



Russ & Beth White

Tenwek Hospital
March 20, 2024

With our third son, Peter, and his wife Caitlin we welcome their firstborn and our fifth grandson, **Eli Christopher White**, born on March 8!



Eli is Russ's middle name, after his paternal great uncle. *Christopher* is Caitlin's dad. Eli looks remarkably like both parents!



Eli, who is part Irish from both parents, was due on St Patrick's Day!



Eli turned 1 week and the younger twins, Henry and Evan, turned 6 months on March 15!



Post-Ops

Little **Egan**, who had a repair of his heart defect, is very slowly beginning to wake up! Please keep praying!





Baby **Shawn**, who was brought in as a newborn for a coarctation repair like our son Peter (whose baby, Eli, has no signs of any heart defects!), has been recuperating in the NICU for several weeks. He has recovered from a severe pulmonary infection as a result of being a premature surgery patient. He is now on just low flow oxygen, is breastfeeding and gaining weight, and will hopefully go home next week! Oh, how glad we are that they got him transferred to Tenwek in time!



Tiffany had a long road to recovery and was on the vent for a while...



and after that she had to have management for chronic lung disease issues...



but she is now happy and going home! The whole team is so thrilled and thankful to God!!



Gloria, post-op with her dad, had two valves replaced this week and is recovering well. She will need extra rehabilitation, as she is still unable to move her right side or talk after her stroke two years ago.



Esther, 45, is very happy to be feeling better after her valve replacements!



Brittney was finally well enough to be operated on and was already home by Sunday!

Pre-Ops



There are more surgeries than these each week, but here are two we'd like you to pray for!

Nicholas, 32, has a pulsing aneurysm in his neck area. He is a caretaker at an Africa Gospel Church and has been having chest pain and difficulty exerting himself. I heard Russ remind the doctor with us that Nicholas will need to be opened slowly! (to prevent cutting into the bulging blood vessel!)

From Russ: Pre- and Post-Op!



Felix is 13 years old. He lives in Bomet with his mother and father and 7 siblings. The father is a subsistence farmer and recently lost their only cow to disease. Felix is in standard 5. He should be in standard 8, but his health has held him back repeatedly. He is very small for his age. He falls below the zero percentile on the growth chart. We frequently see delayed growth from lack of blood flow and oxygen to the body. He has severe mitral regurgitation and tricuspid

regurgitation and lives in a constant state of tachycardia (rapid heart rate) as his heart tries to keep up with all the blood backing up in the heart. He constantly feels like he is running a marathon!!

At surgery, his heart was huge—essentially coming out of the chest when we opened the sternum and pericardium. We were able to repair both valves without having to place a mechanical valve. This is good since it is unlikely that the family will have the funds to get him the strict followup required for anticoagulation following a valve replacement. He is pictured here 3 days post-op and will go home within the next 2 days. We were able to get NHIF (national health insurance) for him, but his family will depend heavily upon the **compassionate fund**, as they literally have nothing.

Kenyan doctors at all government institutions did start their **strike** last Thursday, and we have begun receiving more patients from hospitals and clinics that have turned them away. Please pray for a peaceful, satisfactory resolution and for the many patients who will suffer from lack of or delayed treatment.



For this reason I kneel before the Father, from whom his whole family in heaven and on earth derives its name. I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith.

Ephesians 3:14-17a

Many patients tell Russ that he will indeed find Christ in their hearts when he opens them for surgery! All of our patients experience His love as they are cared for here. Thank you for your part in caring for these patients!

Russ & Beth

Margaret, still recovering slowly, had a nice smile for us this week!



Reminder!

An anonymous donor has provided us with \$500,000 in matching funds for our CardioThoracic Center (CTC) project at Tenwek Hospital! This means that your tax-deductible donation to the project will be doubled if you are able to give by May 1, so please prayerfully consider giving soon!

Matching Gift Fund - give here

To mail a check, include a note "Tenwek CTC Equipment Fund 125-35270" and mail to:

**Donor Services
World Gospel Mission
PO Box 948
Marion, IN 46952**

Cardiac Compassionate Fund Campaign - give here

Cardiothoracic Training - give here

Visit our Website, Tenwek Hearts

If you would like to be added to our weekly "Prayer Updates" list for more updates like this, or if you have a different address you would prefer us to use, please send a note to Beth.White@WGM.org



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