

## Give Water: Give Hope: Give Life

In an effort to raise funds for water projects, April 25th was designated as "Give Water: Give Hope: Give Life" Sunday. We have already purchased and shipped 51 water filters and have 35 more filters ready to take on the June trip. As of May 15 congregations and individual families have donated \$30,000 toward drilling of another deep well and completing the Masaani river pumping project. Expanding the supply of clean disease-free water to drink will save lives. Using the water to increase food production will reduce malnutrition resulting in people being healthier and more productive.

## June Trip to Kenya

Plans for the June trip to Kenya are being finalized. Caring for Kenya team members on this trip are Steve & Kathy Clarkson, Johnetta Wilde, Carl & Ruth Ann Burkybile, and Gary & Linda Masters. The trip will include visits to congregations, secondary schools, and Christian families. We will be conducting Bible studies and helping to establish a new congregation. We will be finalizing the master plan for our own secondary school and discussing the potential drilling of a deep well on the school property. One of the Healing Hands International team members has experience drilling water wells. We plan to meet with a well drilling company. The joint "Caring for Kenya" and "Healing Hands International" team will be conducting 5-day hands-on companion workshops in food production and food preservation. Each workshop will have 40 students. The food production participants will learn to make compost piles, manure tea (liquid fertilizer), and raised planting beds. They will install drip irrigation lines prior to planting and then mulching the planting beds. The food preservation participants will learn to use solar dehydration, salt, sugar, oil, & smoke curing, brining, pickling, fermenting, and high acid canning. By preserving excess food from the rainy season crop and learning to grow more food during the dry season the people will have a more stable food supply.



Our initial response to the famine conditions was to provide food for the hungry. Next the "Food for Work" program used famine relief funds to pay people to make bricks to build schools and church buildings. The money they earned made it possible for them to purchase food for their family.

Long-range famine relief involves teaching people how to improve food production and to preserve the surplus. Long-range famine relief also includes establishing community development projects like fruit tree nurseries, chicken raising cooperatives, and grain milling cooperatives. Mini-loans will help establish these projects. One of our preachers, Justus Mutua, is currently being trained in community development at the university. We expect him to provide leadership and vision to communities we serve.



Another part of our long-range plan involves drilling another deep well. This well will provide water for our secondary school and the surrounding community. The dependable water source on the school property will help us develop a demonstration farm that will include raised planting beds, drip irrigation, soil conservation techniques, and other sustainable agriculture practices. Also we plan to demonstrate chicken, goat, and rabbit raising, fish farming, fruit tree grafting, and use of a greenhouse. We expect the school facilities and the demonstration farm to be the site of additional food production and food preservation workshops in future years.



## New Partners

Clearlake Church of Christ (Springfield, IL), Eagle Valley Church of Christ (Indianapolis, IN), and Northside Church of Christ (Bismark, IL) are new partners in God's work in Kenya.