

November
2022

KEEPING UP WITH KENYA

Monthly Newsletter

WHAT IS GOD TEACHING US?

Rachel

This month I've read through Judges, Ruth, and 1 Samuel. I'm reading a chronological plan, so now 2 Samuel, 1 Chronicles, and Psalms are starting to intertwine with each other. Through the Psalms, I am reading David's lament. I also

finished reading the book "Dark Clouds, Deep Mercy". Through that book, the Psalms, and the people I have met in Kenya, I am learning that God truly wants to hear from us when we are suffering. He cares deeply for everyone and wants to hear about our pain and hurt.



"LORD, hear my prayer; let my cry for help come before you. Do not hide your face from me in my day of trouble. Listen closely to me; answer me quickly when I call." ~Psalm 102:1-2

Tori

This month God is teaching me how to find rest. Finding rest is not just chilling out in front of the tv and binging my favorite show. Resting in God's word is the best form of rest and resetting for the soul.

"A Sabbath rest remains, therefore, for God's people. For the person who has entered His rest has rested from his own works, just as God did from His. Let us then make every effort to enter that rest, so that no one will fall into the same pattern of disobedience. For the word of God is living and effective and sharper than any two-edged sword, penetrating as far as to divide soul, spirit, joints, and marrow; it is a judge of the ideas and thoughts of the heart." -Hebrews 4:9-12

MERCY Nairobi

On Nov. 9th **3 lives** were saved! God is so good!



Bible Study is growing in number the last few weeks! We have over 5 first time guests and many new homeless faces each week. Last 2 weeks we are maxing out the conference room we are renting with close to 100 people coming to study the book of John with us.



We have 2 weeks of Bible Study left for this year. We have asked committed attenders to pray about joining our launch team in the new year. On Nov 30th they will sign a launch covenant. Pray that the spirit will lead those who will be joining in planting Mercy Nairobi Church.

MERCY *house*

We had our second Mercy House outreach on October 22. We were able to recognize some faces from the first outreach we did in September. This time we also passed out 50 of the care package backpacks to women that we are hoping will join us at Mercy House in the future.



The picture above is our staff and some Mercy Nairobi Bible study attendees that served during the outreach. It was great to meet together to debrief and get ideas for the next outreach.

Then there is EVEN BETTER NEWS!!!! After the October outreach, 5 women and their children came to Bible study. It felt amazing to love on them and see them engaged in Allan's lesson.

But wait...there's more. They came back the week after that with friends. They have now come to Bible study for 3 weeks in a row. We are starting to build relationships with these women and they are beginning to trust us.

There are a few women that I have gotten to know that I'm hoping will come to Mercy House. Please pray for these women and their children.

1. Joyce and her sons, Erick and a little one that I don't know his name.
2. Winnie and her daughter, Mariam.
3. Caroline (I have not seen any children with her yet).
4. Karen and her daughter, Anastasia.



We had our third Mercy House outreach on November 19. This was by far the BEST outreach we have had yet. We have signed a lease for the building but have not started renovations yet. This allowed us to host the outreach in the building. The top left photo shows the food and chai we were able to serve. The top right photo shows the beginning of us serving people. We allowed 10 women in the building at a time to help control the chaos. Everyone was very cooperative. The bottom left photo shows some of the women and children enjoying their breakfast. The bottom right photo shows the clothes closet we set up. Each woman was able to leave with a complete set of clothes for themselves and their children. Once all the women and children were served, we were able to serve some meals to homeless men as well.



GENERAL UPDATE



We are starting to make friends in Kenya! We went bowling with some friends we have made at Bible Study. We had a lot of fun laughing together and made plans to hang out again.

From left to right it is Phinoshey (Fee-no-shay), Rachel, Ashley, Tori, Sayo (Sigh-yo), Sam, and Purity.

We are starting to get excited for some time back in the States. Since the NGO has not been established for Mercy Nairobi, we are still on tourist visas. We were able to stay for 5 months and will apply for another tourist visa.



We will be leaving Nairobi on Sunday, November 20 and landing in Charlotte on Monday, November 21. Please pray for safe travels. We are so thankful for all of our supporters. We wish we had time to see each and everyone of you, but with the holiday season that will not be possible. Thank you for understanding and as always your prayers.

We love you all!

GENERAL UPDATE FROM TORI



We are back in my favorite season here in Kenya, RAINY SEASON. The sky has such a beautiful texture and the rain cools everything down. In this photo we all piled in the van during a heavy rain to drop our friends off at the matatu stop after Bible Study in the CBD (Central Business District). We had so much fun singing and hanging out! Shout out to Allan for being our own matatu driver!



Meet Sam!

Sam works at a local store we go to. Rachel invited him to Bible Study and we have all been friends since!

Mungu yu Mwema!

(God is Good)

Part of my personal development is to continue to learn Swahili and I have some great new friends that have been a big help. Learning Swahili is a little more difficult because we have the proper Swahili books, but most of the city's population speaks Shang (slang Swahili).

End of Year Giving

I am so beyond thankful that you are partnering with me in what God is doing here in Kenya. Would you please pray and consider giving a portion of your end-of-year giving to fund the efforts of making disciples of all nations and partnering with me in the work God is doing in Nairobi.

Choose Fund TB MS001



GENERAL UPDATE FROM RACHEL



GOD IS SO GOOD!

This is Casey. I served with her in Kenya for 5 weeks in 2016. We went through a very challenging time together and have both needed to heal from the trauma we faced in the village we were working in.

She is serving an unreached people group in another African country but was in Kenya for a few weeks. I had a chance to grab breakfast with her and it was healing for both of us. We reminisced about some of the crazy things that happened to us, talked about our teaching experiences in the States, and shared what God is currently doing in our lives in Africa. It was something that I didn't know I needed, but God knew. It was very surreal being back in Kenya with Casey, 6 years later.

I'm continuing to build a relationship with Triza and her son Belach. She has found out within the last month that she is pregnant. It has been a scary situation for her since she is separated from her husband.

Please pray for her to have wisdom on how to tell him that she is pregnant. Please pray for a healthy pregnancy for Triza and the baby.



She has moved to Nairobi and has been working with Allan's sister for her baking company. I am excited to see God grow Triza in this season of her life even though there are many struggles right now. Please pray that I can continue to love Triza well and encourage her in a way that points her back to God.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Rachel

- For my friendship with Triza and Belach
- Safe travels and a restful time in the States during the holiday season
- Relationship with Caleb
- Caleb to find a job in Nairobi (he had an interview this week)

Tori

- Resting in Gods word
- Traveling home and spending time with family and friends
- Learning Swahili
- Continued support raising while home

Mercy Nairobi Church

- Final 2 weeks of Bible Study
- Continued prayers for those joining our launch team
- Continued movement of the Spirit of God
- For the homeless men who come to Bible Study

Mercy House

- For the women and children that we having been building relationships with from Jeevanjee Park. Pray that they will trust us and want to be a part of Mercy House.
- For building renovations to happen quickly and on schedule