

# KARIBU TENA

Mission | Family | Funding

## July-August

Elizabeth's second cousin and his family invited us to travel with them in Europe. We had a WONDERFUL time of family, fellowship, and incredible experiences. Then onward to Michigan and Colorado where we reunited with our families and enjoyed all-things summer! We are so blessed!

## Sept-October

We stayed in the beautiful new Haven Missionary Home in Zeeland, MI, which was an incredible gift! We started our school year, visited 7 college campuses with Inman and Owen, and began the college application process. Paul flew to Tanzania for two weeks of reconnecting with Reconciled World staff, and we all reunited back in Kenya mid-October.

## November

We settled into home routine, Paul traveled twice to teach TCT, and we've started to build an office/guest room!



## Welcome Back!

In Swahili, the phrase "Karibu tena" means "Welcome back!" After three months away in the U.S., we were warmly 'welcomed back' to our home in Kenya by our staff (two of them pictured above). The boys had carefully selected sunglasses for all and we had a good laugh at everyone's new look.

"Karibu tena" also means "Come Back Soon!" As we began our family observation of the Advent season this morning, we reflected on the fact that Advent means "coming." Even as we celebrate Christ's coming to earth as a baby, we realize that we are really reminding ourselves that each day we are waiting for Him to "come again" - we are participating in "Karibu tena!"

Advent is also a season of waiting. When I first came to East Africa in 2003, a new and now dear friend advised me that in Swahili culture, "wait" is an action verb. We do a lot of waiting in Kenya - the western value of timeliness just doesn't quite translate here. And so, as I think about this season of waiting for Christ's coming, I am reminded that our waiting is not passive. We are all invited to wait actively. We hope you'll be encouraged, as we have been, by some of the "active waiting" for His return that we've witnessed and joined this past season.

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JOHN & JANE (L) HAVE BEEN TRAINED IN TCT & HAVE BEEN TEACHING JOSEPH (R) WHO WAS SO EAGER TO SHARE WITH PAUL ALL THAT HE HAS LEARNED.



PAUL TEACHING MT. ELGON PARTICIPANTS AT THEIR CHURCH.



MUTHUTHENI PARTICIPANTS DOING GROUP WORK AT TCT ORIENTATION.



A TCT CLASS THAT WAS STARTED BY A PREVIOUS TCT PARTICIPANT!

## WORK UPDATE

Paul's work has kept him busy traveling, visiting, and training. In October, Paul left the U.S. to attend two weeks of Reconciled World meetings in Tanzania with National Coordinators and the RW admin team.

November had Paul and his colleague, Jonathan, on the move around Kenya. They drove over six hours for a visit to the Mt. Elgon partner churches. This is a rural area that is still recovering from years of brutal attacks from a local militia group who maimed or killed anyone who opposed them. These churches have embraced the TCT training and are encouraged by the healing and growth that their learning is already producing in their congregations.

It was exciting for Paul and Jonathan to be invited to meet with the senior leadership of the Gospel Evangelical Church of Kenya. This was initiated by TCT trainees who are preparing to graduate and want to take what they have learned to ALL of the GECK churches across Kenya. It is encouraging to witness the fruit of many years of prayer and training now being extended and led by the GECK pastors themselves.

### *Potential New Partners*

As some partners graduate, we can take on new groups.

- Eldama Ravine is a rural area where RW currently does not have partners. Jonathan and Paul were able to provide a vision-casting event for several denominations. When asked if there were any questions, they literally ALL asked, "When can we start?!"
- A second potential area is the Muthutheni village of Machakos county. Machakos is an area known for prevalent witchcraft and spiritual oppression.

In Muthutheni, Paul and Jonathan were invited to visit the African Inland Church who organized a TCT orientation for 27 participants including bishops, pastors, teachers, and congregants from several churches. When asked what stood out to them from the 2-day training, one participant stated, "I didn't realize that God cares about ALL areas of our lives....not just the spiritual." Another said; "I now understand that the 'truth will set you free,' and we need to know and understand the truth to fight against Satan's lies."

### *Prayer Requests:*

- Pray for Dorobo and GECK partners as they graduate, and consider how to extend what they have learned to others.
- Pray for the Ethiopia group which has received the orientation for TCT and is considering how to implement it.
- Pray for new potential partners in Kenya



# FINANCIAL UPDATE

We are grateful and continuously humbled that all of you have joined us in so many different ways. Some with encouragement, an invitation for a meal, provision of a vehicle or a place to stay, some financially, and others with a listening ear, emails, phone calls, and mostly with your prayers! Thank you!

We have so many experiences of how God has provided for us in totally unexpected ways, we wish we could share them all! We trust Him to provide, and He always does in the most surprising and humbling ways. We serve a generous God!

As we finish up 2025, here is a quick look at our financial needs for the upcoming year:

### Emergency Fund

- Emergency fund balance needs to stay around \$25,000. We are currently hovering around 21,000. Pray for the remaining funds to be topped up before the end of the year.

### Monthly Income

- We are still around \$2500 short on monthly giving.

### Travel Fund

- Travel fund to the USA \$12,000:
- With Inman looking at starting college or university next year, we plan to travel to the USA again to help him get settled.

### New Realities

- College Tuition / living expenses. We hope Elizabeth will be able to work more online next year in order to help with some of these costs.
- Pray for God to provide what Inman will need financially and physically if he goes to school next year: a generous financial package for school, a good place to live, a godly roommate, a welcoming community, a job, a reliable car.

## ANTICIPATED NEEDS 2026

Maintaining Emergency Fund

**\$4,000**

Monthly giving

**\$2500/MO.**

**(\$30,000)**

Travel to the USA

**\$12,000**

TOTAL:

**\$46,000**

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