

PRAY FOR KEITH & PRISCILLA UNDERHILL
TRINITY BAPTIST CHURCH, NAIROBI, KENYA

“Pray for us, that the word of the Lord may speed ahead and be honoured” (2 Thess. 3:1, ESV)

2015, No.10 (14/10/15)

Dear Brethren

Greetings in the name of the Lord from Nairobi. We have been very busy clearing up the house as we continue to await the granting of the visa for Priscilla. There has also been a lot of ministry with Men’s Breakfast on the Role of Older Men in the church, Sunday preaching twice on Galatians and the Servant of the Lord (Isaiah), 2 sessions at the RBAK, Meaty Forum on the Prosperity Gospel, and Preacher’s Club on Preparing to Preach. God has been very gracious and the word of God is going forth.

RBAK (6th to 8th October)

Early October every year we have our meetings for the Reformed Baptist Association of Kenya. This year we hosted the delegates from various parts of the country in Nairobi, representing 17 local churches, with representatives from 3 others unable to attend. It was also very encouraging that 3 churches were added to the Association. Over the 3 days we had:

- Devotions each morning led by one of the brethren (from Phile. 4-7, Ps. 63:1-3, and Phil. 3:17-19).
- Ministry of the word on Getting our Priorities in the Ministry (Gal. 4:19), Praying for the Church (Col. 4:12), Praying for All Nations (1 Tim. 2:1-8), Filling up the Afflictions of Christ (Col. 1:24), Speaking the Truth in Love (Eph. 4:15), Pastors are Students (Matt. 10:24-25).
- Discussions on Cultivating Meaningful Fellowship between the Churches, and Becoming Intentional in Evangelistic Efforts.
- Reports from all the churches represented is a very important part of our gathering, with interspersed times of prayer.
- Business meeting which is almost a whole day affair.



It was a very encouraging time and some said it was the best they have been to, and we have been meeting for almost 20 years! By next year we are hoping to adopt a formal constitution to guide the work of the Association. We remain very concerned over the continuing disunity in the Reformed Baptist Churches in Kenya. We propose to start an annual Family Conference from August 2016. Next year we plan to spend the weekend in the hosting church so we can encourage them in evangelism and ministry. Nairobi has by far the largest membership at 94, 4 have between 30-40, 2 others have over 20. One of the purposes of the RBAK is to encourage the

smaller churches and we hope to do that by sending at least one team of RBAK members, and one of PTC students. One member church that concerns us greatly is Olgumi where the pastor, Stephen Kakoiya, suffered a debilitating stroke last November. We are praying that someone will agree to go there to minister. One of the delegates has shown interest and if it is followed through we shall have to look into possible support.

South Nyanza

In the south-west corner of Kenya, near Lake Victoria, is an area where in 1983 we first started church planting outside Nairobi. Paul Oyomno had joined the church in Nairobi and **Thimlich** is the rural place where he came from. The church did well with other congregations starting in the surrounding area. In 1996 he 'inherited a wife', according to Luo tradition, so he had to be dismissed. The next one stole a large sum of money from the church. The next was HIV+ and died



together with his wife. The last just started living with the one who is now his wife and migrated to the Anglican Church. It is a wonder there is still a small group there! We are thankful to God that a pastor in the RBAK, Fred Lodeki, has been visiting in order to re-establish this work. He feels a debt to Thimlich as it was here, while he was working at the Museum, that he was renewed spiritually.

My fellow pastor, Murungi, was recently at **Wath Orango**, a church which has been in existence for a long time. 10 were baptized in

the River Kuja, and 18 became the founder members. But there is no trained leader here.



There is one other established church in the area, at **Osani**, led by their pastor Daniel Ngolo. It has only 10 resident members, but they have sent one family from the church (Patricko Odhiambo) to serve the Lord in Kamketo, Pokot North.

Trinity Baptist Church, Nairobi

(1) Elders & Deacons. Please pray for the church as we vote on November 1st 2015 on brother Vincent Kajuma being added to the eldership. If the church agrees he will be set aside on November 15th. We also have 2 men who will be presented for the diaconate that we trust will be formalized before the end of the year.

(2) Courting Couples. 45% of our membership is made up of single young men and women. We are thankful to God that some are finding life partners in the church. They come to one of the elders to seek advice even before they start the relationship, and then they want someone to hold

them accountable. Keeping themselves pure is a struggle and sadly 2 had to publicly confess sexual sin at the Lord's Supper. We felt it was an opportune time so as to clearly demonstrate that the Supper is for repentant sinners and it declares that there is forgiveness with God through Christ.

(3) Wazee & Men's Breakfast.

Bimonthly the men of the church meet for breakfast and discussion. Apart from myself we have only 5 'wazee' (= older men) who are over 45 years of age. 3 of them are sitting in the picture. I brought Titus 2:2 to exhort them and to encourage the younger to strive to this goal.



(4) Students. For the first time we are helping post-secondary school students (College) with fees. They are from very poor communities and we hope they will eventually be able to help their families instead of endlessly depending upon the church. There are more details on www.trainkenya.com.

(5) Dine & Listen (16th October). This is an evangelistic event in the evening for which we have invited Ken Mbugua of Emmanuel Baptist Church (Nairobi) to preach the gospel. Please pray for the Lord to use it.

(6) Farewell (31st October). Although we still cannot be sure when we are leaving, the church is having its farewell for us at the end of the month. May the Lord be glorified as He is given all the praise.

Please keep us before the throne of grace. Your brethren in Christ's service,

Keith & Priscilla Underhill

(Previous newsletters may be found at www.trinitybaptistkenya.org)

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