

# Newsletter «Our kids in Africa»

No4

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## Spring mood

With the arrival of spring the life around us renews and again we are in for a rainy season. The people are out in the fields and orchards and the nature around us is blossoming.

Our Lord, the created of all new things, throughout this time has opened great doors of new opportunity. The Lord brings new members to our church and the children's home.



### There is no greater joy...

The life of a missionary is always filled with adventures, projects, and social work with various segments of the population. But all of this would not be of great value to us as Christians, if the great commission of the Lord was not fulfilled. Our main goal is to bring people the true Gospel without damage and to teach them how to live with Christ and serve Him. Therefore, the water baptism came to be the most important part of our ministry for the church and our team.

On May 10<sup>th</sup>, eight individuals entered into a covenant with the Lord. They were all coming from different backgrounds of live: a woman from a Muslim family, an orphan, a former prostitute, and a few of those who have realized that baptism



in childhood was not a conscious decision and have decided to fully devote themselves to God. Prior to water baptism they all attended the preparation classes and passed examinations.



In this culture the vast majority consider themselves to be Christians but their life does not resemble their declaration. We were challenged to explain to the people that water baptism was not simple a tradition but rather a conscious, personal decision with consequences, responsibilities and blessings.

Water baptism became a significant event for our community. Many guests came to the service and the local children gathered to see what the strange circular doobrie



with water was for. placed the swimming pool directly in the church courtyard. All the peopled with great interest watched the process of water baptism and for many it was the first swim in life not including an evening shower. Colorful bouquets of flowers and a Bible were gifted to the baptized who became new members of the church of Christ. After the water baptism a feast with meat awaited all church members and quests.

At times it is very difficult for missionaries, yet in such moments we realize that it worth it and we believe that God will continue to rescue and save souls and His Church will strengthen and grow here in Kenya.

#### Educational Progress



this time with God's help, we were able to accomplish the work with our team alone. We received financial blessing and were able to purchase all the necessary supplies for bathing. All of our children showered, had medical examination and received the needed medical treatment. Also, they received basic body care such as ear cleaning, cleaning and trimming of fingernails, applied body cream after shower and put on a fresh set of garments.

This event brought great delight and followed with sea of deeply positive emotions from both the children and our team. The following day our young students again went on a search for new knowledge.

The children continue to bring us great joy with their educational progress. We are receiving good news from Challenge Farm. Challenge Farm is a specialized school for street children where currently 7 of our boys are studying. They all have very high performance ratings in school. The students in our children's home also continue to improve with each trimester.

The Middle school continues to be in session. After summer break, before the classes came into session, we have carried out the necessary "Operation majdodyr" - washing children. Usually we shower the children when we have a large group of guests since that way we have extra help, however,



## And again with addition us!



It has been almost year since. Tumme has joined children's home. Tumme is our youngest and is the last child to ioin Tumme us. has grown and quickly adopted and now two little brothers Viktor

(Kisike) and Walter, name after their tribe. Now we have three little refugees we have brought from Turkana desert. Mother of the two boys passed away while being pregnant with the fourth child. Victors and Lukolis grandmother was left behind in the desert since she was not able care for and feed the boys take boys it was decided that they would go to the children's home.

Volter is 5 years old and is older than Victor who is not even 3 years old yet. At the moment the boys are adapting to the schedule and to

other children who live here with us. Volter already attends school. Volter is challenged at schools because he only knows the language of the Turkana tribe but despite the language barrier he is holding up well. By his own initiative Valter is simultaneously attending two classes. We are pleased to say that



he is already answering questions during his

English class. Vitor is enjoying life in the children's home learning to speak and also to eat food with a spoon.



#### Clinic news



The poorest segments of the population visit our clinic those who cannot afford to go to a public hospital, or even purchase their medications. Many of our patients live in slum of the Kipsongo region.

The poor conditions of life negatively affect this population. Living in such a dirty place, without a sustainable income, the people often lead an immoral way of life and suffer of illnesses. A few years ago, people lived here literally in cardboard boxes. Despite their poor living conditions and ungodly lifestyle, the Lord spreads His mercy and love over these tribes. In late April, together with our friends and partners in ministry, Francine Lebel-Carruthers and David Nyahanga, we vis-



ited our regular patients and their families. We are thankful to God to have had the opportunity to help provide food and medical aid.

In early May, we went to Pokot to offer mobile clinic services. We were greeted with drums, dancing and singing, as praise to God. In the beginning it was a bit difficult because of the language barrier, as the people of that area speak the language Pokot, but God resolved that issue. The workers from a small local medical station, who knew a little English and Swahili, joined our clinic.



The main diseases in this region are brucellosis and urinary tract infection. These diseased are prominent because these people consume unfilled water,



blood and raw milk. Since the water resource is very limited in this region the people are not familiar with personal hygiene. In addition, the people



are not able to laundry their clothing since the only pair of clothing they have is the one they are wearing. Quite often we are alarmed by a strong cough, especially in children, because of the variation in the air temperature. During the day it is very hot and dry, and during the night it is cool and very humid.

At the end of the clinic, we



were treated to lunch. We were very surprised with the serving sizes!!! One portion would be enough to feed our team in Kitale!

After sunset, we set up a project and since there was no electricity we used a generator as a power source. A crowd of people gathered as we prepared to screen the film "Jesus". Many of those that came were amazed and perhaps puzzled, questioning how they can see people moving on the white sheet that is hanging in the air.

#### An Easter to Remember!



Each year the entire Christian community awaits the celebration of Easter. Easter is a special time for reflection, remembrance and gratitude. The price that Jesus paid is priceless for He laid down His life for us to give us hope and a future. On this day we remember not only His death but the power of His resurrection. We waited and prepared for

this wonderful holiday. In preparation for the holiday the children memorized poems, the youth rehearsed a play, and others planned the holiday service program, arranged decor, and prepared refreshments for the reception.

The weather took an unusual turn and during our final preparations the rain began to pour, followed by a strong wind. The tent in which 10 children and three adults were staying could not withstand water weight and began to fall down. All the children quickly escaped the collapsing tent; however, unfortunately one of the ladies was struck by an iron pipe. We quickly rescued her, but we were worried for her wellbeing, we were afraid of serious internal damage. Part of our team was returning home and due to the



heavy rain they had to pull over to the side of the road. As soon as they pulled the car over to the side of the road one of their tire's deflated.

We began to

search for a vehicle to transport the injured woman to the hospital. People in the community did not volunteer their automobile because they were not willing to take the risk during



the storm. The fallen trees and poles blocked our road as we drove to the hospital. When we finally arrived we found the hospital to be crowded with many severely injured individuals and we were e in for a long wait time before we would be admitted. Our ride home was on the extreme side to say the least. At home we gathered around the fireplace to keep warm and thanked our God for keeping us safe. We were all alive and safely together.

After the storm the following morning it was Easter - no poems, no plays and no refreshments. It did not go as we had planned, but the Lord had His own ultimate plan. "Christ is Risen!" – said the preacher, whose father-in-law was hospitalized with severe injuries from the storm. Yet indeed Christ is Risen! His resurrection is about our circumstances, and He is able to give us strength to overcome all! The church in simplicity worshiped and thanked the Lord for His salvation and resurrection and in the middle of the platform stood a cross. The cross was a symbol that Christ should be the centerpiece of our hearts. God desires to be in our hearts no matter what circumstances or storms that may be in our life.

P.S. Our sister that was injured is feeling well and has fully recovered. Our loving Father took care of the tents that were destroyed in the storm. We received a warm financial donation and soon our children will be able to study in a new classroom building.

Our plans and needs



We are still in need of strong, courageous and wise men of God! Our team is currently left with only one man, and there is plenty of work that the fragile shoulders of a woman cannot bear. We need God's guidance in working with the children of the streets. We also ask for prayers for our

dear Tumme. Tumme's was affected by AIDS and tuberculosis and lately her hearing has declined dramatically, and she is suffering from heart problems.

