

# Weaver's Kenya Update



Grace Baptist Mission - 4700 Allen Rd, Allen Park, MI 48101

Sunday, September 4, 2011

## WINTER IN KENYA

Our son Paul just sent out his latest update on "*Summer in the States*". I couldn't resist putting this headline, "*Winter in Kenya*". It has been an especially chilly, cloudy, overcast season. It is exciting now to see some rays of sunshine poking through. We are more than ready for some warm Kenya sun! I can see a parallel between our weather and our ministry.

## CLOUDY

As human beings, our vision is finite. We cannot understand the infinite mind of God. Our vision was cloudy. We couldn't understand why God would allow the camp we had worked so hard to buy and build, be destroyed by a cement factory. Now that months have passed since the sale of the property, we can see God's hand clearly at work.

## RAYS OF SUNSHINE

1. God gave us a large sum of money with the land sale. This was money we could never have raised by ourselves.
2. Part of the Camp Lukenya profits were used to buy the church property for Emmanuel Baptist Church & the East Africa Baptist School of Theology. The balance of the funds will be used to purchase a new camp.
3. The church property has many buildings that have been used for two schools. Our home church, Intercity Baptist in Allen Park, MI; gave us funds to completely renovate one of these large buildings (an old residential home) for the new Bible college. So instead of the college being located 40 kilometers (25 miles) away from Nairobi; it is now located in a prime Nairobi area, close to a large shopping mall and main roads.
4. There is a good possibility that we can buy an existing Christian camp located just 20 minutes from the church. It is located in a fertile area, big trees, and buildings that can be renovated for a new camp ministry.
5. Let me contrast the new camp location with our previous one. Joel was at Camp Lukenya this week and what he saw was complete devastation. The area has not received any rain for months. They have had one of the worst droughts in 60 years. Everything is dying or dead. The factory is pouring out dust and pollution. There is a haze around the factory and our former camp. Joel walked on the grass and it was white with cement dust. God literally saved our lives (our health) and those of our campers by helping us get that property sold quickly. To top it all off, the new owners are not guarding the property well and almost all of the metal fence posts have been stolen by thieves for scrap metal.
6. We are now living in an apartment close to our church. Our ministry opportunities with the church people have greatly increased. These past few months we have been able to help members with severe life issues, train church leadership, counsel, and more effectively meet the needs of those in our church.
7. Joel is supervising the expansion of the facilities for Emmanuel Baptist Church as well as renovating a house for the Bible college.
8. Can we shout out a hearty PRAISE of THANKS for all that God has done?

## FUTURE EVENTS & PRAYER REQUESTS

1. September 3rd: Combined church youth day at EBC, 4 preachers including Joel, Dan Huffstutler & Pastor Ken - sharing the various aspects of salvation. **Update:** 110 young adults attended the conference - great day.
2. September 23: **Pastor Ken** travels to Sudan with ongoing EBC outreach to Sudanese pastors.
3. September 14: Our son **Paul** returns from furlough.
4. September 30-Oct. 1: Ladies church retreat, Theme: **"What Choice Will You Make?"**
5. Sunday, October 23rd: 10th Anniversary of EBC; Special guests: **Steve Hafler** & friends from Highland Baptist Church in Denver will be with us for a week.
6. November 12: Joel & I leave for a short furlough in the States to visit churches, family & friends. We'll get to spend Christmas with my mother who will be turning 85.
7. Please pray that if it is God's will, this camp will be sold to us.
8. For renovations to go smoothly for the college and for Dan as he prepares for the opening of the school in Jan. 2012.

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***Thank you as always for your faithful prayer & financial support!***

Sincerely in Christ,

*Joel & Mary Ann*



*EBC morning service - September 4, 2011*

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