

2 0 1 2 S U M M E R Q U A R T E R

the WALSTON family

A FIRST YEAR REPORT ON JOURNEY AS A SEMINARY FAMILY



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www.walstonfam.blogspot.com

**11c Founders Way
St. Louis, MO 63105**

817-874-0983 (B-cell)

bawalston@gmail.com



✘ One Year Down ✘

It is hard to believe that it has already been a year since we packed up our life in Ft. Worth, bid farewell to family and life long friends and made the transition to St. Louis and the Seminary life. In reflecting on the past year and all that has transpired, one word comes to mind, promise! This word is one that I have been looking at extensively in my studies thus far in school and also in our new life in a new town with new friends. God is faithful to His promise to always lead and always shepherd His sheep that listen to His voice. I am learning day by day how important The Promise (the gospel) is in dealing with the very real struggles and pain that come with life. Jesus himself reminds his disciples in John 16 that this life will be filled with disappointment, hurt, struggle and pain. After Jesus says all this he throws in a great big BUT, "But take heart, I have overcome the world." The Promise reorients us back to the one who has entered into our frame work and into our broken world and through pain, struggle, suffering and death overcame it all in His resurrection! This is a huge Promise to those who listen and follow the voice of the Good Shepherd.

Current Needs:

- **Prayers** for continued strength, wisdom and endurance
- **Letters of Encouragement** as we begin year 2 in this four year process
- **Care packages** with groceries and fresh produce
- **Gift cards** to Walmart /Target
- **Ongoing support** for monthly expenses including healthcare and groceries.
- Financial gifts to cover underfunded **Summer Tuition Expenses**
- **Quarterly gifts** for tuition, fees and books sent to Concordia Seminary Advancement at 1-800-822-5287 or adoptastudent@csl.edu

Blessings in Uganda

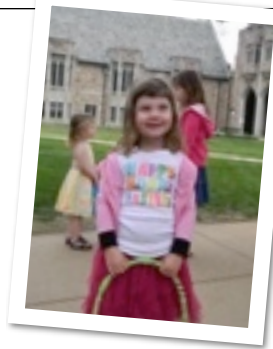
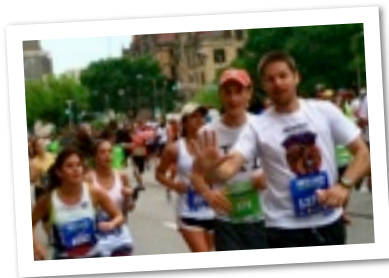
At the end of May I had the incredible opportunity to travel to Central Uganda with two friends and brothers from Seminary on a two week mission. While in country we were able to build relationships with the people of the Ntutti and surrounding tribes, work with and train local pastors and church elders, work with the students training at African Hospitality Institute (AHI), repair water wells, mud homes and schools, and enjoy the beauty and culture of the “Pearl of Africa”. It was encouraging to see the ministry which is ongoing in that region long after the three of us came home but it was equally encouraging to know that the partnership opportunity is long term. Quality pastoral training is a real need in this remote area of the country and the pastors there are eager for us to return.

Below you can read more about the region and the ministries which we partnered with during our time there. Words cannot express my gratitude and thanks for everyones support and encouragement for this mission. Please know that the people there are incredibly grateful for the gifts which we were able to share and send many thanks and prayers for their brothers and sisters in Christ back in the United States.

EKITANGAALA RANCH: AFRICAN HOSPITALITY INSTITUTE

Nine million Ugandans live on less than \$1 a day, and most of these belong to households depending on subsistence agriculture. Uganda is also plagued by health problems including high rates of malaria, HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, malnutrition and infant and maternal mortality. African Hospitality Institute Vocational Training and Guesthouse is located 70 miles north of Kampala on Ekitangaala Ranch, a working dairy ranch owned and operated by Cornerstone Development Uganda. AHI was created in 2002 to provide vocational training to chronically poor and vulnerable youth; preparing them for employment in the growing tourism and hospitality industries in East Africa. Students are admitted without regard to race, gender, or religion. Tuition and salaries are sponsored by generous donations of individuals and organizations. While at AHI students experience unity and teamwork in a caring community, build hope for the future by learning valuable restaurant, hotel and domestic skills, develop practical communication and leadership skills, and receive assistance in securing future employment. AHI is a restorative community committed to following Jesus; bringing hope and opportunity through the sacred practice and vocational training of hospitality skills. AHI promotes the dignity of man, respect for individuals and the freedom to make life choices in a community of trust, grace and peace.





Summer

If there is one thing that is true about Seminary it is that each quarter has its own pace and rhythm, and summer is no different. Experiencing our first summer in St. Louis has been fun and exciting. With Bobby only taking two classes at a time and Angie not teaching at Maryville it means that our family routine is quite different than the rest of the year. Bobby is working everyday on campus at two different jobs and Angie maintains her work at The Parenting Center doing online classes while being a full-time stay at home mom. But the most exciting aspect of summer has been the discovery of the community pool in Clayton. It is a great way for the girls to play outside even during oppressive heat days!



The Dynamic Duo: Maddie & Cady

This June our youngest daughter Cady turned 2 years old and she shows no signs of slowing down! She provides all the fireworks we can handle. She is starting to string together words and phrases in her own unique Cadence style. Maddie continues to grow into a sweet, gentle big sister and young lady. She is obsessed with dancing, singing and ballerinas. We hope to get her enrolled in dance classes this fall. We are also exploring pre-schools for her to attend this upcoming school year as well. They both bring us great amounts of joy in life!

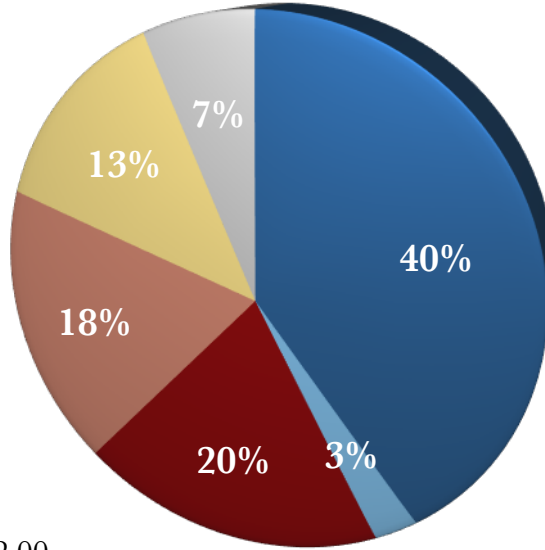
While Bobby traveled to Uganda, the girls and I were able to spend time in Texas with family and friends. Being 'home' is always great and makes it hard to return. It has been a sad few weeks in my world as many of the close friends I have made have packed up and moved onto their calls. I pray that we meet more wonderful people this upcoming year.

Bobby was able to run the St. Louis Half Marathon this spring and continues to run on a regular basis as a de-stressor. As Bobby transitions to more practical and theological classes, he continues to be blessed by the professors and course content. This preparation will be well worth the many sacrifices as we enter the mission field.



2011-12 Seminary Expenses

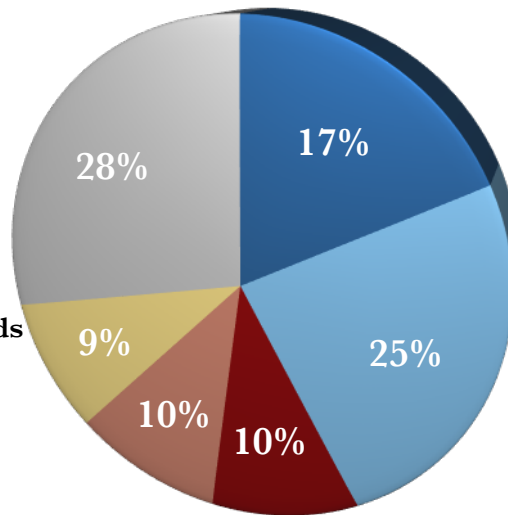
- Tuition and Fees
- Books and Supplies
- Medical Insurance and Expenses
- Rent and Utilities
- Food and Household
- Other



Budget for 2011-2012 was \$75,802.00
 **current underfunded needs for Summer are
 5,473.00**

2011-12 Funding Sources

- Loans
- Seminary Grants/Adopt a Student Funds
- District and Congregational Support
- Outside Scholarships
- Personal Gifts
- Work Salaries



Estimated Budget for 2012-2013 is
 \$82,804.00

Deepest Thanks:

- LCMS Texas District
- Lin Charles Pfluger
Scholarship Fund
- B.M. Waltman Foundation
- St. Michael Lutheran
Church (LaGrange, TX)
- Saint Peter Lutheran
Church and LWML
(Bowie, TX)
- St. Paul Lutheran Church
LWML and Congregation
(Fort Worth, TX)
- Faith Lutheran Church
LWML and Congregation
(Homer, AK)
- The Phillip Deighton
Foundation
- Mr and Mrs Herbert
Michael
- Brinkman Living Trust
- Mr. Gorlyn Bronstad
- Sue Meland
- Brad Meland
- Greg and Kathy Walston
- Paul Walston
- Bob and Eley Walston
- Bill and Bernice Scott
- The Harling Family
- The Mueller Family
- The Deirker Family
- The Davis Family
- The Mazar Family
- The Angeley Family
- The Irving Family
- The Havis Family
- A **VERY GENEROUS**
Anonymous Donor

Ways to Contribute

ONGOING SUPPORT

We continue to appreciate ongoing support for monthly expenses, especially during the summer.

Financial Gifts

DELIVERY OPTIONS

1. Checks sent to our St. Louis address
1. Direct Deposit Wells Fargo or Bank of America (we will provide account numbers)
1. PayPal account transfer (bawalston@gmail.com)

**We will be providing quarterly updates through email (or mail).
 Please email us at bawalston@gmail.com to be added to our list.**