

November 2025



Muutukis Update

**Joe & Elfi
in Nairobi, Kenya**

Dear Family, Praying, and Supporting Friends,

I can hardly believe that in just one month we will be celebrating **Christmas 2025!** I'm not even sure where to begin, because so much has happened over the past seven months. Here are some highlights:

First of all, we had planned to visit Germany, then make a short trip to the U.S., and for me (Joe) to return to Kenya before heading back to Germany. Our journey began at the end of May and ended on October 22 it was a season full of ministry, work, and family engagements.

Through all our travels, whether flying or driving, or in a train, we can echo the words of *Lamentations 3:22–23*:

*“The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases;
His mercies never come to an end;
They are new every morning;
Great is Your faithfulness.”*

We are deeply thankful to the Lord for His protection, compassion, and traveling mercies throughout all those seven months.

Ministry and Family Highlights

April: Elfi led the **ladies' annual retreat** with a smaller group than usual, but the women had a wonderful time of fellowship and encouragement.



April: We celebrated the ordination of two of our elders. Later that month, I was invited by our moderator to speak on **reconciliation** at the Presbytery meeting, addressing some recurring challenges among members.

Ministry and Family Highlights

April 27: We had the privilege to **receive 10 members from 6 different ethnic groups with two baptisms and a request from one of our Asian believers for public baptism** and to share a testimony with the congregation.



May 28: We left Kenya the same day our last guests—our dear friends Robert and Lois Carr—returned to Philadelphia. Elfi and I flew to Germany, and on the very first Sunday after our arrival, I preached in German at a local congregation. In fact, all my speaking engagements in **June, August, September, and October** were in German! By the end of my 90-day stay, my language skills had certainly improved compared to when we first arrived.



July: We attended the **Kingdom Restoration Society (KRS) Conference** in St. Louis from July 6–18. I had the opportunity to speak twice—on *Church Planting in Nairobi* and *Team Ministry in Cross-Cultural Congregations* like ours. KRS partners with churches and ministries worldwide and is also an

international mission-sending agency based in St. Louis. I attended in my capacity as a **board member of KRS**.



In between our trips we were overjoyed to spend some time with **grandkids in Munich**.



Looking Ahead

Before the year ends, we have two major ministry events planned:



- **Men's Grill Evening – November 8:**
This is our quarterly men's cookout, and this year we are blessed with a sponsor who has covered the costs. It's already fully booked with **91 men registered**, and we may even reach 100! That's remarkable, since it matches the average size of our Sunday congregation. The Crossing Church in Colombia MO sponsored this Grill Evening and no wonder it is a hit.
- **Ladies' Christmas Party – December 6:**
This is another highlight of our year, and we usually have many **non-believing guests** who attend. Please pray that these events will deepen friendships and open doors for meaningful gospel conversations.



As we approach **Thanksgiving** and the **Christmas season**, we are grateful for each of you—your prayers, friendship, and support that sustain us in ministry.

Wishing you all a joyful Thanksgiving and an early Merry Christmas!

With love and gratitude,

Joe and Elfi

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