## 2021 Caring for Kenya Meeting Needs ... Physical and Spiritual

In spite of all the disruption 2021 has brought worldwide, Caring for Kenya has been able to bless communities in Kenya because of supporters like you. We continue to pray for the end to Covid and the restrictions that it brings. In Kenya most of the Covid positive cases have been in the large cities. In the rural areas of Caring for Kenya the biggest impact of Covid has been financial, loss



of jobs, meaning difficulty in purchasing food, paying for school fees, and providing for other needs. Caring for Kenya provided food relief three times during the year to church families. Early in the year when Covid restrictions prevented gatherings like congregational assemblies,



preachers focused on home study groups. As a result some people from the studies were baptized.

During the pandemic when churches were not allowed to meet, building construction and wall plastering at five churches was able to continue. The Kithumula church building walls have been completed this year. The Nzawa congregation rebuilt their latrine.

Our sponsored students have been able to attend school. Again this year American families and congregations have sponsored the education of 65 secondary school students. In addition to paying school fees, Caring for Kenya has twice provided some assistance with lunches at school.



Funding was received to build the fifth and sixth classroom for the church sponsored Kavonge Primary Academy. Six computers were purchased for teaching computers to 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, & 6<sup>th</sup> graders. Recently money was donated to purchase three sewing machines for the school.

Women will learn to sew and then make school uniforms for the students.

This year Caring for Kenya completed the conversion of our eighth water well to solar power. More solar panels were added to our best well to improve the pumping rate and increase the water in storage tanks





available on cloudy days. Our nine wells provide water for an estimated 46,000 people. Over the years over 300 water filters have been provided for people where clean water is not available.

Caring for Kenya also partnered with the Kavonge community to build three dams across the river as a way of slowing the flow of the water resulting in raising the

water table. Over sixty community members volunteered their labor to the build the dams. The dams will also hold back sand that is used in the dry season to make mortar and concrete in building construction.

The increase of available water helped with the formation of the 120 member fruit tree cooperative. To date 500 fruit trees have been planted along the river. Over the years Caring for Kenya cooperatives have included sewing, soap making, goat raising, and chicken raising. In addition to coops, individuals have been assisted in developing start-up businesses such as market stands, rabbit raising, chicken raising, used clothing sales, farming, etc.



The Nzawa congregation has utilized its land to develop a church/community garden. They harvested 1,000 pounds of onions this year and currently have 8,000 tomato plants growing on two acres.





Kithumula congregation has also started a one

acre church/community garden. Caring for Kenya provided food relief for the Kitui Prison and Community Development Director Justus Mutua hopes to do a survival gardening workshop at the prison. Plans are being developed for a Kavonge church/community garden and fruit tree orchard on land that has been purchased.

In March the church leaders had a three day leadership seminar. Covid food relief plus meeting needs for clean water, health care, and education for children has opened doors and minds to the message of the Gospel.



Caring for Kenya from its beginning has

strived to follow Matthew 25... feed the hungry, give water to the thirsty, cloth those who need clothes, and care for the sick. As we meet physical needs it truly produces opportunities to meet spiritual needs. Thank you for your interest and support of God's work in Kenya.





## **Changing Lives through Education**

In 2021 Caring for Kenya provided funding for 65 secondary school students. Without a secondary school education typically the boys become shepherds and girls become house servants. Education provides hope for their future. Again in 2022 we plan to sponsor 65 students. Day school student sponsorship is \$200/year and boarding school student sponsorship is \$550/year. Let us know if you or a friend would like to be involved in



changing the lives of these young people. The students are orphans or from poor families.

The following are notes of appreciation from a couple of this past year's students.

## From: Matthew Kyalo

I would like to extend my gratitude for your generous contribution to my educational success. I could not have pulled off my secondary school studies without your help. You set the tone for my four year course by helping me achieve grade B+. I had almost given up before you came in my life. Growing up in a less privileged family has not only offered financial and academic challenges but also helped me realize the value of education. You make my stay in school calm by reducing the time I wasted when I was sent home for school fees and by translating all that energy into my studies.

I wish to pursue a bachelor of science in nursing in one of the most reputable universities in Kenya. It is the help of your generosity that is allowing me to begin an education that can propel me to a prosperous career in nursing. Thank you very much for your support and I hope to return the favor in the society if things go well with me.

## From: Gilbert Ngene

It is my pleasure and happiness to take this golden opportunity to write this gratitude letter to you. If has been a long journey since Form 2 when you stated supporting me in my education. I do vividly remember the time I requested for your support, you did not hesitate to offer the support to me.

True to my promise I worked tooth and nail to ensure that the education support I managed to get from you did not go to waste. With God's help and your support I managed to score a grade of B- in year-end exams. May God continue to shower blessing to you as continue touching and changing the lives of many people. If it were not for your help I do not know where I would be now. I am joining the university to pursue a bachelor's degree in pharmacy.

Caring for Kenya Director Carl Burkybile 3508 E. University Ave. Urbana, IL 61802 <u>cwburkybile@gmail.com</u> website: www.caringforkenya.org