot we are and how privileged we feel to be here. So far this year we have had over 2,500 people use the guesthouse. 43% were from Kenya and east African countries. 31% were missionaries and 21% were Somali's.

This past week we have had the opportunity to house several Somalis here at the guesthouse. One them is named Mohamed. He and a friend brought a relative to the hospital for treatment of gunshot wounds. His relative was watching a group of camels in northern Kenya when armed bandits stole the camels and shot him several times. He was brought to Kijabe hospital for treatment. At first it appeared that none of the injuries were life

threatening as no internal organs were damaged, but as the week progressed his condition deteriorated. Early Saturday morning he passed away. Mohamed came to us Saturday morning and told us that his relative had passed away and we were able to grieve with him. Mohamed was a very friendly man and was a pleasure to talk with. He was very emotional when he came to talk with us and we had not seen that before in a Somali. As we were finishing up I asked if we could pray for him, He was open to that and so we prayed and in the prayer laid out the plan of salvation. We pray that the Lord will use this time of hurt to bring him closer to Jesus and see his need for a Savior. Please pray for Mohamed as a seed has been planted.

This also seems to be the season of new babies for missionaries as we have had 3 missionary families stay at the guesthouse waiting for the arrival of their new baby. This has been a fun and inspiring time as we once again marvel at our God the creator. We have also been able to help 2 of the couples quite a bit as there were some unexpected medical issues. One couple needed help with caring for their 2 older children and the other couple needed help with rides, meals, laundry, etc. We consider it such a privilege to help and encourage and get to know these servants of God. And loving on their babies is fun too!

*I will praise you,  
O Lord, with all  
my heart; I will  
tell of all your  
wonders.*

*Psalms 9:1*

Check out our website [www.saundersministry.org](http://www.saundersministry.org)

## FAMILY UPDATE

We continue to be amazed at the growth of our family. Erica turned 7 just a few months ago and is finishing up 1st grade. She doesn't start her summer break until the middle of July because RVA is an all year round school. She has made great progress in her learning this year and is liked by everyone. This past year Erica asked the Lord to come into her heart and be her Savior and we are grateful for that. We are grateful for her sensitivity and are trying to mold that in her.

Emily just this month turned 5 and is looking forward to starting Kindergarten in the fall. She is our energy kid. She wants to be doing something all the time and has a hard time concentrating. We are

praying that the time in Kindergarten will help change that. She is maturing more and sometimes will ask if there is something she can do to help us

Ethan continues to grow like a weed. Many Kenyans can not believe he is only a year old. He continues to amaze us with noises and smarts. If we put a road block in his way to stop him from getting something he will figure out how to move it, go around it or thru it. He is very ingenious. His latest game that he likes to play with us is getting on the table. If we leave a chair out just a little and he notices he will look at us and then smile and run for the chair to see if he can get there before we stop him. At times it can be fun, but when you have the table



already set for dinner it gets old.

Each of our kids are unique and we are learning to work with them in their own ways. We ask that you pray for them in several ways.

1. To see their need to trust Jesus as their Savior
2. To use the gifts God has given them for God's glory
3. For their emotional & physical growth
4. Patience for us as we teach them.

## PRAYER REQUEST & PRAISES

### Prayer Requests

Africa Inland Church — strength, stability, & wisdom

Spiritual growth for us as a family

Language learning

Relationships.

### Financial Partnerships

Guesthouse Ministry— ministry to Muslims, nationals and missionaries; new construction.

Time Management

Rain

### Praises

Time spent with family & friends

Safety in traveling.

Financial Partnerships

Encouraging Supporters

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