



*On a recent break that the kids enjoyed. However, they are looking forward very much to seeing family & friends this summer*

## Dear Friends,

As we write, we are excited to have booked tickets to come to England from 11<sup>th</sup> July to 25<sup>th</sup> August. Please get in touch if you would like to meet up. Please also pray for the provision of a 7- seater car and let us know if you can help. We hope to travel south and north to our supporting churches.

Here in Nairobi, we are seeking to grow in grace as the church continues to meet in our home and as the number of people coming continues to grow. The land we were looking at as a potential venue would require a lengthy and costly legal process to get permission for it to be used for a church, and it could be stopped by influential members of the residents' association. We are therefore looking for other options and, meantime, continue to convert our home into a church each weekend. Please continue to pray for God to provide a larger venue for the church.

## Christmas Outreach and Subsequent Growth

On Christmas Eve, we were expecting about 100 children and parents to come for our outreach service. We had prepared food for the occasion, gifts of stationery and toiletries for the regular Sunday school children, and a bag of food items for each family plus extra in case more people came. Over 200 people came – many children, mothers, grandmothers, and just one or two dads. The children sang and recited their memory verses and Peter (one of the young men from *iServe Africa*) was thrilled to have the opportunity to



*Some of the parents at the Christmas Eve event*



*We've seen increased numbers in Sunday school since the outreach event*

preach the gospel in Swahili. As we ended the service, it looked as if the clouds were about to open. We hurried to give out the food, trying our best to feed everyone fairly and realising that we were underprepared for so many people. Then Solomon (one of our key members living in the nearby slums) helped gather everyone into families so we could share out the gifts as they went home. The children and their mothers were delighted with the gifts. Thank you very much to those of you who gave so generously towards this Christmas outreach.

Since Christmas, we have had up to 110 children in Sunday school. This is a fantastic blessing, but also a big job for our team of 7 leaders. We are grateful for a Sunday school teacher training day which we were invited to join at GracePoint Church. The teaching was excellent and we are now asking our leaders to start preparing some of the lessons. Please pray for them as they learn. May the good news of Jesus be clear in all we do and say. Pray for continued good teamwork, energy, and grace when we are tired. Pray also for more leaders who love the children and are willing to serve.

### **Young Lives in Need**

Back in January, a teenage boy turned up at Sunday school and showed us a huge wound on his leg. He said he had got it while jumping over some corrugated iron. He had clearly not washed his legs for some days. We offered him a shower, dressed his wound, and told him he must go to a see a doctor. The next week, he turned up with the same bandage and a smelling infected wound. Again, our team gave him a shower, dressed the wound and this time, we asked a Sunday school leader to take him to a doctor. The next day, Eric (our apprentice from *iServe*) went to visit to try and make sure he went again to the clinic. Eric discovered that the boy stays with a grown-up cousin who is not always around, and that he doesn't go to school. He doesn't often come to Sunday school but returned recently and showed us that his leg was healed. Please pray for him and others like him to come to know the love of Christ.

In addition to the social and spiritual needs of those living in our local slum, we are increasingly aware that there is a big need for health promotion. One of our church members has asked us to consider how we can help, and we are currently exploring ways we could partner with others to facilitate this, at least in a small way. Pray for the Lord to guide and guard us.

### **Theology and Community**

We are a young church and long for our members to grow in knowledge of the Bible, so that they can help to lead others, including those in their own families. Because of this, Kip' has started a monthly "Theology Thursday" and in January we had 12 people come to study the subject of baptism. Two of those who came have not yet been baptised, and one of them is facing major health challenges. Pray that God would be at work as we study the Bible together, deepening faith in Christ and that those affected by ill health would be comforted.



*Those who attended the last Theology Thursday*



Thank you so much for your on-going support and prayer which are a great encouragement to us.

Richest blessings in Christ

Kip', Rachel, Elijah, Ezra, Susanna and Bethany