

PATRICK JONES – MISSION TRIP TO KENYA

On Sunday, February 18, 2018, my wife and I, along with two other travelers, journeyed back to Maua, Kenya, to work alongside the people of Maua Methodist Hospital for two weeks. We have been working with this hospital since spring of 2008 conducting various medical clinics and building projects over the years. This trip was intended to help the hospital staff make improvements and to dedicate a classroom at a local school we sponsored. My wife, a nurse, worked with the director of nursing to update standard operating procedures for the hospital and ensure they are doing the best for the patients they can with the resources they have. The dermatologist traveling with the team worked in the clinics seeing patients and providing continuing education to the clinicians at the hospital. I worked with the chaplains of the hospital to provide spiritual care to the patients and staff. During the second half of the trip, we visited several primary schools sponsored by the Methodist Church of Kenya to conduct de-worming clinics and paint educational murals in classrooms. We also spent time playing with the children and reminding them that they are loved, and there are people around the world praying for them.

We always bring deworming medication and sweets for the children when we visit. Providing this medication is essential to helping children thrive in school. This shows a young girl suffering from a severe case of worms; her swollen belly is filled with worms robbing her of the nutrition she needs. Her tired eyes from both the nutritional deficiency and the discomfort of having a stomach stretched beyond capacity with parasites. Thanks be to God that we were able to share deworming medication at this school. I pray she is starting to feel better. This condition can be prevented with medication twice a year along with hygiene education and shoes. We left enough medicines with the community health clinic of the hospital to last two years at these schools.



On our way home, we were also able to visit the home of Sudan, the last male northern white rhino in the world. He lived on Ol Pejeta Conservancy. Unfortunately, we were unable to see him due to his sickness. However, we saw many other wild rhinos, elephants, giraffes and many other animals. Sudan passed away shortly after our return home, marking the extension of another one of Gods creation.

This was another fantastic trip of sharing God's love and being filled with God's love from the people of Maua Kenya.

(additional photos attached)

