

## 2018 Caring for Kenya News and Notes

In July we visited and encouraged families and six Caring for Kenya congregations. Dan Goodyear of Sunset International Bible Schools met with the preachers and traveled with us for a week. Sunset provided solar players to the preachers that included an audio of the entire Bible, 45 Bible courses, and Gospel singing. He encouraged the preachers in their own spiritual growth and challenged them to re-dedicate themselves to the task of bringing people to Christ. At the Caring for Kenya Mission Center we were able to meet with church leaders, coop. groups, and share meals and fellowship with Kenyan brothers and sisters.



We were pleased to have the opportunity to meet with 55 of our 65 sponsored students. We visited with students about their studies, challenges, and goals and took their pictures for their U.S. sponsor. We continue to be convinced that the education we are helping them to complete has the potential to be life changing. Since 2008 we have helped 470 students graduate from secondary school. Many of our graduates have been able to obtain scholarships for a college education. We had the opportunity to visit several schools where we have connections with either teachers or students. The

church sponsored Kavonge Primary Academy has grown to include four classrooms serving 50 students with a goal of adding two more classrooms in 2019. In December, the Kavonge congregation hosted a youth Bible camp with 200 young people. Eight people commented their lives to Christ and were baptized.

Again we were able to provide medical supplies for Celestine's medical clinic at Nzawa. We met with women's coop groups at Tulia and Nzawa. We have provided a grant to help start a used clothing coop for the group at Nzawa. For 2019 we discussed starting a chicken raising coop and establishing a community garden at Tulia on our school property. The community garden would include building a fence to keep free grazing animals out of the garden. Both the chicken coop and community garden would provide a way for us to equip and empower families to help themselves.



While in the Tulia area we read water meters to determine that our Tulia Global Grant Water Project (3 wells 7 kiosks plus water piped to three schools and 32 residents) has provided 53,420,000 liters of water to over 15,000 people in 3 ½ years! We say “give water give hope give life”. We truly hope that “first the water, then the living water” is the result of the water projects.



At Masaani and Zombe we held community dedications of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Global Water Grant and conducted sustainable agriculture workshops utilizing the new water sources. This Rotary, Caring for Kenya, and Healing Hands International partnership involved wells at four Caring for Kenya communities (Nzawa, Kithumula, Masaani, and Zombe) and is projected to serve 26,000 people and 20,000 cows and goats. The project includes four wells, five kiosks, and a livestock watering station. In a short period of time the Nzawa and Kithumula wells

have already provided over one million liters of water. This project includes solar power at three of the wells. We visited three schools where the clean water had been piped to their property.

To get an idea of the impact of the water projects we are sharing some quotes from our Kenyan brothers and sisters. **Erastus said**, “The project has saved a lot of time with people moving shorter distances to get water. The health of both people and animals has improved now that clean water is available. People feel blessed by the people who did this project. May God bless the donors!” **Justus Mutua commented**: “The community views the project as a miracle from God. The hope of water... the thought of water... the presence of water has lifted the spirits of the community during this time of extreme drought.” The clean water has changed their lives!” **Eunice Mutumwa** had been getting water from a shallow well. She said, “This clean water means my five children are no longer getting amoeba parasites, typhoid, and tapeworms. Thank you. May God bless those who did this so they can continue to help more people.” **Helen Mumane said**, “I thank God for giving the donors the desire to help this community. May God continue to bless the donors to reach other people.” **Nzawa Water Committee member Joseph Muinda said**, “I say thank you for talking your time and coming here. We have a problem of poverty... lack of resources, arid conditions, and lack of water. May you understand our joy when you brought us clean water. We consider this like a dream! May God give you strength and finances to do more projects.” **Kithumula Water Committee member Alfred Mwanzia said**, “Water is life. It is important to have clean water. We had been getting water from the river and that contaminated water caused disease. We are happy to get clean water. We say thank you for the heart to help us.”



**Justus Vundi, father of 2 young children said,** “This water project will impact people who aren’t even born yet. The success of this project and long term benefits of the project will bring other projects and community improvements. The project is bringing an attitude of hope for the future... that life can be better for our children!”

We have continued to teach composting, construction of raised planting beds, and drip irrigation in our Survival Gardening Workshops. The impact of agriculture training can be summed up by **Timothy’s comments,** “What you have taught us is more valuable than money. This training will not only impact us but also our children and our grand children.”



During our trips to Kenya, we learn of the hours spent walking to the nearest water source and the illnesses caused by drinking contaminated water (dysentery, worms, typhoid, and parasites). We see the hunger and malnutrition caused by drought induced crop failures. We know of the many children who are unable to attend school because of illness and lack of funds for school fees.

We are thankful for people like you who are willing to help us share God’s love through meeting the physical needs for food, water, health care, and education. Through meeting these physical needs we create the opportunity to also meet their spiritual needs.

