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RAFIKI FOUNDATION MISSIONARY NEWSLETTER



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Missionary #255

Dear friends and family,

Happy New Year! God's mercies have been so evident already this year and I am so glad I get to share them with you! I ended up not being able to go straight to Ghana from Ethiopia, but instead I got redirected to Nairobi to get my visa. I spent a great month with my parents and friends I made when I was there 1½ years ago.

A short-term missionary and I put on a sleepover for all of the remaining resident girls (only 20!). I was encouraged by the growth I saw from one of the girls. Before the lights went out, the oldest girl led us all in prayer. I loved seeing her use her leadership for good!



Crazy girls!

I landed in Accra on February 1 and immediately started to sweat. I thank God for the air conditioning we have in our houses. It is fairly uncommon here in Ghana to send secondary students to a day school, thus the Rafiki School here only goes through grade nine. We are very busy despite that! Assembly in the morning is a beautiful time when the students sing the hymn of the week, get a short encouragement from one of their teachers, and then head off to class. As they are dismissed, they march off singing songs like "Onward, Christian Soldiers!"



Preschool assembly

I have been asked to sort through our shipment of books and get them to our libraries. I thank God for the librarian who is already here doing a great job. *Please pray that I can encourage the teachers to cultivate a reading culture for our students and for themselves.* I have also been asked to get the Widows Program up and running again. *One of the groups is far in the north, so please pray that we can find a way to send them the Rafiki Bible Study, as well as develop fast, strong ties.*



Rapt attention during Bible class

The resident students here are beautiful, inquisitive teenagers. I have been enjoying eating dinner with them and attending devotions. After devotions the other night I was teaching the girls line dancing and they were attempting to teach me more traditional moves. I was a better teacher than student. *Please pray that God will soften their hearts to His Word and will and that they will be eager to learn more about Him. Please pray that I will get connected to the community here, listen to where God is leading me, and lead by my actions and words.* Thank you all for your support and prayers!

Love,

Anica Pederson

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Our dining hall (left) and cottages



Line dancing