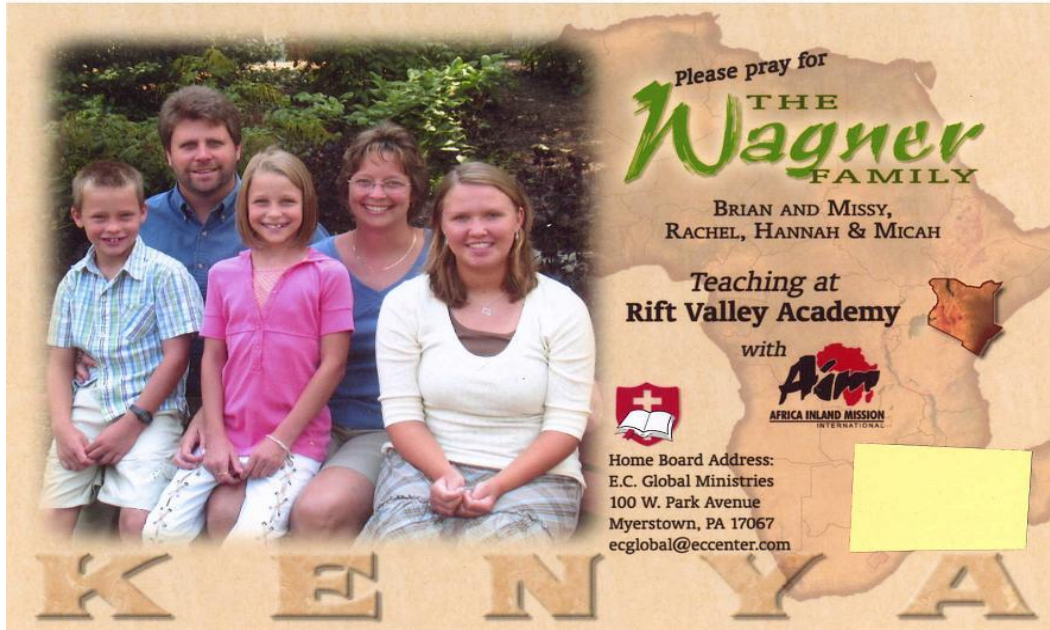




# GLOBAL MINISTRIES COMMISSION

of the Evangelical Congregational Church  
Empowering National Churches • Facilitating Mission Workers • Ministering to the Marginalized



## **Biographical Sketch for Brian and Missy Wagner Serving with the Evangelical Congregational Church and Africa Inland Mission At Rift Valley Academy in Kijabe, Kenya**

Both of us grew up in the EC Church. Missy's family was actively involved in St. Matthew's EC Church in Emmaus. Brian's dad is an EC pastor. Both of us accepted Christ as our Savior during childhood. Although we are not sure when we first met, our lives intersected at Lehigh County Christian Endeavor events and at Twin Pines where we both served on the summer staff for several years.

We both attended Messiah College where Brian graduated in 1990 with a BA in Mathematics and a PA Teaching Certificate. Missy graduated the following year with a BS in Elementary Education and a PA Teaching Certificate. We were married in May 1991 and lived in the Harrisburg area for the next six years. During that time period, we were actively involved in the Wyndamere Heights EC Church in Lewisberry as youth leaders. We also had the opportunity to lead youth mission trips to Jamaica and Kenya.

Prior to getting married, we both felt clearly called to missions and after we were married, we continued to work towards preparing to go to the mission field. Because of our background in teaching and our love of working with children, it seemed obvious that God was calling us to be involved in the education of missionary children. Thus we used these years to complete Master's degrees that would allow our teaching certifications to become "permanent". Brian completed a Masters in Mathematics at Penn State and Missy completed a Masters in Reading at Millersville.

It was then time to move to Rift Valley Academy, a boarding school in Kenya primarily serving children of missionaries. God provided in great ways as we began official preparations to leave for RVA in February 1997. We arrived at RVA as brand new missionaries in July 1997.

Since we have been at RVA, we have served in a wide variety of roles as is typical for most everyone at RVA. Together, one of our primary responsibilities for the past 11 years has been dorm parents for the youngest group of boarding students in the 2<sup>nd</sup> through 4<sup>th</sup> grade dorm. Brian has regularly taught AP Calculus and been the mathematics department chair. He has also served as the IT Manager and been the Internal Coordinator for the Accreditation process. Missy has more recently served as a student support teacher, particularly for ESL students, and as the elementary admissions coordinator.

Our three children have grown up knowing Kenya as their home. Rachel (1995) was born in Harrisburg but really has only known life in Africa, as we moved there when she was almost two. Both Hannah (1999) and Micah (2001) were born at the local hospital in Kijabe, Kenya. Except for furlough years, they have spent their entire lives in Kenya.

As we have consistently experienced God's faithfulness to our family, a key Bible verse for us has been:

Lamentations 3:22-24 "Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. I say to myself, 'The Lord is my portion; therefore I will wait for him.'"

We feel incredibly privileged to work with the students and the families of Rift Valley Academy. It is truly a unique place with fantastic students. Working at RVA allows us to impact the world for Christ as our involvement with their children supports the work of missionaries in more than 20 countries throughout Africa.

More information on Rift Valley Academy is available at the school website at <http://www.rva.org>. Current updates and other information on our family are available at our blog site <http://bwagner.aimsites.org>.