

Aungst Family update



Hello Friends and Family!

The month of November marks our four year anniversary in Florida serving the people of Haiti with Missionary Flights International. And what an adventure it has been. Betty and I are so humbled by your continued support in financial giving, prayer, and personal encouragement to our family and ministry. In so many ways, we feel the adventure is only beginning. After an application process, I was extended an offer from Samaritan’s Purse (SP for brevity) to come on staff as aircraft maintenance specialist for their East Africa Program. Our family accepted and will be moving to Eldoret, Kenya in January 2024.

Wait, you’re leaving MFI?

Since before we were married, Betty and I have both felt a desire to serve God overseas and to bring to the ends of the earth the Good News of Jesus dying on the cross for our sins and raising from the dead after being buried. Recently, we became aware of the need overseas that our family fits perfectly, and we



feel strongly that we need to respond to that need. Though we love the ministry of MFI as well as the people of Haiti, we are confident that there are others to fill the role we are leaving behind. God has equipped different people in different ways, and there aren’t as many who desire to move across the world.

What will Drew's role be?

I will be maintaining aircraft used by SP's East Africa Program. These aircraft serve many countries in the region in a variety of ways including aiding war refugees with mobile hospitals, providing disaster relief supplies, delivering food for starving people, and, of course, bringing the famous Christmas Shoeboxes to give as gifts to children. While all these things address physical needs, the spiritual need of the people being served is never ignored. With each interaction, the Gospel is shared and discipleship also occurs for those who have accepted Jesus as their savior. Most maintenance occurs at the hangar in Eldoret, Kenya, as the areas served are often remote and the parts and



supplies needed to keep the planes flying aren't accessible there.

What will life look like for the family?

Weeelll, our family will be growing. Oh, yes. Betty is once again pregnant. Aungst Baby #4 is due late April and will be born in Kenya! Thankfully, the wives of the other Kenya employees are in touch and have been a wealth of information on what the birthing process will be like as well as what supplies are needed, among other helpful tips. The kids will be at home with Betty for the first few months as they adjust to the new home, new area, new everything. June and Wiley will attend a British Curriculum school nearby when the new trimester begins in April. Samaritan's Purse provides housing as well as a car for us. Our home will be on a fenced compound with the other staff which provides both security and built-in community for us as we're adjusting. The area is also very safe.

What's next for the Aungsts?

Our family is in packing mode! The wives in Kenya so thoughtfully compiled a list of things that are helpful to have when we arrive, and things that will be readily available to purchase once there. We have compiling lists of what we

want to pack and what we will need to get before we leave the States in order to be both prepared and also have some familiarity to help stave off some home-sickness, especially for the kids. Regrettably, we will not be able to bring our dog Badger with us as we can't afford the cost of shipping or justify it when those resources can be directed elsewhere for the furtherance of the Gospel. We know a friend will take good care of him, and in turn he will be a wonderful companion for that friend. Friends will also be taking care of our house in Florida! Dear friends of ours are moving to Florida to serve at MFI and with the cost of housing rising, we want to support this family, who have given their lives to serve God, with an affordable home. Also, they will be inheriting our hens: Sissy, Princess, Mommy, and NASCARS.



Prayer requests:

- Pray for our family as we prepare to leave.
- Pray for our kids as this will be a big adjustment for them. We've included them in the whole process so it is not a surprise, and taken considerations to ease the difficulty of moving. Nevertheless, it's a lot to process for them.
- Pray for Drew as he continues to lead the mechanics at MFI, even as he prepares to leave.
- Pray for Betty and the baby growing inside her.
- Also pray that we have patience with the kids and care for them well throughout this whole process.
- Pray for our health. It seems like anytime we travel someone in our family gets sick.
- Pray for the ones we love and are leaving behind. Especially pray for the salvation of dear friends.



How can I support you?

Please continue to give to our fund at MFI through **March 2024**. We are still on staff there and we rely on your generous gift in order to have income. We will be using our accrued vacation time at MFI to move to Kenya. MFI's policy provides us with one extra month of pay (**March**) to assist in transitioning to a new ministry if our supporters choose to assist us in that way. After your gift in **March** is processed, please call MFI in order to cancel if you have automatic payment set up, or cease sending in a donation if you do not have an automatic withdrawal. Donations made to MFI **after March 25th** will go towards the General Fund at MFI.

If you would like to help in our preparation to move, we have compiled a registry on Amazon. Simply go to www.amazon.com/registries and search for "Aungst Family" under "Gift List." On that list are a variety of things such as baby supplies, postpartum supplies, and other necessities for starting out such as a water filter or potassium permanganate to use for washing fruits and vegetables. Other ways to contribute are Amazon gift cards or directly sending a personal check or cash to us. Funds sent to us will be directed towards the cost of moving our family to Kenya: luggage and totes for bringing our life to a new home, emergency travel funds, medical costs for prenatal care as well as travel prep, furnishing our new home, etc.. Our goal is to be packed up by the new year so that we are freed up to head north to visit family before our departure as a family in late January. Any mail or gift can be sent directly to 400 Ocean Ave, Ocean City NJ 08226.

This new position at Samaritan's Purse is not a financially supported one, meaning our monthly salary is paid by Samaritan's Purse as an organization. This does not mean we are no longer missionaries! If you wish to continue to donate to missions, Samaritan's Purse is a nonprofit and operates on donations. Donating monthly to **The General Fund** supports the entirety of the operation, including our salary. If you want to continue to support the mission of MFI, we highly recommend supporting the Vaughan family (<https://www.missionaryflights.org/missionary/vaughan>). Justin and Addison have been dear friends of ours for years, and their desire to glorify God and share the Gospel with the world is evident in their lives and actions. Justin has similar experience and qualifications as Drew, and his family is currently raising support to serve the people of Haiti with MFI.

One final way to support us is to continue to pray for and keep in touch with us! We truly covet your prayers as it is not our efforts that accomplish anything, it is only God that accomplishes anything. Please continue to pray!

I want to keep in touch!

That's what we were hoping to hear! Betty here, because we all know this is my wheelhouse. We will be activating a dual Facebook account in order to keep in contact with you! If you're anything like me, you are intensely curious about daily life in Kenya. Don't worry, I've got you covered. We also are able to put together a periodic newsletter with prayer requests that will be printed and mailed out for us stateside by Samaritan's Purse. One final way to keep in touch is to download WhatsApp and add us as a contact. This will allow you to call or text us using WiFi and avoid those international call fees. We'll mind the time difference if you do.

As always, please reach out to either Drew or myself if you have any questions or want more information on anything covered.

Blessings,

Drew and Betty Aungst

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400 Ocean Ave
Ocean City NJ 08226
Drew: (609) 464-4811
Betty: (360) 913-2298
drew.aungst@gmail.com

