

URGENT PRAYERS NEEDED FOR KENYA

Dear brethren,

Greetings in the Name of the King of kings, the Lord Jesus Christ!

Biblical Counseling

Beginning 3rd of July, we had two weeks of Biblical Counselling with Dave & Nedra M. from Grand Rapids which was attended by about 20 persons comprising of pastors, secular counselors, and members from different churches. We pray that the Lord may raise many who will only lean on his Word to be competent to counsel those in need.



Eric Abwao and family



We thank God that Eric got a scholarship at Greenville Presbyterian Theological Seminary. The US government granted visas for all the six family members. They travelled early yesterday (Monday) to Greenville and arrived safely earlier today. They will be part of Grace Baptist

Church of Taylors. We had a sendoff for them on the afternoon of Sunday, the 16th of July, which was a very emotional day as we bid farewell to them for four years.



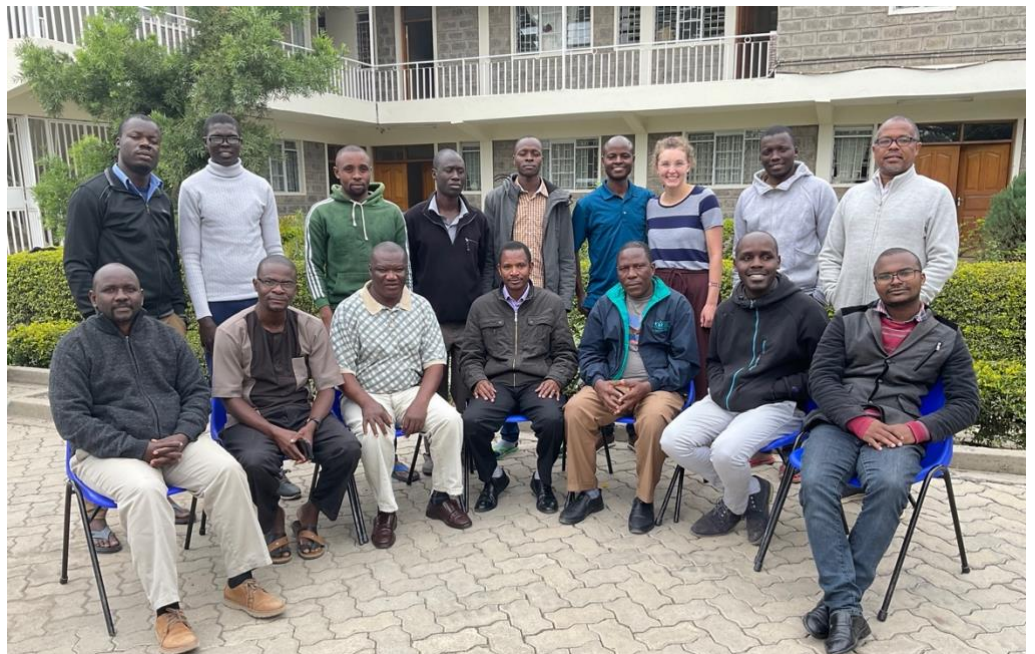
Ken Kiambati was here with his bride, **Elizabeth** in Kenya for the first time since their marriage in 2021. They are still in the country visiting with his family. He preached on Sunday morning from the first Servant Song in Isaiah 42:1-4. The full service is here on YouTube –

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=95rINvLQ5sQ>

Dave M. preached on God counselling Elijah from 1 Kings 19 in the afternoon service.

Trinity Pastors' College

From Wednesday, the 12th of July, TPC students have been learning the doctrine of the church (ecclesiology). I did the first two days dealing with the Introduction, Membership, and Leadership of the church. Then Ken Kiambati, a ThM student at Puritan Reformed Seminary



in Grand Rapids MI, helped teach on Friday, dealing with such matters as Worship, Fellowship, and Ordinances. This week I taught on the Christian Sabbath, Tithes and Offerings and Church Discipline.

Political Unrest in Kenya

Sadly we could not complete the whole Ecclesiology course because the Kenyan political temperatures are very high at the moment. The opposition called for protests due to the escalating cost of living, which has especially been aggravated by the passing of the Finance Bill 2023 and the president's swift accenting it into law. Here is a glimpse of it;

- The tax on the petroleum products has been doubled,
- The cost of electricity has more than doubled,
- Unpopular house levy has been introduced,
- There is now tax on insurance compensation, among many other things.

One Kenyan Senator, Okiya Omutatah, managed to obtain conservatory orders against implementing the law but the government ignored the high court orders. The Kenyan citizens are not happy, and it seems like the government is losing political support from the public. The opposition has called for three days of demonstrations which last week were very violent leading to deaths of 23 people as reported by UN. There was massive destruction of public and private property and looting in many major towns. The government has responded firmly in a way that does not make for peace by issuing threats, accusing the former president of funding them. Security has been withdrawn from many opposition leaders including the former president and the founding president's first lady. All these serves to make a bad situation worse, and our prayer is that there will be sobriety on both sides. I am writing this letter in the spirit of Apostle Paul, urging that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, and especially for President William Ruto who professes to be a Christian and his cabinet secretaries; for Opposition leaders beginning with Raila Odinga, and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way (1 Timothy 2:1–2) so that the gospel of our Saviour may not be hindered.

African Pastors Conferences (APC)

The first APC began today (Tuesday) in Mumias at Gospel Missions Agency Church pastored by Elly Achok with Dominic Kabaria, one of our pastors, being the manager assisted by Cetric Omwembe, a member of our church. Pastors Cary Kimbrell and Mark Gervais are the speakers for the first two conferences in Mumias and Meru. The team plans to travel to Meru on Thursday. The Meru conference is scheduled to be on Friday and Saturday this week. We pray that they will be able to travel back safely. That these conferences will happen, and many pastors will be equipped as we consider *God's Design for the Church*, using Conrad Mbewe's book by the same title. Conrad will be joining the team of speakers in Nairobi and Mombasa next week, God willing.

Murungi Igweta

18th July 2023