

August
2023

KEEPING UP WITH KENYA

Monthly Newsletter

WHAT IS GOD TEACHING ME?

I have finished The Bible Recap Chronological reading plan. This was my first time reading the Bible entirely in chronological order. It was a great way to see the big picture of God's faithfulness to His people from the beginning of time to now and through eternity. This month I have read Colossians, Ephesians, Philippians, 1 Timothy, Titus, 1 Peter, Hebrews, 2 Timothy, 2 Peter, 1 John, 2 John, 3 John, and Revelation.



I have enjoyed seeing how clearly the Gospel is laid out in the different books of the New Testament. I am so thankful that God loves all of us, even when we are disobedient, that He would send His Son as a sacrifice to cover our sins. Jesus is not only our example for how to live in this broken world but He is also our source of mercy and grace.

"For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who has been tempted in every way as we are, yet without sin. Therefore, let us approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in time of need."

~Hebrews 4:15-16



Puzzle Fundraiser-2 years

GOAL: \$1,000 MONTHLY

\$10 MONTHLY PER PUZZLE PIECE

I am continuing to raise financial support, since my time in Kenya has been extended from 2 years to 3 years. My goal is to raise \$1,000 monthly for the next two years which is \$24,000 total. I have purchased a 100 piece puzzle as a way to remember God's provision through this season of support raising. Each gift of \$10 monthly will get your name written on the back of a puzzle piece. Once all puzzle pieces have names, I will reach my goal. Anyone can get a puzzle piece. I've already had current supporters increase their financial support and I have had new financial supporters. I am grateful for both. I am almost at the halfway mark. If you would like to increase your current support or join my financial support team, please email me. I will be happy to answer any questions or assist.

Support Raising
Update



There is \$560 monthly, which is \$13,440 total to reach the goal.

MERCY Nairobi



Our regular Sunday attendance is continuing to grow. It is so encouraging to see regular attenders increasing. We continue to pray that these believers will become dedicated members of the church.

We have been going through the book of Acts. It has brought a lot of great discussion and growth during our weekly family group meetings and Sunday sermons. If you are interested in listening to the sermons, please visit the Mercy Nairobi Website:

<https://www.mercynairobi.com/sermons>



We celebrated another baptism! Brian was saved during our Jonah series in March and has been being disciplined by Jordan.

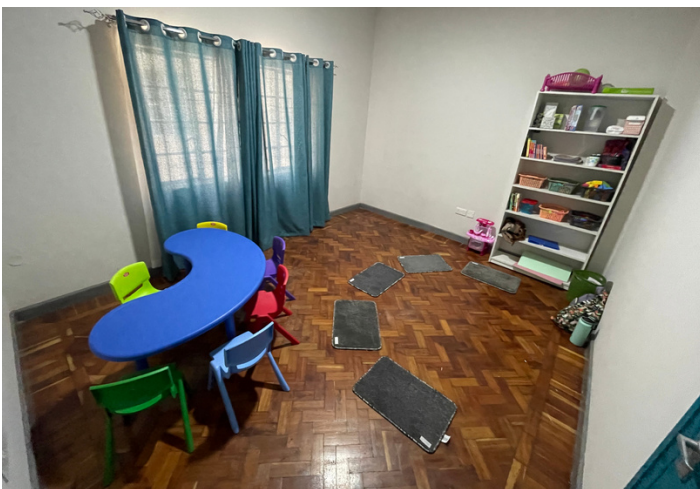


We had our first Mercy Nairobi Church member meeting on Sunday, August 20. It was a great time to discuss what the expectations of members are and how we can continue to grow and improve as a unified body.

MERCY *house*



We celebrated all of the Mercy House birthdays for the months of July and August. It was wonderful to see everyone laughing and enjoying themselves.



Mercy House Preschool officially started on Monday, August 28. All 5 of the kids did such a great job. They really enjoyed exploring the school room with new toys, carpet spots, and a table and chairs. Each child has been assigned a color. For example, N (2yo girl) has the color red. She was quick to find her red hand print and her red chair. I have enjoyed working with Victoria. We are both excited to watch these children grow academically, but more importantly in their knowledge of God's love for them.

PERSONAL UPDATE



Caleb started the school year with students on August 9.

Caleb and I went on a double date with Sean and Yvonne. They know that Caleb did improv in the States so they invited us to a Kenyan improv show. The group is called Because You Said So. We laughed a lot and had so much fun!



We celebrated my birthday in a few different ways. On Friday night, we had Sean, Yvonne, Tori, and Ashley over for dinner, games, and cheesecake. The power went out around 9:00 but we still managed to play Mexican Train until 11:00 that night using flashlights. It will definitely be a cherished memory. Then on Saturday we went bowling with some friends.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Rachel

-I have had lots of illness this month. Please pray for my health.

-Learning Swahili

-Prioritizing rest

-Continuing to build a Christ-centered, healthy marriage

Caleb

-His transition into Kenyan culture and living over the next few months

-Wisdom as he plans for and teaches 3 different classes

-Continuing to build a Christ-centered, healthy marriage

-Praise: We found a car for Caleb!

Mercy Nairobi Church

-Consistent discipleship for new believers in the church

-Strong conversations during weekly family group gatherings

-For regular attenders to become active and healthy members of the church body

Mercy House

-School for the women

-School for the kids

-Spiritual conversations and salvation for the women and children

-Mercy House Preschool to be a healthy and safe learning environment for the young kids