



Living Hope High School
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November/December 2021

Christmas Is Coming



Christmas, what does Christmas mean to you? Buying presents, decorations, family time and lots of good food. Does Jesus fit in there anywhere? Just a question for everyone. I too am trying to make it a more giving time than receiving. This year our family is doing a Giving Box at our family gatherings. I am asking that each family member bring a donation to share with a ministry in need. This year it will be Living Hope High School and then it will be passed onto another family member to pick next year. Maybe you can start a new tradition to help a deserving ministry this year. It is also a time to share about the ministry you are sponsoring.

Miracles in Bungoma

God works in strange, miraculous ways. Last week Ezekiel Wafula, our graduate and our dentist called me up in a panic. He told me a very sad story. His neighbor runs a small shop and sells vegetables at the market. A lady came up to her and asked her to hold her baby while she went to get her luggage off the bus. She waited a long time but the mother never returned. The lady did not know what to do, so she called Ezekiel. Ezekiel told her to call the police. They came and took pictures in case the baby was stolen. Then the lady called her husband who works in Nairobi to ask him what she should do? At first he was mad and said no way! They could not keep the baby. He hung up. But about 15 minutes later, he called his wife back, they talked it over and he said yes, they will keep the baby! Surprisingly, the baby was in good health and about 2 months old, a little girl. They named her, Angel Bahati (which means lucky!) Ezekiel said that she needed baby supplies immediately. Mum told Ezekiel that she would see what she could do. We told the story to all of the students and they decided to have a fund raiser, the next morning at the Wednesday service. They got excited about helping Baby Angel and raised 3600 Kenyan shillings which equals \$36. Praise the Lord!!! We are so proud of them. Ezekiel Wafula and the doctor that he works with, came to our service this morning to receive the donation. It will be such a blessing for Angel and her new family.



This beautiful scarf was woven by Sarah Fletcher, one of our sponsors. We told the mother to keep it for when Angel was sick or in need of prayer.





Solar Program

Living Hope will be starting a Solar Fund so some solar can be installed when the electricity goes out. In Kenya you just never know whether you will have electricity or not. At Living Hope when there is no electricity there are no lights to study and they have to revert back to old times using a kerosene lamp and candles. It also puts a quick halt to having the pump run so water can be used. The school then has to go back to going to the spring to carry water for the whole school. Getting Solar will be a great blessing for the school. They would appreciate any donations to this project.

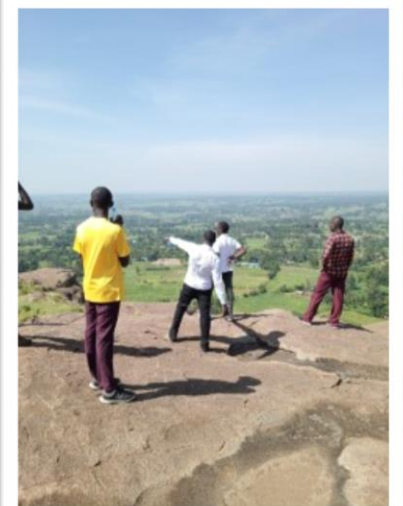
Government Sponsored Seminar

The government sponsored a seminar for the top students at each high school. They all went to Nalondo, and there were over 500 kids that participated. The purpose of the seminar was to review, revise, and get tips to improve their scores on the KCSE National Test in March. Since we have 20 out of 25 students that scored C+ or better, we just sent them all. Luckily we got there early and got front row seats. Our kids said that it really helped them to remember things they had forgotten. We hope that it will improve their scores.



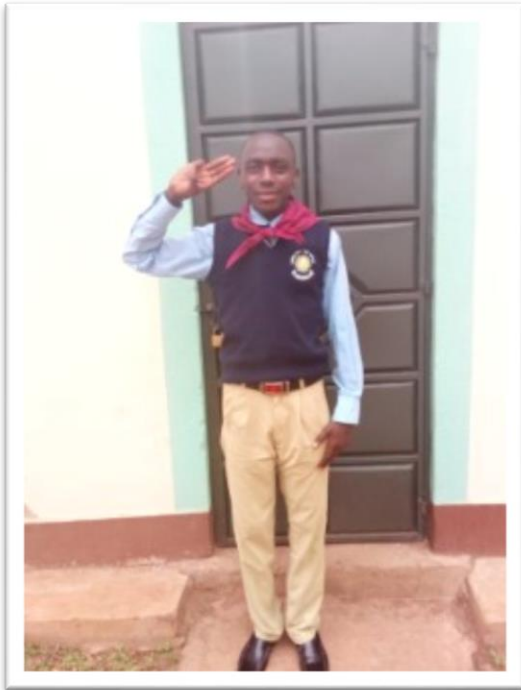
The Big Rock

As a reward for working very hard over the break, the kids went on a day trip for a hike to "The Big Rock". The big rock is all one rock and is the biggest rock in the world. We had a perfect day for the hike and everybody had a wonderful time. From the top you can see miles and miles and you are so high up that you feel close to God.



Scout Scarves

The 36 scouts were thrilled to finally get their scarves! For high school, the scarves are maroon with the scout logo in the back. They all wore them the next day for assembly and to put the flag up. They led the singing of the National Anthem, prayer and raising the flag. They were very proud!! Since they don't have any uniforms, the scarves are very important. Thanks to the people that donated and to Harun Wanjala for ordering them, picking them up in Eldoret and sending them by bus.



Bamboo Farm



Living Hope bought some land connected to the school to plant Bamboo. The Bamboo will be used to cook the food for the school and then selling some as firewood to the community if all goes according to plan. The students have visited Bamboo Farms to learn all about growing it. The school is very thankful all of those who have helped and offered help to make this dream a reality.

Living Hope Foundation

It has been a long time coming. Living Hope has been working on becoming a Foundation for some time. All the paper work is done and sent in. The Bank accepted the paper work and they now have an account. Just a reminder this is all done on the Kenyan side. There will be no tax deduction if you donate through them. It will greatly help the school with now not having to pay customs/duty for any incoming items through the post office. There is still lots to do. We will keep everyone updated on the progress.

Sponsorship is desperately needed for 18 Students

There are still 18 form one students that need sponsorship, so at this time if anyone, church or organization that would like to sponsor a student please contact Sandy Binotto, U.S. Coordinator. As someone who is sponsoring two students, one in college and about to graduate and one in Form two, it is a great gift and blessing to be a part of their lives and know we helped give them some HOPE for their future! If we do not get those students sponsored soon the school may have to send those not sponsored back to their homes. These students have already been in school for almost a year. It will be very sad to have to send them home. The school has been taking care of the 18 for a while and it is getting harder financially to continue to take care of them with no sponsors. If we can get 18 churches or individuals to sponsor the students that would be a **Christmas Miracle!** I am praying and so are they that they can get them all sponsored by the month of January 2022.

Living Hope High School is the Number 3 School in the Bungoma County out of 430 schools. It is producing, smart, Christian, productive students who have been given a chance in life and Hope from being a part of Living Hope High School!

There is also a student Brian Nasong'o, a Form 2 student who needs a sponsor. He is a wonderful student who is so helpful, he is older because he had to go home and then came back. Marilyn says he is a very kind student, hard worker and a good leader. If anyone would be interested in sponsoring him, please let Sandy know.

Mission Teams

Because of Covid, Mission Teams have been stopped at the moment. We hope and pray that soon we will be able to plan for another trip to Living Hope. Many of us have missed going and seeing our Living Hope family and the students, as well as the community that surrounds Living Hope! There have been only two people who have been reported as having Covid in Western Kenya. Many are now getting vaccinated.

Christmas will soon be upon us, and as we wait patiently for that day, for the birth of Christ who was humbly born in a stable we praise God for sending to earth His son in human form. He came to help us and the world to live out our lives worshipping Him and following Him. May you this Christmas Season draw closer to Christ and feel his presence wrapped all around you. Living Hope would like to thank all the sponsors and donors who help keep the school running and experiencing the Love of God. They just want you to know how much they appreciate all of you and your kindness and love you all so very much.

Prayers:

- Marilyn (director of the school) and the students keep healthy
- Students needing sponsors, get sponsored.
- Solar Program
- Bamboo shoots continue to grow
- Students do well in their exams
- The Girls Latrine gets repaired
- That the new curriculum the Government wants to get passed for schools, DOESN'T! Get passed.

Reminder:

Please send all sponsorship funds and donations
To Riverton UMC, P.O. Box 23, Riverton, WV
26814

**U.S. Coordinator/ Mission
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Sandy Binotto**

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A CHRISTMAS PRAYER

Eternal God, the hope of all humankind,
you gave us the greatest gift of all in
your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Son of God, you came as God's Light to
shine brightly in the darkness of minds
and hearts; bathe our world in your Light.

Jesus Christ, Word made flesh, make a way for the
Good News of your Kingdom to reach every home,
every heart, everywhere.

Protect and preserve the labourers who
courageously declare the glory of your Gospel
throughout the world. Provide for their every need
and be their strength and joy.

Be the comforter, defender and provider of the poor,
the helpless, the cold, the hungry, the orphaned,
the weary, the oppressed, those persecuted for
their faith in you, the sick, those who mourn,
the aged and the little children.

Reveal yourself to those who do not know your immense love.

Bless those who rejoice at your coming!

Glorious Lord, we join our voices to the heavenly
host and say: "Glory to God in heaven, and on
earth peace to those on whom His favour rests!"

Amen.

