

# A venue on the horizon

Chelashaw News, Nairobi, A.D. June 2024

Dear Friends,

It has been an exciting time here in Nairobi with the giving of 150 Bibles to our Sunday school children, a medical outreach in the slum, progress in the pursuit of a permanent church venue and a baptism service. There is more to look forward to including a marriage conference and a visit to the UK. Please read on for more prayer requests.



## Sunday school

Through partnership with another organisation in Nairobi, we were

gifted Bibles and were delighted to see the children's eagerness in receiving them. We asked parents of the youngest classes to come to church and collect their children's Bibles. Wonderfully, several came, including one mother who works in a bar and whose children are often seen on the street and asking neighbours for food. Please pray that these families read their Bibles, and that the neighbourhood is transformed through the light of God's Word.

*The kids in one of the older class receiving their Bibles with joy! Elisha (our apprentice) who leads the class is on the left.*

## Medical Outreach

In April, Kijabe mission hospital brought a team of 80 people to run a medical outreach in our local slum, a community that is often unable to access good medical care. The local Catholic primary school allowed their premises to be used for this, and members of our church helped with the organisation of the day. We thank God that over 500 patients were seen, screened, and treated and 300 Bibles were given out. We hope this partnership may eventually lead to the setting up of a good clinic in the slum.

## Venue

In our last newsletter, we shared exciting news of a potential venue. Since then, another house has come up on the same street. It is significantly cheaper at about £270 000, has ample space for parking, a huge garden and is right near the main road, but the property needs a lot of work. We are in discussion with the owners who seem keen for us to buy, and we have already received gifts which add up to over 20% of what we need. Please pray that our church family would all respond with a generous heart towards what is needed and pray also for God's help with the administrative, legal and practical work that needs to be done. Pray also for continued openness from our estate and especially from the neighbours of this property, so that opposition does not arise towards us using it as a church. If you would like to give towards this need, please go to [Christ Church Loresho Building Fund](#) which is managed by our mission agency, UFM.

## **Baptism**

It has been a delight to take a group of 7 through baptism classes and to welcome them into the church family. The mother of two of the boys who were baptised also publicly recommitted her life to Christ. She has been helping to host a Bible study fellowship in the slum which our church workers Ephraim, Elisha and Isabella lead and we thank God for growth in fellowship amongst this group. Please pray for those who have been baptised this time and in the last couple of years. May they continue walking with Christ, and may God help and strengthen us as we seek to teach and disciple them. Many face challenges in their lives and we need God's grace to know how to guide their hearts to continually trust in Him.



*5 of those baptised. The lady rededicated herself to Christ.*

## **Marriage Conference**

In June, we will be hosting a marriage conference in partnership with another church, and we are looking forward to welcoming 2 American pastors who will be our main speakers. Marriage is an area where there are huge needs here in Nairobi for Biblical teaching and guidance. Pray that God would use this conference to help couples grow in trust for one another and, most of all, trust in Him, leading to strong, happy, and Christ-centred marriages and families.



*The Chelashaw family with Bako who'd come to Nairobi for eye surgery*

## **Visit to the UK**

As a family, we will be visiting the UK from 16<sup>th</sup> July to mid-August. We hope to visit some of our supporting churches and friends and look forward to spending time with Rachel's family and especially her parents, who are struggling with their health. We will be needing a car and would value prayer for this need.

## **Family News**

Family life has been full as we have been hosting a family friend from Madagascar who came here for eye surgery. We are also preparing Susanna to start school in September. Thank you so much for your prayers and support. We hope to see some of you in the summer. May you know the peace of God which surpasses understanding as you, along with us, rejoice in Christ always and commit your needs to Him in prayer.

**Love from** *Kip', Rachel, Elijah, Ezra, Susanna and Bethany*