



# The Kenya Connection

*"Teach these great truths to trustworthy men who will, in turn, pass them on to others" 2 Timothy 2:2 (Amplified).*

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Serving with International Outreach Ministries



DECEMBER 2010

## MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM NORTH CAROLINA!

Dear Friends,

Cheri and I are now happily married and have had a great wedding and honeymoon. A special thanks to each of you who so generously blessed us during this very special time of our life. **Neither of us had ever had a formal wedding or honeymoon, so with much encouragement from my children to do it up fancy this time, we did.** Our wedding was great with many of Cheri's friends from as far back as twenty years arriving to celebrate with us. We as well had a great reception in Mobile at my home church, Covenant Church Mobile, with both my family and many of our supporting ministry friends from all over the gulf coast.

**Our honeymoon time was spent in the mountains of North Carolina where we enjoyed the use of a beautiful mountain condo and a mountain home** for ten days furnished by two of our long time friends and supporters. We both thank God for His grace and kindness to us as this process has unfolded over the last nine months.

## FUTURE PLANS

Many have asked specifically what our plans are for the future. Our rolls will not change with either of our missions work but will in many ways complement each other. I am now very involved in the development of new schools in East Africa and especially Uganda, my primary function being finding Kenyan graduates from KMTI that we feel can teach at a college level. While dedicating the Dr. LeRoy Curtis Lecture Hall in late September, our board asked me to also take on the **new responsibility as East Africa Ministry Training Coordinator. My plans are to return to Kenya in January and then come back to the states with George Wafula for meetings in March, April, & May to raise support for the over one hundred new students** now enrolling in the three new classes opening in early January 2011.

## OVER 1,000 GRADUATES

These last twelve years have truly been rewarding to me as a missionary to begin to see the sons of the men and women who have been trained at KMTI and UMTI begin to take their place in the African culture with a biblical view of just how they should live as Christians. In their culture children seeing their parents begin to live God's way and not the way of their parents is a major generational shift that must happen if we want God to truly bless the people of Kenya.

## MAJOR NEEDS OF KMTI

Please consider sponsoring one of the many unsponsored pastors currently enrolled at KMTI. With over ninety graduates this year, we need new sponsors. **Please consider for Christmas sponsoring a new student for the new year, possibly even sacrificially going beyond your comfort zone to make a difference in this country's spiritual future. Photos of these students are included in the enclosed flyer. Call my cell phone 772-643-5471 or complete the enclosed student sponsorship form and I will**





Above: graduating class in Kitale

Below: Philip Makokha, graduate of 2010



Kenya Ministry Training Institute



UGANDA MINISTRY TRAINING INSTITUTE

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**send you a photo.** If you are drawn to a particular student on the enclosed sheet, call me and I will list you as the sponsor. Thanks for helping us continue this growing work in Africa. I truly believe we as a people who have been given so much must do what Jesus told us to do “to whom much is given much is required.” We as a nation have truly been blessed with so much. I am also reminded that Proverbs says that when we give to the poor we are actually lending to God. **These very special people of Kenya say often to me how they marvel that someone who does not know them will bless them.** My response is that Americans are considered the most generous people in the world and they are only a manager of their finances for God on the earth!

### FROM GEORGE WAFULA...

I am excited when writing this article just looking and seeing all God has done through KMTI through the years. **We are a small school making a big difference in the lives of many people.** Last month, we had a wonderful graduation ceremony at the Kitale campus. The graduation was the first one to be held in our new Lecture Hall that was officially opened by the Honorable Eugene Wamalwa, MP for Kwanza constituency. Everybody who attended the graduation was thankful for everything but especially for the new lecture hall. It's one of a kind in our region to the glory of God. Thanks to all who helped complete it! We had a total of 17 pastors who graduated and received their diplomas in biblical studies after attending classes for two years.

The graduation ceremony began with a word of prayer from Pastror Gabriel Thuku. Then the class president gave a moving speech on behalf of the class about how KMTI impacted their lives and enhanced their understanding of God's Word. All our Kenyan teachers—Pastor Sammy Rotich, Pastor Charles Omina, and Pastor Gabriel Thuku—had a few minutes each to address the graduates. I had an opportunity to preach the Word of God during the ceremony about the call to make a difference from Daniel 6. The people listened intently and God blessed us. **The families of the graduates, their friends, and the churches that sent the students were very thankful to the school for equipping those pastors and husbands to better serve the people God has put under their care.**

I want to share with you the testimony of Philip Makokha (see pic at left), one of the pastors that graduated from KMTI. Philip is a youth pastor in one of the churches in Bungoma. He joined our school early last year to begin his first semester. Studying the Word of God truly changed his life. Philip told us that before he came to KMTI, his relationship with his father, who is bishop, and the rest of the family members was very bad. He and his father couldn't communicate with one another even when he went to church where his father was the pastor. This affected his relationship with the rest of his siblings as well as the people he was serving in the church. When he came to our college for the first time, you could tell he was having some struggles in his life. Philip says that when he began learning the Word of God, something unusual began happening in his life. The Word became alive to him, and he began to understand its truth. Philip came to a place of conviction and for the first time he realised he was in the wrong. After that first semester, he went back home and straight to his father like a prodigal son, and he asked for forgiveness from his father. The two forgave each other and that was the beginning of their relationship. Philip says after taking that step to go to his father, his relationship with the other members of the family and those in the church was also restored. He felt like some burden was rolled away from his heart. **Philip is thankful to God that he came to KMTI and heard the truth and that it changed his life.** He is now having a wonderful relationship with his father. Philip is now a free young man, enjoying good family relationships, on fire for Christ, and looking forward to getting a wife next year.

To all our partners, I say that your prayers and support have gone along way to make a difference in the lives of many in this part of the world. God bless you greatly. —George Wafula, KMTI Director

### A FINAL NOTE FROM LARRY...

Thanks to each of you that have stood faithfully through some difficult financial times to make KMTI and UMTI become realities to the people of East Africa. May your holiday season be a blessed time with friends and family.

Peace and blessings,  
 Larry, Cheri, Alex, and Rachel