



PAN·AFRICA
THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

Africa Update

Bill & Judy Kirsch

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We just finished the first sessions of PATHS for the new 2016 cohort. We have 11 students in the West Africa cohort which met in August, and 11 students in the East Africa cohort which met in September. These two cohorts are a great group of students, all of them leaders from across Africa. They come to sharpen themselves for even greater effectiveness in leading the exploding African church.



My flight from Kenya was an interesting one. On check in for my flight, I learned the flight had been canceled due to mechanical issues. After overnighing in Nairobi, I was rerouted on Turkish Air through Istanbul. Now I can say I have been to Turkey! This was my first experience on Turkish Air. As we approached the runway in Istanbul, just before touchdown, the pilot hit the throttle and took off again. A nervous minute or so later, he announced that there was something on the runway. We circled around while the runway was cleared for landing. You never know what might happen with international travel. It is always nice to be in your own bed! It was now September 25th, and I only had 10 days in my own bed since the end of July.

We begin our deputational cycle mid 2017. Please contact us if you would like us for a service.

Please pray for our PATHS students. These men and women are influencers, key to the health and growth of the church. There are many demands on their time. Pray that God will give them wisdom in the use of their time to be effective in both their work and their studies at PATHS. We also have students from areas that are in special need of prayer. One student came with only a small backpack, due to civil unrest in his area. He could not leave the country with a suitcase for fear that someone would think he was fleeing for political reasons. Another student from Zimbabwe comes from a very bad situation economically. Food is difficult to find, and the dictatorship has oppressed the people, ruining what was once a healthy economy. Pray for the safety of our students who work in these troubled areas of Africa.

Will you also pray for PATHS? We are hugely understaffed in our work. We have just three full time people, for 100 active doctoral students. This school will eventually change the face of the church in Africa as we train these significant leaders from across the continent. However, we really need more help (Matt. 9:37). The students are profoundly appreciative of the training they receive from us. It puts the tools they need in their hands to lead their churches effectively. Those that have leadership gifts are called upon to do so much, and makes it very stressful for them to find the time needed to further their studies.

One final request. Please pray for Judy. She will have surgery on her right eye in January to replace the layer behind the cornea due to Fuchs' Corneal Dystrophy. It has been a long process of slow decay of her vision. This surgery will correct the problem in at least one eye. Pray that the surgery will go well and she will have peace about it.

For a more detailed report, send an email to: Bill.Kirsch@agmd.org and ask to be added to our eNewsletter list.

Thank you once again for your faithful financial and prayer support!!!

Sincerely,
Bill & Judy Kirsch

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2016 West Africa Cohort



Students with Vice Chancellor, Dr. John Easter on 2nd floor of new building on the WAAST Campus.



2016 East Africa Cohort



Bill standing with a student on the 2nd floor that PAtHs will occupy of the new WAAST building.



The East Africa 2016 cohort in session on the EAST campus in Nairobi with Bill teaching.