



Kristi TenClay

MISSIONARY – SERVING MISSIONARY FAMILIES



FEBRUARY 2025

A NEW YEAR = NEW ADVENTURES

Praises

- I am SO thankful for beautiful times shared with individuals in the churches I have been able to visit so far!
- Safety in travel.

Prayer

- Continued safety in travels and the ability to 'finish well' this chapter of life and ministry.
- God's guidance and peace through this continuing transition.

“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD.

JEREMIAH 29:11A (NIV)



What a blessing to share New Year's Eve with one of the few families that I get to enjoy on both sides of the ocean! (The Noren's also serve at RFIS.)

Wow, 2025! Do any of the rest of you remember when the class of 2000 started primary school and they were given “Future Class of 2000” T-shirts? I remember thinking that the year 2000 sounded so incredibly distant. Remember the Y2K panic? Somehow 2025 SOUNDS futuristic – the Jetsons, Star Trek, and WAY past the hoverboards, self-tying shoes, and drones of the *Back to the Future* franchise's version of 2015. (And yes, I will admit to going back and rewatching it in October 2015

and laughing with friends about how crazy some of its predictions were and how insane it seemed that others were accurate.) Time marches on – maybe not as we expect or as we might predict, but always forward and, thankfully, in the hands of our good God.



RFIS Prayer Chapel and garden circa 2011(?).

It is with both joy and sadness that I share with you my upcoming separation from the North American Baptist International Missions Department. Though it has been clear for quite some time that my chapter at Rain Forest International School had come to a close, there were still



many questions regarding the great “What’s Next?” and what role the NAB may hold in that. Though I will remain on staff (and on support) through the end of my home assignment in June 2025, it has become increasingly clear that my next chapter will be elsewhere. I greatly appreciate and covet your continued prayers as this page turns and God reveals the details of his next chapter for me.

I have never been one for New Year’s resolutions, but I do appreciate the sort of ‘built-in’ opportunity each new calendar year presents to pause and reflect on what God has been doing. Plus, with such a big change looming on the horizon, you can probably imagine that I have done a lot of reflecting and dreaming. What DO I really want in this next chapter? I’m not talking about specific jobs or possessions or accomplishments, but more in terms of who I want to be and what I desire regardless of those things. I sat down at one point in January to make a list and thought I would share that journey with you. Please recognize that I am still working through these, and God still has work to do in me! These are just a raw reflection of that question at this moment in time. (Hopefully the coming year will provide the opportunity to refine these as I filter them more clearly through the lens of Scripture.)

- I long to contribute meaningfully to and experience true community.
- I desire to share deep thoughts and profound wondering while learning continually.
- I want to recognize, appreciate, and create beauty – to bask in the glory of creation, recognizing God’s hand in its order and chaos.

- I aspire to live in constant recognition and awareness of the many ways God is working that “no mind can conceive” (1 Corinthians 2:9) and that go beyond “all we ask or imagine” (Ephesians 3:20).
- I long to wake up with purpose and lay down each night knowing that someone or something has benefitted from my actions that day and that I have truly sought to glorify God.
- I want to be able to truly listen with humility, to act with wisdom, and to speak with authority.
- I yearn to honor God, to seek justice, and to somehow reflect even the tiniest glimpse of his light and warmth into this dark world.

I have a long way to go, as I think we all do, but what encouragement there is in realizing that it isn’t a journey to be accomplished through my own strength. Blessings, my friends!



Meet Precious . . . my new furry friend. 😊

Kristi TenClay

412 COLORADO AVE NW, ORANGE CITY, IA 51041, UNITED STATES
TENCLAYK@GMAIL.COM | NABONMISSION.ORG/MISSIONARIES/KRISTI-TENCLAY

