



June-July 2023 Newsletter



Summer Months are Busy at Living Hope



Living Hope High School was very excited to join other community schools in 2023 sport tournaments on June 14 to 16. The students competed in soccer, volleyball and leg ball. They packed a lunch and walked to the school where the games took place. The volleyball team got to practice with Sally, who was professional coach and Austine Makokha. The students played well and all had a good time. They won some and lost some games! The school would like to thank Sam Yokum and the Circleville High School for the used uniforms. They made the team look very professional.

New Stone Wall

The Men Makers are in action preparing for the new stone wall that will be built. The wall is needed to keep the dorms, class rooms and the community safe. The wall was needed because people of the community were coming in and using it as a short cut to the river and sometimes stealing items from the dorms. The school did talk to the Chief of the area and the parents but to no avail it did not stop. A seven foot high wall will be built. The boys had to cut down some trees, dig out the stumps and dig a foundation so the building can begin. We also want to thank those who donated to this project.



You can only let someone throw so many stones at you before you pick them all up, put them together and build a wall to keep them from doing it again.

Planting and Harvesting

Planting and harvesting is never ending at Living Hope. It is a constant job to keep everything growing all the time. After harvesting the field, it gets cleaned and ready to plant the next day.

Recently maize (corn) was harvested and shelled along with a whole bag of peanuts. Greens were also planted. July is a good month for planting and growing. There has been plenty of rain, no bugs and no stealing! The good growing month has really helped the community because many people were going hungry. The cost of food for the school continues to rise but they are doing what they can to deal with it.



Form Four Agriculture Project



Each year the government picks a crop with Agriculture students to grow. Last year it was carrots and this year it was Grevillea trees. Grevillea robusta is a fast-growing evergreen tree that is among the most common in Kenya. It is a tree that lives well with crops because it also fixes nitrogen in the soil. The students planted and took care of a hundred trees. The Agriculture students will take some trees home at the end of the term break to plant, and some will be given to the community and others planted at the school. They have grown well under the direction of the Agriculture teacher, Job Morara. The school is blessed to have land so that each Agriculture student can have a 12x12 plot to grow and harvest. The students learn how to plant, care for and harvest their crops. During Covid the students were growing trees when the other schools were shut down. At other schools, everybody was sent home and they lost everything. Living Hope was fortunate that a few students who were at the school and took care of the trees and saved them until the students came back.

Christian Union Group

Each Sunday the Christian Union group collects the offering at the Sunday Service. They add to it each Sunday until the end of July and then show appreciation to all of the workers at the school. A present is purchased for each cook, wood chopper, watchmen and teacher. The cooks start cooking at four o'clock in the morning to have lunch for one hundred and fifty people to eat by ten o'clock. Then a program starts with prayer, singing and rejoicing! It is a time to thank the Lord for His provision and protection. The lunch consist of chicken and everyone is happy. This is a special day of Thanksgiving. Afterwards the Christian leaders are installed and the past ones are appreciated for their hard work.

The New Christian union leaders are: Peter Mulati Chairperson ,Shamillah Sakwa,Trizer Masinde, Victoria Baraka,Debora Naliaka ,Lensin, Patience Lukendo, Kephheres Juma ,Victorious Wekesa, Miriam Naliaka ,Esther,Sharon Wekesa ,Sharon Juma, Laureen Kulima ,Clinton ,Brian Kilwake, Jimmy, Vivian Baraka , John Aquila ,Sheilah Wekhanya, Stellah Gabriel,Flavian Baraka and Alex Wanjala.



A Big Surprise



Our beloved mission team driver, friend and orchestrator for our travel and Safari's, while in Kenya, Daniel Kibe, made a surprise visit to Living Hope. He came with a friend bearing gifts from America. He had 40 boxes of books with all kinds of subjects, novels, science fiction, religious and adventure. The school didn't have a library but now has a plan to create one. The books are safely locked in Murunga's office. It was a wonderful gift to the school and they so appreciated him for thinking of Living Hope.

Daniel lives in Texas 6 months out of the year and then in Kenya. He is Kenyan and has family there. He also runs a business: KENYA ADVENTURES TOURS AND SAFARIS. If you ever go to Kenya with a team or want to go on a tour, he is someone I would highly recommend. He takes great care of many mission teams that travel to Kenya and helps guide them through the journey!

New Teachers Cabinets

For a long time the teachers have been wanting some cabinets in the staff room where they could store items for their classrooms. Murunga found a good cabinet maker who designed the cabinets. The funds were gathered for them, built and they turned out really beautiful. He did a wonderful job. Mum Marilyn after returning from the hospital couldn't believe how beautiful they were. The teachers now have a place to lock up everything. Each project improves the school and makes life better.



A Big Thank You!

Beth Gulick was a recent team member to Living Hope this past year. The school would like to thank her and the VBS kids and her church, North Lewisburg UMC, Ohio. They raised \$700.00 towards the Living Hope schools Malaria account. This will help those at the school who get Malaria and need funds to purchase the medicine needed to fight it. What a great blessing for all!



Reminder

For those who have a Form Four student who will be graduating this year, please remember to have your funds of \$200.00 for the graduating student for Practical's, and Computer Classes that they have to have, mandated by the Government. Please have them in by October. Also keep in prayer about the new school Curriculum that is coming to Kenya in 2024. The school is working on what they will have to do to make this happen. We will keep you informed of the progress.

Also when sending in sponsorship or donations please send them to Riverton UMC P.O. Box 23, Riverton, and WV 26814 and make them out to Riverton UMC. This will guarantee a tax deduction. Please earmark what the check is for, it will help the treasurer.

Two Pending Projects

- 1) **New Vehicle-** the School is in great need of purchasing a newer Vehicle. The one they have has really done well, but like all things as you get older you start falling apart and need repair. It transports students, has taken people to the hospital, transported community persons to the morgue, been used as a construction hauler and for many more things. So if you would like to donate to the Vehicle Fund, the school would greatly appreciate it.
- 2) **Land-**The school has been trying to purchase more land connected to the school and the owner has finally agreed to sell. Purchasing this land would mean the expansion of the school. It will make the soccer field bigger and the land will also be used for teaching Agriculture which is new curriculum for the high schools. They will be learning how to garden and plant which will help the school and the community. If you would like to donate to the land purchase it would be a blessing. Cost is \$17,500.

Marilyn Update

Thank you for all the prayers for Marilyn while she was in the hospital. She is now back at Living Hope and doing better. She has had some medicine changes and with Catherine (school nurse) , the staff, students and Doctors help, she will get better. Prayer does change things so keep it up!

There is still need for sponsorships for unsponsored students. If you are moved to sponsor a student please contact, Sandy Binotto or LaVonne Hammett. You can find the students who need sponsorship on the Livinghopehighschool.org website.

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