

Those Peculiar Johnsons

I Peter 2:9 "...You are God's peculiar people..." • February 2013

No one knows whose womb holds the chief! *African Proverb*

We Go to Jail

Well technically, we have been in prison, not jail, since the middle of last year and even as the New Year has begun. To tell you the truth, we have been in and out of prison and we plan to buy guns. Yes indeed, these are peculiarly new things.

What a blessing to go to prison and then to leave again. Our visits to the prisons have allowed us and the men of our home church, Tasker Street Missionary Baptist Church in Philadelphia, to visit several men in Graterford Prison. It is a high-security prison, and most of the men we have visited have not had a single visitor for over 20 to 25 years. We plan to keep at it, and we plan to buy guns! Lots of guns, if you can believe that!

This zeal for guns comes from a very informative symposium on prison re-entry held at our home church on October 27, 2012, with over 100 attendees. The symposium included a panel of churches, Christian charities, and government- and other civic-minded organizations. The day's activities were filled with people who wanted to know how they can better serve incarcerated people and their families. Our prison visits are becoming a habit, and we will soon involve the church youth group and the church women.

Again, our plan is to buy guns! We want to buy guns and get them off the streets of Philadelphia. We have established a specific account for this purpose. Please give to the Out of Nazareth Ministry so we can help those behind prison walls as well as their families.

With your help, we will raise at least \$50,000 to buy guns and trade them in for food and other purchase vouchers. Secure online giving is available at www.wgm.org/gunbuyback.

As of December 2012, we have incorporated and are presently applying for tax-exempt status for Miriam Medical Clinics. We hope to offer healthcare to the underserved and many who may feel "undeserving" in the Philadelphia Metropolitan area. We are negotiating with builders, contractors, and potential employees, the objective being to open by summer of 2013. We plan a sliding-scale payment plan. This will require

everyone to pay for care according to their ability, based upon their documented income and resources. Please pray with us that we will find favor with churches, donors, the government, and individuals to make this happen. Also, please join us as we now start to reach within our city to make Christ known through the ministry of healthcare. **We need at least \$80,000 to get started here, which includes Electronic Medical Records and retrofitting and outfitting the building. You can give online at www.wgm.org/miriam.**

The Least of These Ministry continues in Kenya. It is our pleasure to continue to provide education for orphans and vulnerable children in Kenya. Already in 2013, you have given toward the \$20,000 required for the first of three school terms to help us educate young men and women in high school and beyond. They all have continued to work hard, making every effort to make you proud and thank you for your support. The best way to break the cycle of poverty is through education. Pictured below is Robyn Moore of World Gospel Mission, Julius Mwalimu and his sister Mary who assist along with Anthony (not pictured here), and the most recent graduates from Limuru Agricultural Center. Eleven more students have enrolled. With your help, WGM still helps provide medical and educational assistance to the orphans and orphanages in and around Nairobi.

We will need your help to pay \$30,000 for second- and third-term school fees.



Dear Michael and Kay,

By faith, I want to become a partner in ministry with you.

☐ I will pray for you.

☐ Enclosed is \$ _____ for The Least of These Ministry (Acct. #21183).

☐ Enclosed is \$ _____ for the Philadelphia Gun Buy-Back Program (Acct. #35261).

☐ Enclosed is \$ _____ for the Miriam Medical Clinics (Acct. #35262).

If you prefer to give online, please visit www.wgm.org/michaeljohnson.

Mr./Mrs./Miss/Ms./Rev./Dr. _____

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Make checks payable to World Gospel Mission or complete back of coupon to pay by credit or debit card.
Please fill out this coupon and mail it to World Gospel Mission, P.O. Box 948, Marion, IN 46952.

Time flies when you are having fun! My family and friends gave me an incredibly rich experience with a surprise 60th birthday party this past December. Alicia, our youngest granddaughter, looks on to see if I can blow out these candles myself.



Kay is in school again! She is studying healthcare administration at Eastern University in order to manage the Miriam Medical Clinic. She remains on the “No Fly List” per her pulmonologist because of the persistence of her symptomatic sarcoidosis. However, the medications keep it in check and she is able to sing in the church choir, oversee the many ministries we have in Philadelphia, and assist from afar with the ministries in Kenya.

Elijah continues as a partner in Desert West Surgery and, in his spare time, helps his son, Levi, 6 years old, learn to snowboard and become a karate star! He was recently inducted as a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons. He continues to grow in his depth as a man of Christ.



Christina (a.k.a. Aunt Tina by her several nieces and one nephew) remains busy at Connolly and Associates as an auditor of medical insurance billing. She has been blessed to see her career remain steady in an era of downsizing and layoffs.

Emmanuel and Talisi are both busy raising their three daughters: Tyra, 10 years old; Kaylee, 3 years old; and Alicia, 1 year old; and working full-time jobs. Talisi works as a family counselor in Philadelphia; and Emmanuel works in sales with Verizon and is a full-

time student at Temple University, studying political science and English. They have proven themselves to be faithful and godly parents.

Keturah is a full-time student at Drexel University, studying hospitality management. She often attends church with Kay and me and helps us in some of the projects and outreaches for Christ.

We were blessed to be surrounded by all four grandkids this Christmas. Levi seems a bit undone surrounded by all of these girls!



I continue in my role as Medical Director for Hope Pregnancy in Philadelphia. Please pray as we promote life over choice. Also pray for me as I continue to work to maintain my credentials in medicine and surgery in order to be ready as we open our new clinic in



Philadelphia. Thank you for all you do to help us do what we are called to do.

In Christ,

Michael, for all of those Peculiar Johnsons



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Please charge \$_____ to my credit card listed above on the 25th of each month for my monthly commitment to WGM. By signing the form above, I hereby give WGM authorization to charge the amount I have designated, once a month, to my credit card or debit card. This authorization is to remain in full force and effect until WGM has received notification from me of its termination.

All gifts to WGM are tax-deductible to the full extent allowed by law. Contributions are solicited with the understanding that WGM has complete control over the use of all donated funds. It is our policy that all gifts designated for a specific project be used toward that project. If we receive more funds than needed for a project, the extra funds will be applied toward a similar pressing need. WGM is a member of the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability (ECFA) and Missio Nexus (formerly CrossGlobal Link and The Mission Exchange).