



# The ROSE Family

## Missionaries to Kenya, East Africa

"...Immediately we endeavoured to go... assuredly gathering that the Lord had called us for to preach the gospel unto them." -Acts 16:10



**July & August 2020**

Dear Friends,

Our God answers prayer! You have been praying with us since March that God would open the door for us to leave for Kenya. He did! We are finally here! We departed from Atlanta on Friday, August 28th and landed in Nairobi the next day. God did amazing things throughout our trip, and we want to share a few of them with you.

Kenya required us to have a negative Covid test within four days of departing from the USA. We had plans to receive a rapid test on Monday and then fly out on Wednesday. We bought our tickets and prepared to leave. The weekend before we left, we were made aware that Kenya would not accept a rapid Covid test result and that we would have to have the traditional PCR test. We began making phone calls trying to locate a testing facility with a quick turn around time. The shortest we found was 2-4 business days after the test. We made appointments to be tested Monday morning, but we knew that we would most likely not receive the results by Wednesday. We called the airline to see if they could reschedule us for Friday to give us the maximum amount of time that Kenya allowed between testing and departure. The airline rescheduled us for free!

On the day of the test, we asked if it were possible to receive the results by Friday; we were told that the results would most likely not be available for a whole week. Many people began praying for us to receive the results by Friday morning. We received them all by Thursday morning!

We had a total of twenty-seven bags to check. When we arrived at the airport, the airline agent told us that they could not accept most of our bags because they were plastic footlockers and not suitcases. We know missionaries who have used the same footlockers without an issue on the same airline. We stood at the counter for forty-five minutes trying to get our bags checked. Finally, the manager came and asked, "You're missionaries right?" He then checked all of our bags. Due to the delay at the counter, we almost missed our first flight, but God made sure that we made it on time.

After twenty-four hours of travel, we arrived in Kenya, met with the health officials and were cleared from having to quarantine. Immigration officials stamped visas in our passports without question, and when we arrived at the baggage claim, we found all twenty-seven of our checked bags waiting for us. Nothing was lost! As we went to exit the airport, the customs official stopped us and with a very stern voice demanded to know what was in all of the bags. We prayed silently that we would not have to open each one as it was already very late. We answered that we would be living in Kenya for a while and that the bags contained clothing and some homeschool items. The official said, "Okay, you can go." We were even allowed to bypass their x-ray machine.



God showed us that it was indeed His will for us to leave for Kenya this time. He pointed out all of the places that something could have gone wrong, but then He took care of each situation. There was nothing we could do; He showed us that He was in control. He was challenging and growing our faith.

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**Contact Us**  
912-288-3430  
[www.rosesforkenya.com](http://www.rosesforkenya.com)  
[rosesforkenya@wwntbm.com](mailto:rosesforkenya@wwntbm.com)

**Mailing / Support Address**  
World Wide New Testament Baptist Missions  
P.O. Box 725  
Kings Mountain, NC 28086

**Sending Church**  
Grace Baptist Church  
1406 Airport Rd.  
Hinesville, GA 31313

We have moved into our new home at the language school in Limuru. We will be resuming Swahili classes on September 21st. Matthew has submitted his application for a missionary visa, and we are praying to hear something from immigration over the next few weeks. God has already provided a van for us, and our whole family is adjusting very well. Everyone is excited to finally be in Kenya. Deborah, our oldest, celebrated her ninth birthday in July; we praise God for her physical and spiritual growth.

Matthew had the opportunity to share the Gospel with an Uber driver named Joseph. Please pray for him. Joseph thinks he is saved but is not sure. He seems to understand the Gospel, but he has been hurt by preachers and struggles with drinking alcohol. We may never see Joseph again, but we are trusting God to work in his heart.

Many people have asked about how to stay in touch with us now that we are in Kenya. We have retained our email and US phone number listed at the bottom of this letter. Mail can be sent to our mission agency, and they will forward it to us. We ask that you contact us before sending a package so that we can let you know how to send it.

Thank you for praying faithfully for us. We know that it is because of your prayers that we had such a wonderful journey, and we know that your prayers will make a huge difference as we begin our life and ministry in Kenya! We are honored to serve our Lord and feel privileged to represent you here.

**We praise the Lord for:**

A safe journey to Kenya  
A home to live in and a vehicle to drive  
Opportunities to share the Gospel

**We pray for:**

God to work in Joseph's heart  
The ability to quickly progress in Swahili  
Immigration to approve our missionary visa

To God be the glory,

*Matthew & Rebecca Rose*

Matthew & Rebecca Rose

*Deborah, Hannah, Esther, Lydia, and Priscilla*

Your Missionaries to Kenya

