



February /March 2023 Newsletter

The Great Adventure-Mission Team returns to Living Hope

The Covid Virus put a halt to Mission teams returning to Living Hope High School for two years. In May of 2022 U.S. Coordinator Sandy Binotto prayed about returning in 2023. After finding some great airfare prices, she went into action putting out the word for team members. The team filled up quickly with people who had never traveled to Kenya before. Some had heard of Living Hope and had always wanted to go to Africa. It is a fact that the Lord chose all of them to be on this team. They came with many talents and gifts to share with the school, community and the team. After the first team arrived home, there was another small team of two, who were gearing up to follow them to Living Hope. While there they did First Aid Classes and vaccinations with John Kariuki Tharuba, from I Care and the school nurse, Catherine Nelima



Left to right, first row: Kim Wolfe-Ridgely, WV.,Beth Gulick-Zanesfield, Ohio, Winnie Hurd-Wheeling, WV, Sandy Binotto- Augusta, WV, Pastor Ann Merkel-Springfield, WV.,Back Row Left to Right- Pastor Robert Carter, Keyser, WV, Judy Miller, Grafton, WV, Paul Binotto- Augusta, WV, Samantha Smith- Augusta, WV, Diane Knowlton, Ridgley, WV.



Connie Damon, Nurse Catherine and Pam Francis. Pam and Connie journeyed to Living Hope a week after the other team returned Home.

While at Living Hope the team did many things. In the morning they helped with putting the welcome kits together for the incoming Form ones. They also helped to get the graduates ready for graduation. Some team members helped with inventory. Each student had to answer an inventory sheet as to what items they had and what they needed to start the new school term. The afternoons were filled clubs. The students had their choice of what they wanted to take. They consisted of learning guitar, drumming, evangelism, writing, discipleship, budgeting, prayer-rock painting, and how to keep calm when facing challenges. The students really enjoyed them. The evenings were filled with singing, testimonies, shelling peanuts and stories. Several team members got to extract honey from the bee house one night.

Mum Marilyn asked the team to bring children's story books and then with the students put on plays. They were lots of fun for the students and team. They will now continue to do them in the team's absence. While there the team also got to visit some of the families of the graduates and students. One of the best things the team did was to go to the Market Place and set up a prayer station and pray with local people. It was a very spiritual time as we prayed, and had a gathering of children that they played with and sang with.

As a Missionary, it can get very lonely and hard at times. Mum Marilyn was so happy to have both team groups there with her just to laugh, chat, and fellowship with. There was also a time of heavy prayer for her as she was having a few medical problems. Running a school for 109 students and staff and workers can sometimes be overwhelming, and God certainly put us there at the right time. The spirit was flowing! Please continue to keep her, the staff and the students in your prayers.

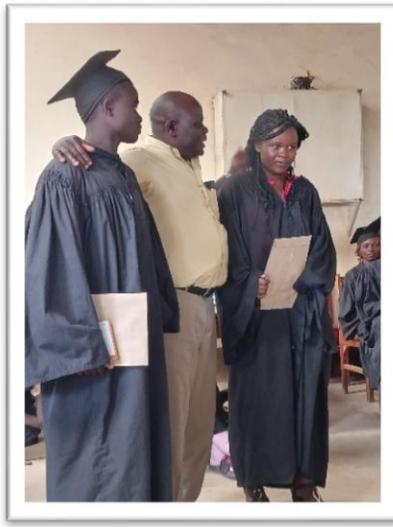


Graduation

A team member asked the team leader, “How did you orchestrate the timing that we would be here for the graduation and welcoming of the new Form One students?” She replied, “It was all God’s doing.” Graduation was a day of celebration, speeches, music, singing, prayer and food! The students dressed up in their gowns with their attached graduation hats in place, ready for the world. Parents, relatives and friends came from afar to celebrate with them. Local musicians and team members with students shared with song. Mum Marilyn, Principle Stanley, Asst. Murunga and team leader Sandy and others shared words of wisdom and love for the students. The day ended with a big meal. If you were last in line you got scrapping from the bottom of the pans, but it didn’t matter. It was a great day! A BIG, BIG thank you goes out to Peggy Barker who helped make this day so special for the students and all who attended!

There was lots of sprucing up that took place and everyone pitched into help with the cleaning, setting up and preparing food for the meal for the big day!





Front Row, Left to right: Moses Khasimo, Jane Nafula, Esther Grace, Laphna Jermimah, Lucy Kabakhana, Ian Nyongesa, Joy Walela . **Second Row**: Clasine Kabeyeba, Silca Osore, Dan Wanjala, Morgan Wamalwa, Job Walela, and Peter Mwangi. Last Row: Silas Wanyama, Caleb Wekesa, Alex Wafula, Elphas Wabwile and Winlex Jimode. Several students were not able to attend the Graduation.

“Everyone learns more from your actions than from what you say.”
Barb Bailey

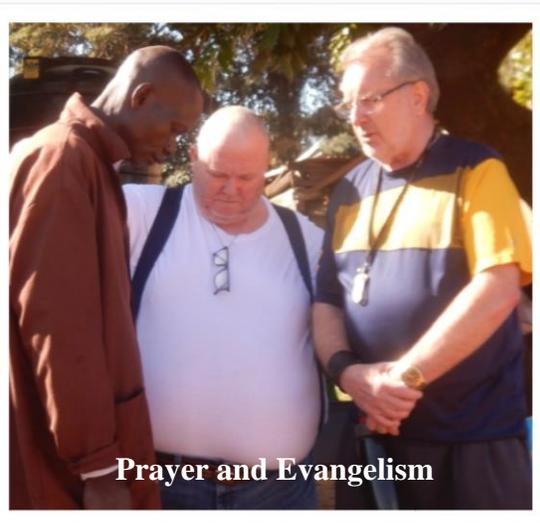
Welcoming the New Form Ones

The New Form Ones came a little scared and anxious with their parents or a relative. They sat for a welcome in the Pavilion and then Marilyn went over all the rules and regulations of being a Living Hope Student. The team then gave out the Welcome Kits filled with goodies and hygiene items they would need to get them started. Some came with nothing. They also got a T-Shirt, a Bible and a Uniform. After Pastor Robert prayed for them they were welcomed by the team and went to find their new home for the next four years. They carried their blue trunks, buckets and other items they would use while at Living Hope. The older students directed them and loved on them with big smiles and guidance to their dorms. It was a treat to be there when they arrived and the chance to get to know some them. when the team had an evening dinner with them. The team also got to have a meal with them on evening.



There are 22 Form 1 students who need sponsoring. Without sponsorship it does put a challenge in place for the school, who still has to feed, educate and house the students. God though does have a plan and with prayer and perseverance all the students will be sponsored. There are also several other students who need sponsorship in Form 3, 3 students and Form 2, 11 students. If your heart is moved to take a student, please contact, Sandy Binotto- 304-839-1505, yashe4jc@hotmail.com for information. Please remember you can do it individually, as a group or as a church.

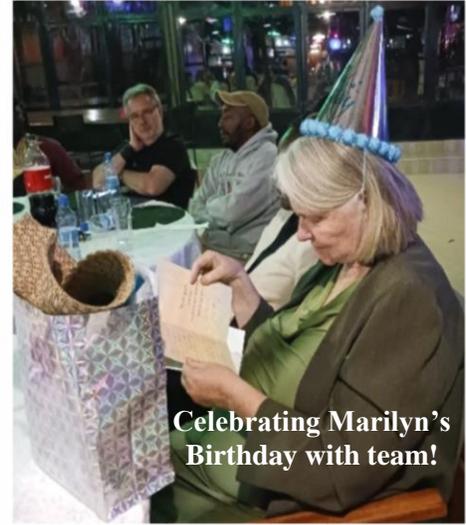
Some Trip Highlights



Prayer and Evangelism



Sunday Morning Worship



Celebrating Marilyn's Birthday with team!





First Aid Class



Assembling a Bucket of Hope



Praying at the Market Place

Living Hope thanks everyone who has donated to the Bee Garden. It is a lovely and beautiful place. The bamboo has grown, the flowers are beautiful and the Bees are buzzing and producing honey. They are soon to have a new home. Two team members, Sandy B. and Diane K. suited up to go into the bee house and visit the Bees with John Kariuki the Bee expert from I Care. Afterwards some got to taste the sweetness of their labor.

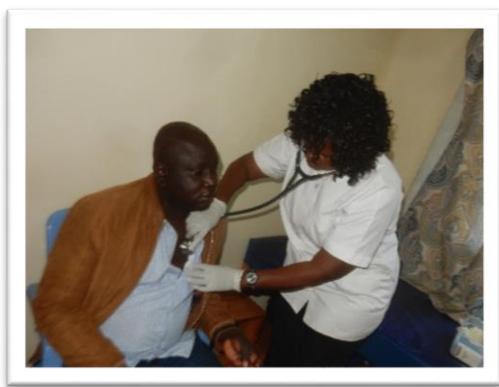


Newest Addition to the Living Hope Family

Stanley Kutiri, Principle of the School welcomed a new son Eric to his family. His wife, Merci had some complications and was taken to the Hospital. There she stayed for two weeks and then gave birth to a boy named Eric after the Dr. Eric was premature and Mercy his mom had to have a C-Section. Our team prayed a lot for this little fellow. His brother and 2 sisters welcomed him home. They sure missed their mommy.

Malaria Medicine Drive

While in Kenya, Sandy Binotto was able to watch Nurse Catherine test Stanley the Principle for Malaria. He didn't look good that morning at assembly. He said he had a headache and didn't feel well. After Catherine checked him over, the verdict was yes, he had Malaria. It is something that happens all the time in Africa. I was told that the school only receives a certain amount of funds a month for the medicine for Malaria. If more kids have it they have to treat who they can. Let us do a **Malaria Drive** for the meds so they won't have to have people who can't get the treatment they need. They can either get pills that takes longer to get well or a shot that helps more quickly. If we could get as many people as possible to give that would help alleviate the burden of being short on funding. Maybe your church or group could do a fund drive for the meds. When the students were tested while Connie and Pam were there, they had 17 cases of Malaria. The Medicine is \$30.00 for 25 pills. The School is so blessed to have Nurse Catherine who is so important for keeping the students as healthy as she can. Proceeds can be earmarked for Malaria Medicine and sent to Riverton UMC. P.O. Box 23, Riverton, WV. 26814 There will be a gift for whoever raises the most funds.



<https://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/malaria/symptoms-causes/syc>

Prayer List:

- Health of Mum Marilyn
- Health of the Students and Staff
- Sponsors for the New Form Ones and others who still need sponsoring.
- A good planting season for the crops
- Funds for the needed medicines
- Finding some Short Term Volunteers to help with needs at the school and eventually some Long Term Missionaries
- Future plans for team/teams for next year



New Projects:

- Funds for a New Stone Fence to be built by the back road
- Funds for furnishing the new Grad Dorm, which will be available for visiting Grad Students Visiting Volunteers. Needed Beds and bedding, lamps, dresser and chairs. It does have electricity.
- Funds for installing a much needed sit down toilet.

Sandy Binotto U.S. Coordinator
198 Cape Cod Dr.
Augusta, WV. 26704
304-839-1505
Yashe4jc@hotmail.com

LaVonne Hammett-Treasurer
lvhammett@yahoo.com
304-567-3139

