



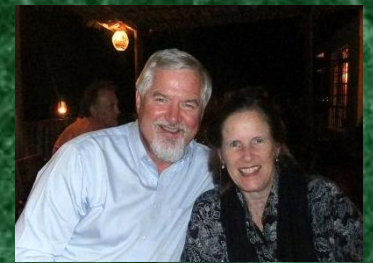
JACOBSON CHRISTMAS 2011

Dear Friends and Family,

A wonderful year indeed. It has been marked by so many blessings and so much excitement. Our daughter Laura, married James Wu on July 3rd in New York City! What a wonderful joining together of Tanzanian, American, and Taiwanese cultures. The whole family was then blessed by traveling to Taiwan for a warm and wondrous reception in Taipei.



In and around the planning and celebration of a marriage, Mark and Linda have continued to serve in Tanzania. Mark continues to lead the Arusha Lutheran Medical Centre into new ground as one of the premier health institutions in the country. Highlights have included introducing telemedicine ultrasounds and being approved to start a Surgical Residency. Linda is coordinating the thirty some visiting doctors and students who move through Selian and ALMC plus using her spiritual formation training to assist in the Sexual Abuse and Rape Centre at the hospital. A recent Cancer Conference in Cairo let me speak on the international stage while Linda managed to visit Tahrir Square!



Our kids have been incredible in their scope. Laura finished her Masters of Science in Public Health at Johns Hopkins where Linda and I met, and so her graduation was especially fun. She and James are settled in New York City where she has just been employed by the city Health Department and James is about to begin an MBA at Columbia.



Sarah completed her year's Fulbright Scholarship in Cape Town in June and got back to the US in time for her sister's wedding. Now she is off to Paris for a post Fulbright Fellowship with UNESCO doing research on gender violence.



The youngest, Katherine, is just finished with a semester abroad, where else, in Africa – in the country of Senegal. After Christmas she returns to Brown in Providence for the end of her third year.

We feel particularly blessed to be together as a family this Christmas Season. We have not been together in Tanzania for two years and this year, all of us have been able to come together to share, to laugh, to remember, and to worship the Babe, the Holy Child.

Blessings,

Mark and Linda



Jacobsons with Gramma Jean