



The Rafiki Foundation, Inc.

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*“How great is the love the Father has lavished on us,
that we should be called children of God”*

(1 John 3:1a, NIV).

Dear Family and Friends,

The best way we can express our gratitude for the love shown to us during our two-month furlough is found in 1 John 3:1! God confirmed His call on our lives through the love and commitment you revealed to us as we visited your homes and churches.

WHO did we visit over furlough?

Can you believe that we had the opportunity to visit ten churches and numerous homes over a two-month furlough? We began in Pennsylvania visiting Mt. Calvary United Methodist Church and the following weekend, Mt. Laurel Church of God. Then we enjoyed sharing God’s work through *Rafiki* in Michigan, beginning with two visits at our “home” church (Glen Oaks Alliance). That week we continued sharing at Beautiful Savior Lutheran, Our Redeemer Lutheran, Mountain Top, Pure Word Missionary Baptist Church, and our last meeting in Michigan was held at First Baptist Church of Romeo.

We drove back to Pennsylvania visiting St. John’s Lutheran Church which followed with a wonderful trip to North Carolina where we were invited to share at Southern Pines United Methodist Church where my brother-in-law is the pastor! Wow! We **PRAISE** the Lord for the support we have received from family and friends in all of these churches!



**Betsy and Jake sharing a children’s message
from 1 John 3**

But that doesn’t include the special home meetings that enabled us to see so many more of you! We **PRAISE** the Lord for the extraordinary friends who hosted these coffees! A warm thank you to Anne and Kent Snyder and Bev and Scott Clode! We also want to thank all of you who shared your home with open fellowship—we treasure the time we spent just sitting and being together. They will serve as good memories to look back upon during those moments over this next year when we are missing you!

Finally, a HUGE thank you to those who shared their home for us over an extended period of time—our parents Ann and John Russ and Mattie and John Kremer; Betsy’s sister and brother-in-law, Bobbi and Mark Wethington; special friends Betty and Tai Chan along with Debbie and Dale Newby! Our sincere appreciation for your generosity and love! Also, we never had to rent a car, because our parents graciously allowed us

to take over their vehicles! All in all, our visit with you was fabulous!

WHAT about our visit to *Rafiki* Home Office?

In June we spent a week in San Antonio, Texas, with a big group of ROS (*Rafiki* Overseas Staff) where our days were filled with enriching teaching and encouraging guidance. The week was intense as we were in session from morning until late evening, but it was good to “touch base” and sharpen our focus on the vision of God’s direction for *Rafiki*. Betsy also spent a week at BSF Headquarters preparing for the upcoming study on *Israel and the Minor Prophets!*

During the week with *Rafiki* we learned that our furlough schedule will be changing—and we look forward to this change! We will now be visiting the States one month each year instead of the two-month, every two-year visit. However, how will we visit all our supporting churches and home groups in that amount of time? We will continue to visit each of our supporting churches once every two years along with coffees. During the “in-between” times, we will send you an up-dated presentation on CD (like the one we just shared with you) to keep your congregations and friends informed by “seeing” all that is happening!

As many of you know, we have recommitted to serve God through *Rafiki!* However, the Home Office has just informed us that we are only at 30% with our financial support.

If God has given you the desire to prayerfully and financially support us through *Rafiki*, please send your recommitment notice in **THIS MONTH!** Obviously, they have sent us back to Nairobi, for we have finances enough for one year. You know that we have committed to God to do this for many more! **Therefore, please join us in PRAYER that our pledges will be fulfilled for the future. PRAY that the churches we visited and individual families we fellowshiped with will grasp this commitment as a wonderful opportunity to serve the needy children of Nairobi!**

It is an opportunity for God’s Word to be proclaimed to many Kenyans and God’s work to be fulfilled day by day!

In Christ’s love,

*Tom and Betsy
Wade, Constance, Jake*

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