



## **Kenya Mission Trip 1<sup>st</sup> - 11<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2010 - Brief Report**

**“Give thanks to the LORD, call on his name; make known among the nations what he has done.  
Sing to him, sing praise to him; tell of all his wonderful acts” Psalm 105:1-2 NIV**

The team of 10 (Alan George, Anna Pisani, Hilary Smith, John Milborrow, Mark Shimizu, Pauline Jepps, Ray White, Scott Carr, Stuart Parkins and myself) was the largest yet and took some organisation, as different people were both involved in various areas of the project and geographically in several places.

However, by the grace of God, it all came together and everyone felt that it was right to be there and even as we were being blessed ourselves, that we were making a difference in one way or another to the lives of the people there.

### **Osare Orphanage**



John, Alan and Stuart managed to source the materials and complete a workbench and shelving for one of the workshops. They also fixed broken areas of the playground. The container with the tools had not arrived and its arrival is still awaited. Mark spent most of his time here with the older children, organising football matches and volley ball games and having a great time himself. There was no money for the secondary school children to go to school, so they were at a loss, and really grateful for Mark's interest and input into their lives. Before we left we paid for two of the children to go to school for another year. It was hard to only choose two but we felt

we had a word from the Lord about this and were peaceful that it was the right decision.

Alan also spent a lot of time taking photos of the children for the sponsorship scheme and videoing the proceedings. Anna interviewed each child we sponsor and spent time with them. This was a task and a half but she carried on with determination. Pauline also spent time with the children and a day teaching them in the orphanage nursery school. Mark, Pauline and Anna visited some of the primary and secondary schools the children attend. The whole team were involved with the children's party on the Sunday.

Hilary stocked up the 'Pharmacy' and spent a day handing out pills and nursing some wounds.

### **The Bible School at Osare Orphanage**

Scott was based there teaching the pastors conference every day. Ray, Hilary and I did a few sessions between us too including evening ones in the dark!

### Home of Hope Orphanage and Hope Church, Siaya

Pauline, Mark and Stuart spent a day with the children here whilst the Pastors Conference taught by myself and Ray was going on. The Conference was subsidised by Living Hope. The children here also had a party. The well was officially dedicated on the Saturday after the teaching had finished.

Certificates for the completion of the course of the Rural Pastors Training School 2009 were given out to around 40 leaders.

The Sunday service was a baptismal service, 8 of the team came to this service and I baptised around 30 people most of whom had become Christians via the mobile phone teaching or from visits to the churches on last year's trip. The baptismal pool was a newly dug dug out 'grave' filled mostly by water from the new well.



### Freedom Church

Ray, Hilary and I taught whilst Anna and Pauline spent time with the children during the service. It was the first time these children had eaten a cake!

It was great to see how this rural church had grown in strength and meet some of the people who had become Christians through the phone teaching. Eyesight was restored and other healing miracles. Hilary also gave out medication there with Judith who she is helping through nursing training! Pastor Ruth and Benjamin do a great job of leading this church. There are many widows with no income, which are a concern so they are going to receive a sewing machine from the container (when it comes) and start tailoring for income which was a great encouragement for them.

### Grace Church



John and I visited this church one day for the first time. They have no pastor but there is one man who has been attending the rural pastor's training and is growing in spiritual strength. A church hut had been built 4 years ago in the village. Freedom Church have taken it on as a daughter church and we were encouraged by the strength and vibrancy of the believers. Some wonderful healings took place and 3 people came to faith. It was such a peaceful place and we were also taken to the lakeside where John was in his element bird spotting. This church has great potential we felt. We prayed for the leaders.

## Life Church

David is the pastor here together with another leader Gilbert. Ray and I spent the day with them and although this church is possibly the smallest of the 4 with about 20 members, they are in the process planting another nearer the road where it will be more accessible. This will be Faith Church.

## Other activities

All women on the team taught or shared at the Women's Day conference and were witnesses to some further healing miracles.

Several of us went out to feed some street children. It is so sad to see them and not be able to help more. We took one small child back with us, to the Osare Orphanage, though!

## Future Challenges

### Osare Orphanage

The Kenyan government has in recent years put in place strict regulations for orphanages; they need to be registered, have a social worker attached, and there are various guidelines with respect to toilets, kitchens, dormitories, health checks for the workers etc. Osare Orphanage does not yet meet the standards required to register due to lack of funding and a lot needs to be done to ensure it can be registered and not have to close down.

James Osare is a visionary and has a tremendous heart for children but does not have administrative skills. Before we left we supported James in his hiring of an administrator, Roy Samo, for a period of 6 months provisionally to oversee this project and help get it to the standards required. Finances and much prayer are needed during this period.

Home of Hope orphanage is also in a similar situation.



### The new rural churches

Kenyan rural churches are often run independently and become weak and fall into heresy. My vision is to see this new family of churches be strengthened and encouraged by relating to each other and eventually be overseen by their own indigenous 'bishop' rather than me! I have talked with the leaders and they are hoping to register themselves under the name of "Streams of Life Ministries". The leaders of all the churches will meet regularly for prayer, support and future planning. They will all attend the rural pastors training on Saturdays as often as they can. Erick, who works with me on the mobile phone teaching and helps administrate the Home of Hope Orphanage, will coordinate this new network

Isaiah 43: 19 NIV "See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the desert and streams in the wasteland".

### ASANTE SANA (Swahili for "many thanks")

Thank you for your prayers and support.

We thank God for His provision and protection.

To Him be the glory!

*Julie Shimizu*

On behalf of the Team

15<sup>th</sup> February 2010

