

Dear All,

We hope you are all well and we apologise for the long delay in writing this newsletter. We do not really have a good excuse only that the weeks fly by, and the newsletter seems to get put to the back of the list of 'to do' things!

We appreciate all the support that has been shown to the Lords work here, even during the ongoing Corona virus. Many have struggled with finances but have not forgotten us here. The scriptures say in Isaiah 49:15-16 'Can a woman forget her sucking child, that she should not have compassion on the son of her womb? yea, they may forget, yet will I not forget thee.'

It is very easy for us to forget even the things that mean a lot to us; we even forget the great promises of scripture the Holy Spirit has left on record for His people, but although we forget God, God cannot forget those who He has given to his Son the Lord Jesus Christ and they are in held in His hand.

Since the last newsletter in back in February, Elsie and I returned to Kenya in March. After sorting all the additional Covid paperwork we had an uneventful flight back to Kenya where we isolated for 7 days in an Airbnb, returning to the mission on the 23rd of March. It was good to return. During our time in the UK, we had spent most of the time in lock down, but it had not felt like lock down to us! In a way we have been in lock down for 6 years at the mission and this seemed like a kind of freedom to us as we were able to go for walks every day to the park and seafront, and I also was able to preach. Due to many ministers being unable to travel or isolating due to age, Hasting's chapel had many empty Lords days which I was able to fill, and it was a great blessing to be with them again and to preach the unsearchable riches of Christ to the brethren.

Not long after we arrived back a missionary called Ryan and his fiancé Samantha came to stay at the mission. Ryan had been in contact with Sam and shared his burden to take the gospel to the Somali people. Ryan had been brought up in an ungodly home on a big farm in Zambia. He was converted while in a rehabilitation clinic in South Africa; he found a Gideons New Testament in the centre, and opening it and reading from Luke 5 v 32 he was brought to see the beauty of Christ in that He came into the world to save sinners, that He had come into the world to save him! After some time, he felt the Lord calling him to the Somalis. He began studying the language but had no Church to send him, and that brought him to contact us here to see if he and Samantha could join the church to be sent out by us. The

church here heard them both and agreed to send them. In July they were married in Zambia and this month God willing they return to us here and then continue their journey to Ethiopia to study the Somali language.

This venture has its dangers. As many of you will know Somalia is a closed country to the gospel, but the Somali people have spilled over into Ethiopia with some close border cities being nearly 100% Somali. Ryan and



Samantha's aim is to go to these cities and to preach and teach the Word of God, after learning the language. His wife Samantha has fully understood the danger of persecution and life of hardship that lays ahead, please remember them in your prayers. O that the Lord would raise up more labours to enter the harvest, willing to lose sight of all here below and fixing their eyes on the Lord Jesus Christ, Philippians 1:21 'For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.'

After the Covid restrictions eased, we opened again the bible classes and youth class. Although our area at first had no cases, Kenya is seeing a 3rd wave and this time it has reached us here; at least two have been brought to the mission with severe symptoms, one sadly passing away a few days later in hospital. However, at the time of writing the government has not put any restrictions in place apart from wearing masks so we are still able to meet together freely week by week.

The cases are seemingly on the rise in Kenya, but the data is not very reliable. The vaccines are being given out but it will be a long time before it reaches the rural people here with us included.

People still come to the mission for medical assistance; although the door has been closed on a clinic due to government guidelines, we have been able with the help of our village elder to operate in a way in which we can treat wounds, test and treat malaria and stabilise emergency cases. We have also been able to employ on a part time basis a young lady called Eunice who is a care assistant. The mission also supports those who are unable to get to the hospital or pay the fees needed for a one-off operation.

Recently a young first time mother who suffered a fistula during a complicated birth was unable to fund the hospital fees for the birth, and now needs an operation. She has had to wait 6 weeks and has just been told to wait another month for the operation. The mission is providing her with the necessary items to keep her comfortable while she waits for the operation, and she is having two weekly visits from Eunice and Mama Angel to encourage her in the Lord and observe her health.

The Government state that we would need (for a basic clinic) a separate building with 5 rooms and full-time qualified staff in each room, with the whole being run by a qualified Doctor with the appropriate registration. Unless the Lord opens the door and provides us with suitably qualified people who feel lead into this specific work, we will stay as we are.



We have added some more concrete sections to the mission road and are now replacing the original mud building with a brick-built structure, this is to house the workers who sleep over night who act as security, it has 3 rooms with a toilet and shower.

The Bible classes are ongoing, although we have had some heartache in which one class of about 20 people which is located about one and a half hours motor bike ride from the mission have pulled out. After expressing interest and

asking us to start a class, many of the students stopped coming after discussions over church leadership, offended by the teaching of Word of God - that Christ is the Head of the church, and that the pastor, His under shepherd is to be male and not female. We have also

had the same problem with the Masai village who have chosen to reject the Word of God and follow their own ways. What a sad day it will be on the great day of judgment if they continue in the lies of Satan having come so near the truth and then to reject it; like Judas having kissed the 'door' of heaven and then to be lost to hells eternal flames.

We are in the process of arranging three rooms at the mission to sleep 12 people; our hope next year is to begin a Bible college, in which the students will come for one week every month for one year where they will be taught the word of God, fundamental doctrine, Church History, the work of a pastor and concerning Biblical mission work. They will join us for the weekend services and leave God willing on the Monday morning. 2 Timothy 2:2. And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.



We have also taken delivery of our fourth book to be printed: Pilgrims progress which was originally translated by the John Bunyan trust. This book has proved really popular and our hope is to continue translating and printing other books, working with the Roundwood trust. The TBS have started to translate a new Swahili Bible. This is encouraging as, although there are bibles here, they are not very accurate and the version that was previously more reliable has been altered significantly as reprints were done, and now is not based solely on the received text. The other available versions are not word for word translations. We therefore look forward to seeing this translation in the future God willing.

In May, Sam got the opportunity to go and study the Kiswahili language at a college in Zanzibar, Tanzania. Although the language is spoken and understood by millions of people in much of East Africa, for most Kenyans Kiswahili is a second language often broken with other tribal languages or English. For this reason, almost all the language schools are in Tanzania, where Kiswahili is much purer. This is especially true in Zanzibar, where it is in fact the only language spoken by the people, and most do not know English. Sam was able to go for a there for a month, trying to gain fluency in the language, and staying with a local family. Although some progress has been made, there is still a way to go and sometimes proficiency seems a long way off. Moreover, the local people are all too ready to highlight mistakes with the kind of raucous laughter that has the tendency to topple hope of success! He is hoping to go again at some point in the future God willing.

Another event that is seen by me as 'none other than the hand of the Lord' is the new road. The road we call the main road that joins the main tarmac road to the main town has always been a dirt track that is almost impassable in the rainy season; many times we have got stuck or been called out to help someone else who has. This road is being upgraded to tarmac, and the reason why is because a top government highway engineer's family home is at the end of the road, and as a retirement present the government are tarmacking the road to his house and it just happens to pass the entrance to the mission! This should take about 15 mins off our journey to town and a lot less planning in the rainy season if the road holds up to the heavy rain!





Yohana is also back from getting married in his wife's home country of Tanzania. They have now gone to Wasini island with the hope of finding a place to rent, and he will also travel to the island of Yungi to hold Bible classes with the ones there who are interested.

The Lord has also blessed Elsie and I with a healthy baby girl whom we have named Edith Margaret. After a long labour Edith was delivered by caesarean. Elsie has recovered well. Hannah has taken over the Sunday school along with Mama Angel and Eunice.

We have also had the pleasure of baptising Jesse and Daisy along with a young man call Tsuma. He had been invited to the Church many times and eventually he came and was converted. His wife has been causing him a lot of problems since he has 'changed,' as she was brought up a Muslim. She has been mocking him when he prays. She has since been caught committing adultery - a hard pathway for anyone to walk, but especially a young believer - please remember him in your prayer and us as a church as we deal with this hard situation.

We once again thank you all for you continued support.

From us all here at the mission

For further updates on the work, we have now started a mission vlog on YouTube please feel free to subscribe.

[Mombasa mission](#)