

# GARTH AND FIONA KENNEDY DANIEL AND TIMOTHY

PRAYER LETTER

1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> QTR 2020



Dear Friends and Family,

So you can be certain this Prayer Letter is clear from the virus, it has been sitting in quarantine for the past 3 months! Either that or the alternative, we have been slow on updating you, you choose which one.

These past few months certainly have been a super roller coaster ride for us and for you as well. Not what we imagined when we first walked into 2020 some 6 months ago. Let's get to news from here as you might be wondering, 'Where are the Kennedy Gang?'

**Timothy** is with us in Benin- Rift Valley Academy decided in the middle of March, that the school needed to close early and the pupils needed to get back home as soon as possible. Some barely made it home before the airports shut in their countries. Since then Timothy has completed his third term online, meaning he has finished 8th grade and Junior High. This has been hard on him since he loves life at RVA with all the activities and interactions, now he only gets to interact with his parents! Kenya's schools are closed until January 2021 so he will start High School online. The picture was taken on his birthday where he requested a proper braai to celebrate his 14<sup>th</sup> birthday.



**Daniel** is still in Ireland and due to the Covid 19 pandemic he is stuck there. He received his certificate for having completed his Transition Year in a local high school. He still has a visitor's visa only and currently they will not change it to a student visa, since this can only be issued to someone outside of the country. This is a little difficult since he is not able to travel outside the country due to restrictions. Fiona's trip to see him was also cancelled due to Covid.

We Thank God for .....

- that Timothy made it back home safely
- Daniel finishing off Transition year in Ireland
- Broadcasts as 100kW
- The support and encouragement we find on many levels.
- The increased interest in our programmes since the start of the pandemic

Pray for .....

- Timothy missing RVA and the social interaction
- Daniel and his visa situation
- Oasis Transmitter, need to bring it up to full power
- Renewing our strength, we feel quite fatigued at the moment
- Our HIV patients who are in the high risk category if they contract COVID
- Wisdom for daily activities– COVID cases are low comparatively here but on the rise
- People to find the true source of hope in the midst of this pandemic

**Fiona** continues with the HIV/Aids work and a highlight from the last few months was the opportunity to take some of the Aids orphans out to the lake at the TWR property. It is hard to describe the joy on their faces as they showed up ready for a day out. We are not able to show their pictures but this photo shows the shoes left outside the cottage as the kids were entertained with arts and crafts. The clinic has had to change

the way they distribute their medicines to the patients, so that they do not have to come as often to collect their medicines due to the pandemic.

**Garth** has been working out at the Transmitter Station with the team there getting the Oasis Transmitter up to full power. The big news is that February 1st, 2020, was the official switch on and broadcast for this second transmitter that is focused on Nigeria. The current broadcast power is 100 kW and we are hoping to push that up to 150 kW. There have been a number of other challenges over the last few months including dealing with the fallout from

the fraud that the TWR accountant committed. Earlier this year the Beninese regulatory authority came to the Transmitter Station and did a technical visit. We are very thankful the visit went well but we still await their report that will allow us to get a full broadcast license.

This first part of this year has been a challenging one for us but we were blessed and encouraged to have Sid and Betty Kamps (our team was so pleased to have them back), and Rick Weston (CPO) squeeze in a visit before airports shut down. We are deeply thankful for all of you who have continued to pray for us, sent messages and supported us in a number of ways. These days of limited travel mean no one is as yet travelling to Benin and leaving is not easy. In the meantime we take courage and comfort in knowing that God is in control and holds us all in the palms of His Hands.

Blessings,

Garth, Fiona, Daniel & Timothy

