

Subject: Savuto - Hallelujah! Gifts and Treasures

23 March 2008

Dearest Friends and Family,

The resurrection gives my life meaning and direction and the opportunity to start over no matter what my circumstances. ~Robert Flatt

The above saying seems to fit Kenya perfectly right now. Though things are moving along well as far as the political solution to our problems, there are still 1000's of homeless people who need to start over somewhere, somehow. And the good news is our Risen Lord knows where and how! Please continue to pray for the political process and especially for the people who have lost their homes, land, and possessions but prayerfully not their faith in God.

Good things continue to happen at Maua Methodist Hospital and we stand amazed at the generosity of others and the commitment of Maua Methodist Hospital staff.

We have received three amazing gifts to help the hospital in three wondrous ways! Last week I received **seven** boxes of **brand new** nursing books sent to us by PEARSON EDUCATION/PRENTICE HALL. The boxes contained 71 Nursing books covering almost every topic you can imagine in nursing and 18 CD's covering Basic, Intermediate, Pediatric, Critical Care, and Maternal/New Born Nursing Skills. Our School of Nursing and hospital have been fortunate in receiving books for our library but usually we receive used books. To receive these new books was such an incredible gift. We have always had a good library but this gift has just pushed good to Very Good! This happened because of Gayle, a work team member that was here last summer. Her husband, Chris, and a team of people at Person Education worked tirelessly for and with me to make this a reality and we are so grateful. Gayle had talked to me about the need for books and certainly we have a great need. However, it is difficult to ever receive new books because the books themselves cost so much and then the cost of mailing or sending them is tremendous plus 16% VAT and customs duty that is up to 30% of the value. PEARSON EDUCATION/PRENTICE HALL paid all of that for us and we could not be more thankful, joyous, or amazed. Barbara Dickinson, a mission partner from Britain who has worked at the school for 28 years says "It is so rare for us to receive new books and never that many new books at one time. What a huge difference this will make to the students and staff." Thank you Gayle, Chris and all the people at PEARSON EDUCATION/ PRENTICE HALL who made this possible.



Laundry staff next to the new washing machine



One shelf of books received from PEARSON EDUCATION/PRENTICE HALL

The second marvelous gift arrived, was installed, and began working 7 March 2008. That is a brand new washing machine! With our additional patient load the new washing machine is a God-send. The laundry staff just couldn't keep up with the amount of laundry that they had to wash daily. This past week when I talked to the Laundry Supervisor, Elizabeth, she smiled and said they were doing great! This incredible gift came from a team member that visited us in Feb. 2007, Rachel and her husband, Mike, of Grapevine UMC in Texas in memory of her parents, Clarence and Grace Unruh.

The third gift was given by Scott, a work team member from Memorial Drive UMC, Houston, through a family foundation. He gave us funds to lay the foundation for our new four story staff flats building. As I have shared in the past, staff housing is a great problem and this new building will help us to solve one of our most urgent problems, housing for staff and visitors. It will be the number one project the 2008 work teams will work on and the entire staff is so excited. Bill has been working very hard to try to keep this project timely. Today I walked to the foundation area and was simply amazed at how much is being done.



The foundation work at our future 4 story staff flats

This past week has been incredibly busy but I have felt like it opened the door to a new era at Maua Methodist Hospital. This past Thursday and Friday I was part of a team that had a two day teaching session on Strategic Planning for our Unit Supervisors/Representatives.

Last September, following an NHIF Assessment of the hospital, I had written a problem statement concerning the need for the hospital to have a strategic plan. As part of the Quality Improvement plan, I had recommended that we ask all staff to contribute their ideas and dreams so that when the Hospital Management Team (HMT) created the strategic plan it would include input from all staff. I was thrilled when the HMT approved my plan. I asked all the unit supervisors to meet with their units and forward their dreams and ideas about Maua Methodist Hospital and where we would be in 5 years. However, I only received this from two units. Many supervisors came to me and told me they had no idea what I was talking about. It was thus decided we would train the supervisors so they could help their staff with this process. I had hoped the training would happen soon but it didn't. I was disappointed but this past Thursday and Friday I realized that once again God's time table is perfect. This was the ideal time to train our staff. They were so excited about this opportunity to help create the future of the hospital and were amazingly open and honest, which could not have happened earlier. As I listened, taught and shared with them, I was so grateful for their responses and hope for the future. What a treasure Maua Methodist Hospital has in its supervisory staff. Right now there are many of us here who believe that anything is possible, so watch Maua Methodist Hospital. God and an extremely committed staff are making plans that we pray will glorify Him and move our hospital in astonishing new ways.



Staff attending the Strategic Planning Workshop, on Thursday and Friday.

It is our sincere prayer that you will experience the presence and love of the Risen Christ today and always.

In His grip,

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Our Lord has written the promise of the resurrection, not in books alone, but in every leaf in spring-time. ~Martin Luther