



PO RIVER
MEDICAL CLINIC

BRINGING THE LOVE OF JESUS
AND QUALITY MEDICAL CARE TO
THE PEOPLE OF LIBERIA



DIANA IS HEADED BACK TO
SCHOOL TO FINISH HER
BACHELORS IN MIDWIFERY



PO RIVER CLINIC IS GETTING AN
INTERN! KASEY WILL BE
ARRIVING IN LIBERIA IN AUGUST



JEN UNDERWENT NECK
SURGERY IN JUNE TO REMOVE A
CYST... SHE IS HEALING WELL

IT'S A GIRL!



It could have been a normal summer... then came Baby Maylynn

AN UNEXPECTED MIRACLE...

On April 28th, while traveling to the States for a 3-month respite, we were happily lost wandering around Tangiers, Morocco when we happened upon a small, hole-in-the-wall café. We drifted in for a mint tea. As we were sipping our tea and enjoying homemade cookies, the owner of the café offered us his WiFi code. We hadn't been able to check our emails or messages since arriving in Tangiers so we took him up on his offer. The first thing I noticed when I logged on was a Facebook message from my friend, Elizabeth, who runs Miriam's Heart, an adoption ministry in New Jersey. She said she wasn't sure how to ask what she wanted to ask and she didn't want to cause any undue pain but, "Are you and Steve open to infant adoption?" I responded with a simple, "Yes," then the more complex, "We're open to anything God puts in front of us... Do you have a baby?" She said, "Yes! And time is of the essence. Baby is due on June 1st!"

**"Now to Him who is able to do
immeasurably more than we can
ask or imagine, according to His
power that is at work within us."
Ephesians 3:20**

We arrived in New Jersey on May 3rd and met the birth family 2 days later. Through a lot of tears, we told our story, they told their story and we started to plan a future for this baby girl. When our initial meeting with the parents was coming to a close, Elizabeth asked the family if they had picked out a name for the baby. Knowing the mother had carried this baby for almost 9 months we asked her what she was thinking. Mom said she really liked the name Maylynn. Steve and I have never been able to agree on a girl's name, and we both immediately liked this one. Elizabeth looked up the name's meaning and found that Maylynn means "Beautiful Warrior." When the meeting was over Steve said, "For the past 8 years I've been praying to God that if He was to bless us with a child that, no matter what, he or she would be a warrior for Christ!"

The month of June was a rollercoaster of emotions, prayers, and a lot of running around in preparation for Maylynn's arrival. The adoption agency made it clear that the chance of getting the home study, background checks, child abuse clearances and paperwork complete before Maylynn's birth would be nearly impossible. They reminded us more than once that interim care for Maylynn, after her birth, was a real likelihood. In the second week of the process the birth mother started having some complications, her amniotic fluid levels were increasing, the baby turned breech, she had a poor stress test. Follow-up appointments with her high-risk OB (obstetrician) were happening every other day. Through prayer the stress tests improved and the fluid levels came back down, but the baby remained breech. The doctor warned the birth mom that Maylynn was probably going to be a May baby. Our window to get everything done seemed to be shrinking rapidly. A C-section was scheduled for May 31st at 2:30pm. By May 29th we were still in need of our FBI background checks, as well as child abuse clearances from Ohio, Virginia and New Jersey. We prayed, made phone calls, anything we could do to try and get everything done. As of 10am on May 30th Virginia, with its new computer system, still couldn't find our paperwork! Then, at 3pm, I got a text from our caseworker that everything was in! Maylynn would be leaving the hospital, upon discharge, with us. Now all we had to do was go to the hospital the next day to be with birth mom for the C-section. Then a few hours later I got another text... "Maylynn was no longer breech, C-section cancelled."

A HEARTFELT REQUEST

This adoption has been the greatest gift but it also presents challenges. The added costs above our budget include:

- Jen and Maylynn living stateside for at least 6 months until finalization
- Need to hire a medical professional to help cover Jen's role in the clinic
- Adoption agency and legal fees which will end up being around \$21,500 in total
- Logistics including fees for changing/purchasing airline tickets and other travel expenses

Please if you could consider helping us with some of these additional costs, we would be most grateful.

We would like to appreciate and thank all those who have already helped us with additional donations of funds, clothes, baby items, living accommodations and hospitality.

THANK YOU SO MUCH!!!!

Maylynn was born via induction on June 5, 2018 at 7:40am with Steve and I bedside in the delivery room. We carried Maylynn "home" on June 7th. We have had 2 months with her, as a family. We've been able to bond with her, watch her grow, become alert and smile. We've come to get used to this thing called parenting and found an abundant love for a little girl we didn't even know existed 3 months ago! On August 7th Steve will return to Liberia to manage the clinic operations. Maylynn and I will remain in New Jersey for the next 6 months until the adoption is finalized and all three of us can head to Liberia.

God has answered every single prayer request we have given Him in this process. We are astounded by His love and faithfulness. He is writing every word of our life story, and we are enjoying the adventure!

ALL DONATIONS TO THE PO RIVER MEDICAL CLINIC ARE TAX-DEDUCTIBLE. Commission To Every Nation (CTEN) is a recognized 501(c)(3) non-profit organization by the IRS.

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