

January 2021 Newsletter

# **Back to School**

## MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR! From Monica and Mark Hatfield

Everyone was so excited to return to school and have things getting back to normal. All students came back on Sunday Jan 3rd. The form fours had left for a short Christmas break and the Form ones, twos and threes had been gone since March 15th when we closed due to Covid. We all missed each other, even school! As the students came they checked in with the school Nurse and were checked for temperature, Malaria and the girls for pregnancy, all were negative and were ready to start on Monday. We took the last two periods off so the students could help setup for the dinner and party. We had a guest speaker, Denis Mayende, who inspired everyone to give it everything they had to do their best and to not waste one minute. Everyone was motivated to get going, but stay safe. We all had a great time being together after so long.

Thank you Monica and Mark for a wonderful day. Monica and Mark are sponsors for several students. We appreciate all you do for us. God bless you.



#### Stanley's new "TREASURE"

Living Hope welcomes our latest edition, Treasure Kutiri. December has been a very busy month for Stanley Kutiri, our Principal. His oldest son, Emmanuel age 8, had a birthday on December 17th, Treasure was born on Dec 28th, and Stanley's birthday was on 29th. We had a birthday party for them all! Mum and baby are fine, Mama and Baba are very proud parents of Emmanuel (8years old), Daisy (4 years old) and Treasure (three days old).



#### **Grad's Party**

Twenty eight of the past graduates got together for a meeting and dinner on December 27<sup>th</sup> Sunday afternoon. They are the Living Hope "THINK TANK." They came up with many ideas to help the school but settled on the project of painting the exterior of the Healing Hut. They are raising the money and hope to start by March. It will be beautiful. When you looked at the group, it made us all very proud to see such fine young men and women with so much potential to change the world and they will do it!





Mum Marilyn with all the grads.

## Lameck's House

A true miracle has happened! Because of the generosity of friends in America, the students and staff and Lameck's extra work, he is now a proud owner of a new home. The students of Living Hope and the grads started working on Wednesday the 23<sup>rd</sup> and built the house and got it under roof in one day. The next day, they made the mud and put the supports on and mudded the whole house. We are waiting for the mud to dry to put the final coats on. The windows and the doors are going in today.

Lameck Juma has been a faithful hard working employee for Living Hope since 2012. He has been our cook and has been in charge of the chickens and banana plantation. Now he is in charge of Bucket of Hope program and packs the buckets for the needy. He has made many friends here and in America because he is always happy and willing to help. He now is the father of 3 kids. They will be very happy to move into the new house and not be so crowded. Pauline, his wife, just can't wait! When they move in, we will have a house blessing ceremony to ask God to bless the family and the home.



#### 2020 College Graduates

Living Hope High School is so proud of their College graduate students who got their start from Living Hope. These students couldn't have made it without the many sponsors from America and those who also sent donations.

They have worked very hard to stand before you with a Diploma. We ask that the Lord will continue to be in their lives and give them courage, wisdom and happiness as they pursue a job in their field. Making their communities and country proud of them.



Celcious Wabwile Moi University Education English Literature Sponsor: Janis Cook



Leonard Wakhungu Agriculture Extension Education University of Eldoret Sponsor: Robert Baer







Murunga Josephat Diploma in Tourism management



Sharon Ngutuku Special education Sponsor: First Romney UMC Church

## The Great African Hunter



#### Samuel Wakoli's story

My birthday is Aug 15 which makes me 18 years old. I like doing agriculture and taking care of trees and I want to be a forester. I came to Living Hope while I was in P5. I was living near LHHS and I got to know them and they got to know me. They found out that I was smart but starving and I needed help.

I was studying at Chekulo Primary where I used to walk to school. I was being sent home at least once a week for school fees. My parents were so poor that they could not afford to pay for me or buy food. Mum Marilyn sent me to Sunset, a private primary school. Because of poor sanitation, I was sick regularly and had life threatening nosebleeds. At that point I needed a sponsor to help pay my school fees. I met Larry Anderson and he sponsored me for the next few years until I went to high school. Evans, the driver,

told Mum Marilyn about a school run by the government called Nzoia Industrial Primary School which had a good environment. I started there at the bottom of the class. With each semester, I improved on both my academics and health. When it was time to graduate from primary, I was number two in my class and number one in Math. I was a leader and became head boy. I took my KCPE TEST and scored well enough to join Living Hope High School. We had a mission team which had come to build a bridge. That was when I met Pastor Jenny Williams, who is now my current sponsor. She was impressed with my hard work and how I worked hard to help everyone. After she saw the good work I was doing, she decided to sponsor me.

After Joining LHHS, I became the school hunter. The rest of the students were afraid to go up in the attic. It was dark and creepy up there. There were snakes, ants and wasps and lots of rats and mice. I must have been a warrior in my past life because I am not afraid and I never got stung or bitten. Now, I let the rest of the kids kill the mice and rats on the ground and I hunt in the attics two to three times a week. Mum gives us 50 cents for a dead mouse and a dollar for a dead rat and a dollar for a dead snake. The rest I do for free as a service to the school to help them out.

I am planning to go to Berea College in Kentucky after graduation. They specialize in forestry. (I wish I could go right now but I am only in Form 3 and I need to finish high school first). Besides hunting, I am excellent in Math and I have won several rewards.

#### **Mudding and Fence Building**



December is always a busy month, It is when the maintenance of all the buildings in the compound takes place. Mudding all the dorms and other houses was finished last week. They are looking good. Last December, we re-mudded the interior of all the dorms, so this year, we had to work on the exterior.

For the last two months, we have been rebuilding the fences. The fence posts usually last about a year because of termites, so it's a continuous process of getting the fences in order. We finished the soccer field and it is looking awesome. Praise the Lord for all of the students and others who help with the upkeep of the school.

### Message from .....U.S. Coordinator for Living Hope- Sandy Binotto



Jambo from Sandy Binotto. Just wanted to say hello and give you a short update. Living Hope would like to thank all of those who sent donations and who continue to sponsor students, both at Living Hope and those in College. We are so proud of the ones who graduated college and who will be making a difference in their communities and our world. Living Hope was the best place to get their start!

School has started and the students and staff are so excited about the New Year. As the U.S. Coordinator and because of the Covid Virus visiting churches and sharing about Living Hope is limited to being viral on the internet or phone calls. I would be glad to have a zoom meeting or video chat with any individual or church who would like one. You will just have to schedule it with me.

Living Hope is in need of getting 16 form ones sponsored. They are at the

school but need sponsors ASAP. You can contact me at the number below for the paperwork to sponsor. If the students don't get a sponsor then the school will have to absorb the cost until they get a sponsor or they will have to be sent home. We pray that doesn't happen.

If you go to Livinghopehighschool.org you can view the students who need sponsoring. There is a picture of them, and their story. It truly is a blessing to sponsor a student. Consider doing it as a group or church. If your church needs a spark of giving HOPE this is an answer for you!

If you have any questions please feel free to call or email me.

We are praying things will get better so teams can return to Living Hope.

Prayers for those at Living Hope who have recently gotten Malaria. Those Mosquitos are surely biting lately and for the unsponsored students.

#### U.S. Coordinator/ Mission Team Leader and Newsletter

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