

Hi from Malawi! I (Mark) just got home from an incredible day at work. We broke ground for a brand new 4500 square foot pediatric ward today! A group from Whittier Area Community Church (www.wacc.net/gi_events_Malawi.html) was in Malawi to witness the beginning of construction on the ward. Check out the link to see the story of their generosity! We had over 200 people at the clinic at 7:30 this morning for the ceremony. It is an exciting time when new projects begin. Look forward to sending you some pictures of progress.

Speaking of progress, Britt is due in 3 weeks and 5 days! We know it is a little girl, but don't have a clue what to name her. She will deliver here in Malawi. We have found a very good Malawian OB/GYN who has a small birthing center about 5 minutes from our house. The experience will definitely be different than Britt is used to – no epidural (ouch!), no nearby NICU, no pediatrician – to name a few things. We are counting on the thoughts and prayers of our friends back at home!

Life in Africa is one of daily challenges and sometimes struggles. Last week, someone came into my office and made off with my laptop and cell phone. Before you ask, nope, I didn't back up. So I lost 2 1/2 years of work. And I lost a bit of my sense of security here. Now I spend my days locking doors, looking behind me, and not trusting many people. Not the way I want to live. I am busy trying to recreate the work I had done.

Hope this finds you doing well and in good health. Please keep my dad in your prayers. He was diagnosed with Lou Gehrig's disease this summer and is having difficulty with breathing and getting around. I was able to go and spend some time with my parents in September and had a great visit. It was a surprise visit for them – that was fun!

We have joined the 21st century and have our own website! Please check out www.boersmamalawi.com. There is a link to a cool YouTube video my brother did this summer for us. Worth watching. We update the website a couple of times a week, so bookmark it and stop by from time to time.

Tsalani Bwino! ("stay well")

Mark Boersma for Britt, Kelley Grace, Jackson, and a player to be named later!