



Winding Down at Moffat
(...and an unexpected announcement)

Bob & Hope Carter - March, 2025
7946 Carberry Ct., Indianapolis, IN 46214

Dear Friends and Ministry Partners,

“Uncle Bob! Uncle Bob!” Martin’s two adorable little girls greet Bob as he walks past their house on the way to the Moffat administration building. We’re going to miss those two bundles of cuteness when we depart Kijabe in just two weeks to return to Indianapolis. Even sadder, the next time we come back Martin’s family won’t be here. As we explained last month, God is moving Martin into a new phase of ministry, and so he will be moving away at the end of this academic year. We all have seasons of life, and our season seems to be in transition also.

Friday was the last day of classes at Moffat, and this week students are taking final exams and submitting end-of-term papers. It is a busy time for faculty, including us. And with only two weeks left before our departure, we are starting to feel hard pressed. Nevertheless, it has been a good term. The two new courses we launched on Community Health, and Disability Ministry have gone well, and the students have been grateful to be the first class to have the opportunity to take these courses. This term we have also taught or co-taught the Sexuality and Gender course, and Teaching Behavior Change together with its weekly teaching practicum. It’s the heaviest teaching schedule for us so far, but somehow we and the students have all managed to survive!

News Shorts

We rejoice that through the teaching practicum a total of 321 upper primary students made decisions to follow Jesus Christ! Please pray along with us for these precious young souls, that they will continue to walk in the commitment they have made and will grow strong in the Lord as they navigate the treacherous transition through adolescence into adulthood.



Students preparing their visual aids



We celebrated after the last afternoon of the teaching practicum with the Year 2 and

Year 3 students by taking them to Kimende to enjoy a goat roast, which is a favorite celebratory meal in Kenya. Many of these students are also involved in the HeCkima program, so the celebration was enhanced further by the announcement that HeCkima has just been successfully registered with the Government of Kenya!

This is a significant step, as it confers official government recognition to the program, which many Moffat alumni are desiring to continue after leaving Moffat. This successful approach to youth engagement can now be expanded beyond the reach of Moffat into other communities in Kenya, wherever the Lord sends our alumni in ministry.



On March 2 we enjoyed a double blessing. While having supper with longtime Iowa friends Jim and Donna Hoeksema, who are volunteering at Rift Valley Academy this term, we also saw Dr. Robert Wafula when he stopped in to see Jim and Donna on his way to a meeting in Limuru. Dr. Wafula is the Principal of Friends Theological College in Kaimosi, whose ministry we have been supporting for several years. We enjoyed a brief time of conversation and prayer before he and his team continued on their journey.



Then on March 15 we hosted a reunion of Bob's former Palliative Care team. We have been getting together at least once a year ever since the hospital retired several of them simultaneously at the end of 2019. God has led them in various ways since then and has continued to provide for them and their families. Each person had a testimony of God's faithfulness despite the constant challenges of life. Joel (on Bob's right) will be completing his master's degree in palliative medicine later this year, for which we all give thanks to God. Bob recruited him to join the palliative team as a clinical officer 8 years ago.

...and now, the Unexpected Announcement

We learned recently that Pat and Kristen, our replacements at Moffat, will be relocating to Nairobi after this academic year. This was an unexpected and disappointing surprise. We continue to be grateful for their ministry here and for Pat's leadership of the department; but God is now redirecting their steps into another ministry opportunity in Nairobi. We are thankful that Pat has agreed to continue teaching two courses per term for the next academic year, which will require commuting from Nairobi – an unenviable task! We do not yet know what this means for us or for the Department. At the very least, it means that Bob will need to focus considerable time and effort on recruiting a new missionary Head of Department in collaboration with SIM and with Moffat. We do know that we are not able to slide back into that role. Please pray with us that the Lord will lead us to the missionary of His choice before the end of the '25-'26 academic year.

Financial Prayer Concerns

The Moffat Community Health and Development project still lacks sustaining partners. These would be partners willing to contribute towards supporting the project on a regular basis until the end of the current project cycle in December of 2028. Without sustaining partners, we continue to be dependent on one-off contributions. While we remain exceedingly grateful for these one-time gifts, we invite you to join us in asking the Lord to raise up four to six partners (churches, individuals, or small groups) willing to contribute a few thousand dollars a year for the next four years. We ourselves, as we plan towards our own retirement, are considering to what extent we can give qualified distributions from our SIM retirement plan. Perhaps others would pray about joining us? In the last completed 5-years project cycle, this project brought around 3500 souls into Christ's kingdom besides its educational, discipleship, and mercy ministries. In the process, engaged Moffat students acquired the skills and experience needed to go out and do the same.



Kenya's economy has not yet recovered from the effects of the country's COVID containment efforts in 2020. Jobs are hard to find and inflation continues to erode into families' ability to feed, clothe, and educate their children. Students coming to Moffat depend more on financial aid than ever before at a time when the school has lost a major source of scholarship funds. A couple of generous gifts last year helped the school to assist several capable but needy students, but a few still had to drop out. The school continues to seek partners willing to step into the gap and help to finance students who are called by God to a life of Kingdom service but lack the means to pay for a Moffat education.

How much does a Moffat education cost? Only \$1200 per year. Compare this to Kenya's average per capita income of \$2170. The cost of a year at Moffat, while low by U.S. standards, is still well over half a year's income in Kenya! Without assistance, called and gifted students from poor and middle-class families will soon find themselves financially excluded from a Moffat education, and yet God keeps calling them here! Graduates from South Sudan are now proclaiming the Gospel and planting churches in refugee camps in northern Kenya and Uganda. We would love to be able to equip even more international students who are called and willing to go into the hard places of ministry. Please pray with us that the Lord would provide sustainable partners for Moffat Bible College.

Kwa Heri (Goodbye) Kenya!

As we stated above, we will soon be returning from Kenya to the U.S. Our departing flight from Nairobi will be the evening of April 8, with our arrival in Indianapolis scheduled around 4:30 p.m. on April 9. Please contact us if you would like to schedule us to come and share about our work in Kenya.

Contact Information: Please feel free to contact us in any of the following ways:

- US Mail: 7946 Carberry Ct., Indianapolis, IN 46214
- Email: bob.carter@sim.org or hope.carter@sim.org
- Mobile U.S. phone numbers: Bob - 317-828-6329; Hope - 317-443-7485
- Signal: we both have Signal on our U.S. phone numbers.
- WhatsApp: Hope has WhatsApp on her U.S. number; Bob's is on his Kenya number - (+254) 715-719390

Prayer Points

Give Thanks for:

- The successful launching of the Community Health and Disability courses at Moffat this term.
- The 321 upper primary students who made decisions to follow Christ.
- The successful registration of the HeCkima program with the Kenya government.
- The stable or improving health of our family in the U.S. while we have been back in Kenya.

Ask God for:

- Those who made decisions to follow Christ this term to continue to walk with Him and to grow strong in Him as they progress through adolescence into adulthood.
- Pat and Kristen Kiernan, as they juggle the demands of moving into a Nairobi-based ministry even as Pat continues to teach two days a week at Moffat.
- The Lord to provide before the end of the coming academic year someone who will take Pat's place as Head of Department and who can teach courses in Community Development.
- The Lord to raise up four to six sustaining partners for the Moffat Community Health and Development project (Project # 92163).
- The Lord to connect Moffat Bible College with one or more partners who will assist with providing scholarship aid to needful students.
- Safe travels back home to Indianapolis as scheduled.

Contributions towards our support may be sent by check to:

SIM USA, 14830 Choate Circle, Charlotte, NC 28273.

Make the check out to SIM-USA and indicate its purpose on the "memo" line:

Bob & Hope Carter (# 09892) or

Moffat Community Health and Development project (# 92163)

Alternatively, contributions may be made by **online** donation at **www.simusa.org/get-involved/give**.

- Our SIM missionary number is **09892**.
- Our SIM project account is **92163** - "Moffat Community Health and Development".

Thank you!