

# Joshua & Ruth Barron

Alitzah, Hannah Gail, Eliana, Zerachiah

Partnering with Community Christian Church in Kenya  
mostly among the Maasai

joshuaruthbarron.cmfmisionary.org



## Prayer Requests

✦ That God will be glorified in Kenya and that the Kenyan churches will become mature.

✦ That God will enable our curricula projects to be completed in good time and also implemented effectively.

✦ That the Holy Spirit will guide us as we mentor and train Kenyan church leaders.

## & Praises

✦ The CCC believers are continuing to plant new churches!

✦ For the success in May of Joshua's TBTI course.

✦ That our first Swahili language project is nearing completion.

✦ That Joshua's sister and parents were able to visit!

## "The Power of Stories"

"Stories have the power to transform people." That was theme of our Storytelling Workshop for teachers and youth workers in the Narok Central cluster of churches on July 21. Traditional East African cultures recognize the transformative power of narratives. Tribal elders and grandparents instruct and correct through stories, fables, parables, proverbs, and dramas. But in the churches, African believers have often embraced the ineffective styles of lecturing or shouting. Through our Enkinosata ("Eating the Word of God") curriculum and training sessions like this one, CCC congregations are learning that they can be both more authentically african and more authentically christian through the use of stories.



Joshua demonstrating dramatic storytelling

**Continue to pray that the Church in Kenya will become ever more rooted in the one Story that matters and ever better equipped to faithfully share that Story with those who do not yet believe.**

## Special Visitors

In July and August, Joshua's sister and parents were able to visit, each for three weeks with one week of overlap. The children have been very happy! Thanks to all of those at West Hills CC who sent greetings and gifts!

## Training church leaders ...

In May I was able to return to Turkana Bible Training Institute (TBTI) to teach Church History to a new group of students: 19 men and 2 women. Once again, I had a great time in the Lord with our Turkana siblings-in-Christ.

Our Storytelling Workshop in Narok was the culmination of a six-week training seminar led by Elijah & Ellen Ombati (serving in Kenya with a sister mission agency). The Ombatis have been using our Enkinosata lessons as the basis for the training sessions. We have planted seeds and watered, the Ombatis have been cultivating and watering, and God is giving the increase! **Give thanks for the growth and increased maturation of these fellow servants.**



## Curricula Development & Implementation

We previously reported that we were adapting our Maa *Enkinosata* curriculum for the Swahili language and culture. In February we had our first curriculum editorial committee meeting for this project, as the first draft had been completed. The second draft is now complete, and we're waiting for the typescript to be completed before we can have our final editorial meeting and take it to the printer. ***Please pray not only for the completion of this project but also for the successful implementation of the curriculum in the churches.***

Due to circumstances beyond CMF's control (including the temporary closing of the only road to Narok at one point), my MIEA (Mission Institute East Africa) courses for 2012 have been postponed. This included one course in Narok South and two courses in Kajiado. One of those was to have been a teacher's training course in Kajiado using the *Enkinosata* book as a text. When I taught this course last year at Ewaso Ng'iro, it really helped many of the CCC churches in Narok North and Narok South implement those lessons. So this has set us back a bit. ***Please pray that the MIEA courses will be able to resume according to God's own timing, and for the implementation of the "Eating the Word of God" curriculum in Kajiado District.***

Our stewardship and children's curricula are still "in progress." ***Please ask that God will bring these projects to fruition at just the right time.***



Joshua & Walter working on the stewardship curriculum

## Baptisms & church plants

It's hard to keep track of church growth (whether in numbers or in maturity) with the CCC churches spread over such large areas, but we've just heard some good news. On August 19, our congregations were blessed with 36 baptisms in the Trans-Mara region of Maasai Land. ***Please pray that these new believers will be well-disciplined to grow in their faith.***

Last year we were blessed with a total of 38 church plants, not counting various efforts where church plants are underway but not yet established. ***Give thanks to God and pray for these new congregations to grow in faith and faithfulness.***

April witnessed the birth of a new church plant in Maai Mahiu ("Hot Springs" in Kikuyu). This town is on the "border" of Maasai and other tribal areas. It is an important market and transport center. It was also one of places where the intertribal post-election violence in 2008 was particularly bad. In July our team leader Joe Cluff held a seminar on biblical leadership for the Nairobi and Raila congregations and one leader from Maai Mahiu was able to attend. ***Praise our Lord for good news! Please pray for this young congregation to be "hot" for Jesus as it offers springs of living water to its community.***

## Updates to [joshuaruthbarron.cmfmisionary.org](http://joshuaruthbarron.cmfmisionary.org):

For more about the Story Telling Workshop, including more pictures, please visit the [Storytelling Workshop](#) link on our [Photo Albums](#) page.

grace & peace and thanks,

JOSHUA + Ruth



Sand-castling



ballet "monkeys" Alitzah & Hannah Gail;  
ballet "mongoose" Eliana

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