

Like a mustard seed

Chelashaw News, November, A.D. 2025

Dear Friends,

Many thanks to those of you who prayed for us over the summer when we hosted a music camp for our Sunday school children. A team from America came to help with the week-long camp but when Kip' posted a message on our estate WhatsApp group to inform the neighbours that we would be hosting the children from 9am-4pm Monday to Friday, we received a threatening letter from the chairman of our estate residents' committee asking us to stop all religious activities except for private prayers. We asked many of you to pray and, wonderfully, we were allowed to use the local primary school as a venue for the camp. We continued to host church as normal but wondered how we would continue with Sunday school, since the guards at the gate had been told not to allow the children to enter. After much prayer, Kip' spoke with the man in charge of security for our estate, and immediately, the guards were told that they should not be stopping people from coming to Sunday school and church. We praise God that we can continue to meet and ask for continued prayer for our middle-class neighbours to welcome, not only the children from the slum, but also to welcome Jesus into their lives.



The children walking from our house to the school venue after some neighbours complained about the music camp



The first day of our Christmas holiday club, back at our house

The long holidays have begun for Kenyan schools, and we are running a holiday Bible club every Tuesday, looking at God's Great Salvation Plan from the story of Joseph. Pray that we would have enough volunteers to help look after all the children and pray for the children to listen well and put their hope in Christ. A young lady called Kate arrives from the UK next week to help with arts and crafts. Since Kate is keen to teach art to the children, we are planning a special art class on

We are so grateful for those of you who have helped as we purchase a property for the church. We are still waiting for the "change of use" from the government. Church continues to meet in our house and garden until this is granted. Meanwhile, the essential renovations are underway to make the property useable. Pray that those in authority would grant the change of use soon.



The kids presenting some of what they learnt at the music camp

Thursdays for the 10–16-year-old girls during which time we will study Psalm 139. Pray that these young girls would understand the gospel and grow deep in their relationship with Jesus.

We have several teenagers and young adults attending a baptism course. Pray for them to understand Christ's love for them, to fear Him above all and to follow Him wholeheartedly.



*Elisha & his fiancé, Patrizia
on the day of dowry
negotiations*

This term, Kip' has been teaching a course on Doctrine at *iServe Africa*. It has been quite stretching but we pray that God would use it to help equip young people for ministry. Philip is an apprentice from *iServe* who has been placed with us over this past year. He has been a great help in Sunday school and in talking to people in the slum about Jesus. Pray for him as he seeks God's will for his next steps.

We are delighted that Elisha, one of our pastoral assistants, is getting married in December to a young lady called Patrizia. We long for members of our church who come from the slum to follow his example. There is a lot of superstition surrounding marriage and particularly affecting those who cannot afford to pay the culturally expected bride price. This means that very few couples in the slum are formally married. Pray for those in our church who are in this situation, that they would fear God above culture and be convicted through the Word of God to put things right.

We were sad recently to lose a member of our congregation – a baby whose mother struggled to get the help he needed because doctors were on strike. Another member of our congregation, a 16-year-old boy, is terminally ill with a brain tumour. We feel so helpless in the face of such situations. Yet we are comforted to know that God is at work building the kingdom of heaven. It seems so small and weak, like a mustard seed, yet we trust it is growing so that like a mustard tree, it will give shelter and life to those who find it.



Elisha preaching in Swahili at the baby's funeral

Many thanks for your partnership in the ministry of growing God's kingdom here in Nairobi.

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

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