

Peckham Family Summer 2018 Newsletter

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It's time to let everyone know that indeed we are in Winnipeg with Elisha. After many challenges along the way including the waiting for three weeks to see if his visa would be approved in Ottawa, we then submitted his passport to the Canadian visa office in Kampala whereby they sent it to Tanzania to the Canadian Embassy. We had to wait another three weeks. Upon receiving the passport back we booked and paid our flight immediately. However, as it was approaching time to go we were told that we couldn't fly through Chicago, USA with Elisha as we didn't have a "T Transit form" for him and that would take another three weeks plus lots of money.

I requested our travel agency to book us through Canada where we thought there would be no problem. When we got to the check in counter at the airport, we were told that we couldn't travel with Elisha on KLM because we needed a return ticket for him which we didn't have. I only had enough money on visa to cover one way to Winnipeg for the three of us and that maxed out my visa card. Then I thought we would work it out in Winnipeg for the return tickets. However, our friend, Amelie, came inside the airport to assist us with her visa card for Elisha's ticket. She helped to work it out so that we were able to travel right then. Thank you, Amelie, for everything you did for us including the driving and bringing Reagan to see us off. You were our guardian angel.

Our eight hour flight to Amsterdam also had an eight hour stop over. The flight was delayed leaving for Montreal because of a mechanical problem whereby they pulled our plane and replaced it. That caused us delay at the other end in Montreal so we missed our flight to Winnipeg. KLM put us up at a nearby hotel.

We got to bed near midnight and up at 5 am to catch our flight to Winnipeg. Needless to say, Elisha had been watching cartoons on the two long flights and by midnight in Montreal he collapsed in exhaustion. A man at the hotel stood over him in the hallway where he was sitting on the floor crying and prayed for him. He helped Ann get him into bed with all his clothes on at midnight. We were placed in Business Class to Winnipeg so enjoyed the comfort and special treatment very much. When we went to retrieve our luggage, our daughter Linda was waiting to help us and take us to Harry and Francie Humby's home in St. Vital. This was to be our home base during our stay where we are enjoying their wonderful hospitality big time. God bless you, Harry and Francie. Thank you, Linda, for your welcoming us back to Winnipeg. Thanks also to brother in law, Jack, for his hospitality in hosting us to a very fine supper at his apartment block. It was so nice for Elisha to meet Uncle Jack in person other than skype.

We were able to receive a refund for our tickets through Chicago. Then we put that money towards purchasing return tickets for January 11th, 2019 to Uganda.

Elisha's Canadian visa is for six months to the day of the 11th. Today we received our E-Tickets via email and they are printed and we can put them aside now for when needed in the New Year. This is another praise item.

We were hosted at Linda and Ken's home on Saturday for a BBQ supper and had a short visit with our son, Mike and his friend, Kerry. It was so good to see them after being away from Canada for over five years. We also visited with our granddaughters Amanda and Jennifer both beautiful young ladies. A few days later, Grandson Joshua came to pick up Elisha to take him to the waterslides park with Amanda and Jennifer and they all had a great time. We had last seen Joshua as well as Jennifer and her parents a couple of years back when they came to visit in Uganda for a couple of weeks. Joshua is now a qualified Para Medic looking for a job. Jennifer is going into her third year at University studying nursing like her mother, Linda. Amanda is working as a Respiratory Therapist full time at Seven Oaks Hospital. Mike's daughter Felicia and children Holly and Freya were also with us at Linda's. His younger daughter, Sheena was with them and is visiting for another month before returning to England where she is teaching Junior High English in Harlow, Essex north of London. What pretty young ladies. It was so great to be with them all.

Last Sunday we attended St. Saviour's Anglican Church where we were able to introduce Elisha to many of our long term friends and sponsors/donors of Eagles Wings Children's Village. We have a power point presentation to share with them at a later date. I have also been invited to speak at a men's breakfast in October. After church, Dorothy McLaren invited us back to her home for a lovely lunch followed by a new game she taught us. Thanks to Dorothy for the wonderful meal and game.

Our friends, Cam and Lorraine McIntyre offered us free tickets to Rainbow Stage that very evening. We took Harry and Francie Humby with us for a most enjoyable evening. The next evening we went to watch the Winnipeg Goldeyes play baseball against the Texas AirHogs where the Goldeyes won the game 13 to 0. We witnessed several home runs as well as bases loaded. It was quite exciting. All these things are new for Elisha and quite an education for sure. He has been all eyes with so many things to see.

Three young men from EWCV who completed their Senior Six with fine marks have been accepted into university starting at the end of this month of August. However, their sponsors are unable to assist them through university. We have recently become aware of this. Each student will be needing \$2000 CDN per semester for two semesters per year for three years for their degree. If you or some of your group can partner to support a student through university, please send your money directly to Natasha Buhler, Box 282, Winnipeg, MB., R3C 2G6 as soon as possible so the students can meet their entry date into university.

By the way, if anyone has a set of hearing aids sitting on a shelf not being used or not needed, I'm looking for a set which don't have to be fitted but can be attached behind the ears.

We have been blessed with the use of Dale Myhre's car during our stay. It is a 2018 model and absolutely wonderful to drive. We can drive somewhere and believe that we will actually get there without car problems. Those of you who have experienced our Pajero in Uganda know what I'm talking about. Thanks, Dale. Congratulations to Ken and Linda Vandenakker who were married thirty years ago July 31st, 1988 at St. Saviour's Anglican Church in East Kildonan part of Winnipeg.

We have been receiving emails asking where we are and what our tentative plans are. Right now Tuesday July 31st we are visiting and staying at my niece Wendy Buelow and Dave's cottage at Matlock Beach on Lake Winnipeg until

tomorrow afternoon. Last Sunday morning we attended St. Clements Anglican Church with Rev. Godfrey Maweje leading and preaching. Afterwards we had lunch as guests of Rev. Ken and Sandi Pawluk at the Selkirk Golf Course Club House. Then we visited their new apartment where they moved into after selling their house.

After the visit we drove to Matlock where we enjoyed a feast of fresh pickeral fish for supper hosted by Wendy and Dave along with the fellowship of my three nieces Karen, Wendy, and Carla as well as some of their families. It was so good to see them after us being away from Canada for over five years. Well done with the fish fry, Dave. Yesterday and this morning Elisha attended the beach community club events with about forty other children for a time of games and sports. In the evening he joined them again for a movie night. It was a hot day whereby during late afternoon most of the family spent several hours by the lake swimming and cooling off while visiting. Elisha went in swimming four times and also used a small children's kayak to paddle around the edge of the waterfront. He also has been allowed to use one of Dave and Wendy's bicycles he rides confidently. I had better go and fetch Elisha as he will get out of the community morning activities shortly. This afternoon he will spend several hours at his schoolwork. A young lady will come over to help him with his schoolwork. I have brought a complete class set of Primary Five textbooks plus the Ugandan Curriculum guide to help us along the way.

This Tuesday evening Carla hosted us to a fine spaghetti supper while eldest son Travis showed Elisha some fine guitar lessons. Tomorrow morning Elisha will attend his last community club events before having his final tutoring from our friend, Ella. I wish we could take her with us to continue his tutoring. The Lord will provide, I'm sure. After tutoring we will head for Winnipeg for an overnight sleep and then drive to Gilbert Plains, Manitoba Thursday morning and will be staying at our friends Bob and Pearl McBride's new farmhouse west of town.

On Saturday August 4th we will attend the burial service of our friend Iona Hamilton's ashes. Her family will be camping in the campgrounds in the valley. Afterwards they are hosting a luncheon at the Legion Hall. This will give us a good opportunity to meet with many friends and supporters of Eagles Wings Children's Village. Sunday August 5th we will be giving a Power Point presentation of EWCV at the First Baptist Church in Dauphin. After visiting with Bob and Pearl we plan to drive to Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan to visit my sister, Gloria Bassett and her family for a few days. From there we will drive to Brandon, good Lord willing to visit with friends and stay with Rev. Jim and Jackie Brown if they are home as we give a presentation at St. Mary's Anglican Church. That will be on Sunday August 12th. We look forward to meeting with our long time friend, Jane Best as well as Loni and Steve Marvin who farm west of Brandon and to meet their four boys.

Here is our agenda depending upon churches and people hosting us:

- 1) Travel from Matlock to Winnipeg to repack Wednesday August 1st.
- 2) Drive to Gilbert Plains, Manitoba to stay with Bob and Pearl McBride. August 2nd.
- 3) Attend burial service in Gilbert Plains for Iona Hamilton Saturday, August 4th.
- 4) Give PP Presentation at Dauphin First Baptist Church Sunday, August 5.
- 5) Leave McBride's for Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan to visit with the Bassett's from Tuesday, August 7th until Saturday, August 11th.
- 6) Drive to Brandon, Manitoba to stay with Rev. Jim and Jackie Brown on Sat. August 11th.
- 7) Power Point Presentation St. Mary's Anglican Church on Sunday August

- 7) Power Point Presentation St. Mary's Anglican Church on Sunday August 12th.
- 8) Visit with Marvin's Tuesday /Wednesday August 14/15?

We have no plans after the 12th August other than giving a presentation in September sometime at Oak Bluff Community Church as well as at Blumenort Mennonite Church while staying with our friends, Walter and Marilyn Dyck at Rosetown if they will have us during September. St. George's Anglican church has invited us to give a presentation sometime in September/October. We also have an invitation to visit in Vancouver with our daughter Grace Lee and husband Arthur when convenient for them. Other than that, we will try to arrange to visit whenever invited, good Lord willing. If anyone is going to be away on holidays or can't be there according to our schedule, please contact us by email or phone us using our numbers given at the beginning of this newsletter.

Congratulations go out to Alex Macris and Kendra Orr for their wedding in Greece August 11th. May God bless your special day. We look forward to seeing your wedding pictures.

With Love and appreciation for your support in Christ, Bill, Ann and Elisha.