

Pray for Kenya

January-March 2018

Dear Brethren,

Greetings in the Lord from Liverpool, on behalf of the gospel work associated with Trinity Baptist Church, Nairobi. We greatly appreciate your continuing prayerful interest in the work the Lord has given us. I think in future, as I am no longer residing in Kenya, that I will aim to write to you quarterly.

Trinity Pastors' College (TPC)

The students had the privilege of being taught by Richard Barcellos on Hermeneutics in January. He is a pastor in California and teacher at the new International Reformed Baptist Seminary (IRBS) in Texas, U.S.A. This is what he has written about his experience:

The course on hermeneutics began on my first Wednesday there. I was still very tired. The first day seemed to go a bit sluggish. This was due, I am sure, to my being so tired. As the days progressed, the men and I became more comfortable with each other. This was indicated by the attention level of the men, the questions they asked, and the time we spent during the breaks. I think the lectures went well and hope they were helpful for many years to come. I enjoyed the students and their love for Christ and the written Word of God... I want to thank TPC for the opportunity to serve the school. It was and is a great honor.



We had 12 students, plus one auditing, with others just sitting in, and found we did not have enough space in our usual classroom. 8 of them were starting their 3 years of study, 3 of them being from our own church, TBC Nairobi. We regard the TPC as a very vital ministry. Although the men have a variety of educational backgrounds, from primary to tertiary, we seek to maintain the highest levels of study possible. Barcellos said that what he taught is basically seminary level. What a need Kenya has of preachers/pastors who are able 'rightly to handle the word of truth'! See <http://trinitybaptistkenya.org/tpc/>.

Here are some comments from new students.

"Am really humbled by the grace of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ for the opportunity He has given me to be equipped with His knowledge... One of his famous quotes that everyone took home was, "God acts, He records the acts, He interprets the acts."

"What stood out for me during the course on hermeneutics was particularly the redemptive-historical principle which I had briefly read somewhere but Dr. Barcellos made clearer to us

all. That God had a plan to redeem fallen man, right from Eden, that culminated in Christ's crucifixion, death and resurrection... How we see that unfolding in various periods of Jewish history in the Old Testament was quite something for me. Picture after picture of types of Christ pointing to something greater and greater. And that even the prophets knew that the law as was given was not the final thing and that they preached as though looking forward to a greater act of God. This was such an eye opener for me in understanding the Old Testament. Something I have for a long time desired. I think I shall be able to piece together the OT better."

Pokot North – Chelopoy Trinity Secondary School

A third High School under the sponsorship of Trinity Baptist Church, Nairobi, started in January, next to Chepkinagh Primary School. Although it is a Government school, the community together with sponsors are looked to get the school up and running. It has been a lot of work for our church leader there, Andrew Chemolok. Bear in mind that the major government offices and banks are well over 100 kms. away, south in Kapenguria. To start with the facilities of the Primary School are used and the hope is that donors will come in and start the building of classrooms and a dormitory. Then the Government comes in with all the needed resources, including teachers. The sponsor is expected to have a spiritual input. Samuel Waswa is every day with the 8 students who have started the school. We are able to preach to them on Sundays, and from time to time have a weekend of meetings. Please pray that the Lord will use this in the lives of the students (also for Kamketo Trinity Girls, and Kasei Boys). There are hundreds of young people involved.



Andrew Chemolok has written this short report.

"Greetings to you in Christ. Thanks to you for your concern on these High Schools. The Chelopoy High School is going on well, and teaching is on since three weeks ago. Teachers are five who are teaching now. Two teachers are supported by Trinity Baptist Church, one by the Board of Management, and two are voluntary. They will receive a token. Urgent needs are for classrooms and a dormitory. There are so many small needs but the big challenge is only these. The students are receiving God's word every Thursday as a special day, and then every evening there are devotions... So receive thanks from the Chelopoy community who are so happy for this secondary school, which will make it easier for them to reach their boys, and will also reduce their transport costs to and from school. They thank you for the spiritual input their boys also receive. So their prayer request is for you to support the church leaders spiritually and physically. In Christ's service, Andrew"

School fees

The school year begins in January and it is a time when we see which children of our church leaders have a need to be helped with school fees. Secondary education is not free and can cost up to £400 annually. Day schools are becoming more common and this of course lessens the cost, and we encourage this. Then there are many evil influences in boarding schools. Yet, increasingly, having a secondary education does not lead to employment, so we are also having to invest in tertiary or some kind of training for these young people. This is again more expensive. But we do not want any child of our church leaders to suffer simply because the father is a pastor and can't afford it as he is not even supported by his church. We shall appreciate if you could consider helping with a student.

Rendille

Joseph Ogom is leading this work and has shown a lot of spiritual maturity and understanding and we wish to do all we can to be of encouragement to him. He is now in Nairobi training to ride a motorbike. We thank God that last December, the church witnessed a remarkable increase in the youth attending. Many who are in college away from home were back and were involved in mobilizing others in the village to play football and participate in the gospel activities that they organized. Madaraka Dabalén, one of the sons of Godana, made a credible profession of faith and was baptized.

We have come to the conclusion that Stanley might not be suited to be sent to Korr because it needs one who can handle a wide ministry. We hope to send one of our interns, Manases Bor, for a few days to visit the area and report on the progress later in February.



Although this was taken back in 2014, the 5 young men in the front are all from church families, and we have helped them to go through school. From left: Isaac, Khobocho, Madaraka, Emmanuel, Barago. Madaraka, who is at University in Nairobi, and who wrote the report, recently professed faith and was baptized in Korr. He is the one who brought the Youth back together again.

(Here is part of Madaraka's report) "We are glad that the youth in Korr were able to meet together and able to work with the church hand in hand for the purpose of the gospel. During their previous meeting they discussed about the challenges they are facing that lowers their zeal to serve God and help the church. The meeting was successful and they find out that one of the challenge is idleness and much waste of time without doing anything. Another challenge that was raised was that most youth go to other institutions for search of jobs and some end up Joining that institutions that offers them job. Another challenge was that lack of accountability for each other past years. After the long discussion, they decided to make time to meet each holidays, and they propose to meet every Tuesday which they all agreed on during the holidays. The saved Youth were given responsibility to teach others on the word of God and also they are going to be given time to teach Sunday school and help in memory verses. The youth also decided to help the elders in the work of evangelism. While I was home I got the privilege of attending two of their meeting and I find them useful and encouraging I pray that God will continue using the youths in His ministry.

Recommendations: We thank God for bringing the youth together, as we look forward to do the purposes of God for His Glory. Due to the much time wasting among the youths as a challenge I will recommend to be assisted with more reading materials so as we can keep each others accountable as we encourage one another in the Lord. Reading will help us to know more about scripture and glorify God in our lives. I also recommend the youths in Korr to be engaged in any job opportunities that might come up within the church compound for example the ongoing construction. This will help youth to stick to the church.

Conclusions: In conclusion the church in Korr is growing and doing well in the Lord Jesus Christ. We are requesting for your prayers always, as we preach the gospel to the Rendille people. Report compiled by Madaraka James Dabalen “

For the full report see <http://trinitybaptistkenya.org/report-from-korr-rendille/>

My trip in March

God willing I shall be visiting Kenya in March. Here is the proposed itinerary:

7th. – Arrive Nairobi in the morning

8th. to 13th. – Visiting various churches in Ukambani and the Coast with Murungi

14th. to 21st. – Teaching in the TPC, The Doctrine of Scripture

17th. – Wedding of Kevin Mugweru & Joy Wanjiku

18th. – Sunday in TBC Nairobi, where I will preach twice, and a members’ meeting in the afternoon where I will officially step down as a Pastor of the Church

22nd. – Talking with the 6 leaders from Pokot North who we have invited to come to Nairobi

23rd. to 26th. – In Addis Ababa with Abdi Osman

25th. – Preaching at the International Lutheran Church

26th. – Travel home to Liverpool

What can you pray for? Making the best use of the time. I will be an encouragement to Pastors Murungi and Abwao. The word will run and be glorified.

[At <http://trinitybaptistkenya.org/vote-church> you can find a well written report about Vote and the church building project.]

[Elly Achok, pastor in Mumias, is putting out another series of videos, this time entitled, Foundations of Deception. He is well fitted for such a ministry having been a leader in deception for 17 years. Go to www.reformedgospel.org]

In Christ’s service,

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