



March, 2012

We have trained 12 preachers through Nairobi Great Commission School. We have 10 congregations. The churches continue to grow spiritually and through the addition the men and women to the Lord's Kingdom. This June we will meet with the church leaders and Gary Masters will be teaching lessons on leadership development. We will be visiting and encouraging the congregation as well as looking at ways we can help them grow. We will be seeking opportunities to start and conduct Bible studies. During our congregational visit will be providing dresses for little girls and notes from young people in American to children in Kenya.

Health Care

We are continuing to assist Celestine with her clinic and James with the mobile medical clinic by providing medical supplies. We are working on a plan to take a medical team in June to that will include at least a surgeon and a nurse. We will be doing exams, treatment, some surgeries, teaching basic health and hygiene, doing eye exams, and providing glasses.

Water Projects

We will be distributing 100 water filters to families that are currently drinking contaminated water. We plan to construct rainwater harvesting systems for schools and churches. We will be working to complete the newly drilled well project by installing the pump, the water storage tank, and the kiosk distribution system. We will be making the arrangements to drill 1-3 additional deep wells. We have had discussions with geologist and well driller Dean Ekberg. He may go to Kenya with us this summer to spot wells and oversee drilling. Caring for Kenya discussions with local Rotary clubs, Healing Hands International, and the Shoeman are focused on partnering together to bring more clean quality drinking water to eastern Kenya.

Food and Agriculture

Sample meal packages from the "Meals from the Heartland" 40 foot container are being lab tested to meet the final requirement to allow the container to be shipped. Our goal is to have the meals available for distribution when we arrive in Kenya in June. We will be encouraging the expansion of the family survival garden projects we have started. We will be planning to establish school and community gardens and set up more village workshops. The new 60 acre plot of land purchased by Healing Hands International near Nairobi will be evaluated as a site for a demonstration farm and learning center. We will be sharing new farming techniques that will help our farmers produce more of their cash crops in the rainy season. Grant proposals in partnership with Healing Hands International are being considered by Monsanto and Cargill. If the grants are funded it would allow the expansion of our agricultural training into 8 African countries over a 5 year period of time. We will know in June whether these grants have been selected.

Education

We continue to provide orphans and children from poor families the opportunity to get a secondary school education. We have 75 student sponsors but we are looking for 10 more sponsors. The first term for these 10 students was paid using unrestricted donations.

When the water well project is completed we will be able to start building our school. During the June trip to Kenya in addition to visiting sponsored students at their secondary school, we hope to be able to distribute food and pencils to primary schools. Also we plan to visit the Made in the Streets school/rescue program(www.made-in-the-streets.org) and the Christian Industrial Training Institute (CITI). Made in the Streets rescues Children living on the streets of Nairobi. They seek to meet physical, emotional and spiritual needs. They equip the teenagers to earn a living and help them become established in a job. CITI is a Nairobi vocational school that teaches many of the skills we plan to include in our school (welding, electric wiring, well drilling, carpentry, motorcycle mechanics, sewing, farming, etc.).

Communnity Development

We are excited about the chicken, rabbit, and milk goat projects Justus Mutua has started in the community. Several cooperatives have been established in goat raising, soap making, sewing, and farming. We plan to teach business principles to these startup business owners. We will be introducing some food processing ideas for new businesses. The processing will add value to the produce and increase income to the farmers. We plan to visit self-help groups started by two other organizations to learn ways to expand the community development program.

501c3 Certification

This week we were notified by the IRS that our 501c3 tax exempt status was confirmed. This official designation will allow us to pursue grant opportunities and funding from other organizations such as service clubs like Rotary. While our focus will not change, increased funding will allow us to share the love of Jesus with more people. To God be the glory.

