

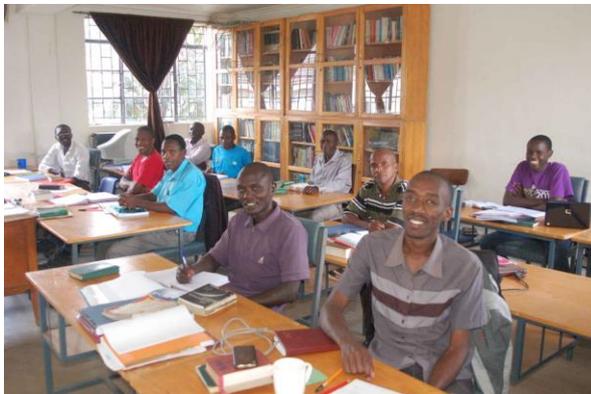
Pray for Kenya May/June 2017

Dear Brethren:

I now have the opportunity to tell you more about the TPC (Trinity Pastors' College) that I went to Nairobi to teach 15th. to 22nd. March 2017, and with the May session also recently concluded.

I have always considered the training of Pastors as something of the greatest importance. We spent our first couple of years in Thika just north of Nairobi (1975-1977) and part of my responsibility was to teach in the Bible School of the Bible Fellowship Church there. When we started the Trinity Baptist Church in Nairobi in 1978 other churches started to call for help. One particular church, an Independent African Church, wanted me to train their young men. This involved going to Kisumu every month, a drive of about 350 kms. So I had to develop a distance learning, compiling a reading list, supplying the material, and getting them to answer questions to show their understanding. So it has continued to the present day, with the students now coming to Nairobi 6 times a year, for 6 full days of teaching, and for 3 years.

During these years over 120 have been admitted to the studies. Not all lasted the three years as many find it just too demanding, having to study, pastor and probably provide for their family. We want every student to be involved in some formal ministry as it is not a College for the sake of study. And sadly few Pastors get any support from their congregations. Yet we thank the Lord there are men leading Churches all over Kenya who have passed through the College.



On our Church premises we have built facilities on the first floor of our newer building, a small lecture room with a library, and a dormitory of two rooms each with 3 bunk beds, and washroom facilities. 12 is about the maximum number we can host at any one time. We fully host the students for the 6 days of teaching, and in the intervening weekend with the expectation that they will be fully involved in the Church and learn much in this practical way. Saturday morning is cleaning (!), and in the afternoon there is evangelism in the neighbourhood. Sunday is a full day where many have their only experience of how a reformed church functions.

We also provide all the books and photocopied material that they need so that at the end they have a good library for their future ministry. We only ask them to pay £50 or \$65 annually, and provide for their transport to and fro, but many of them find even this difficult, and so we have to help out.

We study the full range of the theological curriculum, and even New Testament Greek in the past to those able. We have aimed as high as possible believing in the vital importance of a well-educated ministry. The students have had a variety of levels of educational background, some only having completed the 8 years of primary school. The level is increasing and at present we have 3 who are University graduates. The teachers are all from outside Kenya. This year 2017 we have one teacher from Zambia, one from America, one from Canada, two from UK, and I teach twice. Murungi is continuing with study so that he can teach in the future. We trust the



Lord will raise up more Kenyans in the future, but such must have done further study.

We are not now the only School with reformed leanings. Two have been started by men trained in the TPC, the Reformed School of Theology in Kisumu under Grace Baptist Church, and the Reformed Bible School in Machakos. There are two in Nairobi, the East Africa Bible School which is also mildly dispensational, and the Bible College of East Africa that uses the Westminster Confession of Faith. May God use these together with ourselves to raise up more and more Biblical churches!

Let me give you some details about the students in the TPC.



[Left-right back]

1. Connor Longaphie. He is a visiting student from Canada staying for two months.
2. Nicholas Okoth. He comes from TBC Osani, South Nyanza, and helps Pastor Daniel Ngollo in preaching, and serves as a deacon in the church.
3. Peter Nalunyit. He is in his 3rd. year of study, although he has not been able to be consistent. He is from the area of Wasat, Pokot North, where he leads a very encouraging work that has risen up out of the bush with many coming to profess faith in Christ (some photos at <http://trinitybaptistkenya.org/wasat/>).
4. Manases Bor. He is one of our interns in TBC Nairobi and has a great longing to minister to those who are unreached with the gospel.
5. Samuel Waswa. He is also in his 3rd, and final year of study. We sent him to labour alongside Andrew Chemolok in Chepkinagh, Pokot North. You may request his friendship on Facebook as he posts quite regularly.
6. Jonathan Omollo. He leads an effective student ministry at Kilifi University at the coast. He felt his inadequacy in theological knowledge to be capable and effective to teach the young men and women under his spiritual care the whole counsel of God.
7. Nur Hassan. He is a member of the church and attends the classes regularly. He desires to learn English in order to fully benefit from the training. He preaches to his kinsmen on Facebook.
8. Ronald Bargebo. He works in TBC Nairobi as our Office Assistant, and is struggling to do that and the TPC studies at the same time. This is good training for the ministry!
9. William Emberley (teacher from Canada).

[Left-right front]

10. Stephen Omenda. He is the 4th. student we have received from a sister church in Oyani, near Migori (south-west corner of Kenya). We originally trained Fred Lodeki, the founder of the church, Upendo Reformed Baptist Church, who had received the truth while working in the museum in Thimlich.
11. Washington Aseka. He first studied under Elly Achok Olare (you may also request his friendship on Facebook) in the Wisdom Training Centre in Mumias. Elly was trained in the TPC and has now recommended Washington to us for further building up in the word.
12. Stanley Musyoki. He has previously studied at the BCEA (above) but we have required him to study at the TPC to make sure we are on the same page as we consider sending him to labour in Korr, Rendille.
13. Andrew Marando. Although Andrew already has an M. Div from another institution he attends every session because of the great blessing he receives. He is Pastor of a church in Kawangware, Nairobi.
14. Tonny Karwa. He is another TBC Nairobi intern, and responsible for the administration of the TPC on the ground. Go to <http://trinitybaptistkenya.org/tonny-karwa/> for information on his background.
15. Geoffrey Thomas (teacher from U.K.).
16. Eric Aluvisia. He audits the classes as a TBC member.
17. 'Nash' Ng'ang'a is a young man who is always with us and barely communicates.

Prayer for Visit

I am making a further visit to Kenya May 25th. to June 7th., Lord willing. There is a two-fold purpose.

- ✓ First, to visit Rendille with Pastor Murungi where I have not been for more than 2 years. We pray to encourage the work of the gospel here, see how to complete the church building in Korr, and to pave the way for future labourers to minister there amongst this largely unreached people.
- ✓ Second, to spend a weekend with the church in Miathene, the place where I first went to Kenya in 1968, and have so often been. This will be a homecoming!

In Christ's service,

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