



June 2017

Dear Friends and Supporters, greetings from Kenya!

Last month we shared with you our team's vision — *unhindered disciple-making* — and new mission statement: **“to be a catalyst of God's Kingdom Expansion in Kenya and the world through our own actions and partnerships with CCC and others.”** (“CCC” is the Community Christian Churches planted by CMF — these congregations now number well over 200.) Then we listed the first four of our eight key values which provide the foundation for our mission strategies — *Christ-centered, Prayer-powered, Empowerment of nationals, Holistic Ministries*. As promised, here are our other key values:

Partnership

We believe that healthy, like-minded partnerships are key in accomplishing our mission.

We have a unique relationship with CCC as a primary partner.

Church-focused

We believe that the Missional Church, the Body of Christ, is the agent by which God transforms lives and communities.

Community

We believe that working in community as a team and in community with the national church is the most effective way to carry out our mission.

Culturally Appropriate

We believe that unhindered disciple-making hinges on the gospel taking root in the contexts in which we serve and therefore we will use language, forms, and expressions of the Gospel and Church which grow naturally within the areas we serve.

In all of our various ministry endeavors, we are directed by this vision and mission and these shared core values. This month we will share some news about one of these ministry endeavors.

Community Christian Bible Training Institute (CCBTI)

One key way in which we are **“catalysts of God's Kingdom Expansion in Kenya”** is through training church leaders (men and women), pastors, and congregational elders. An important aspect of this is the biblical and ministerial training provided by CCBTI. The roots of CCBTI go back to two separate training efforts begun by CMF missionaries years ago. Narok Bible Training Institute was established by the CMF-Maasai team in 2003 (we joined the team in 2007) at the training centre in Ewaso Ng'iro and was a CMF ministry through 2010. Turkana Bible Training Institute (TBTI) was founded by our friend and former CMF-Turkana missionary Kip Lines in the Turkana bush in 2005 and moved to a new training center in Lodwar the following year. (Kip Lines has just returned to CMF as our Executive Director.)



In 2014, we were instrumental in helping the Community Christian Church (CCC) establish CCBTI with a uniform, shared curriculum of twenty courses across the different tribal areas. At that point, TBTI in **Lodwar (Turkana Land)** became the first “branch” or campus of CCBTI. After a number of starts and stops during 2014 and 2015, **last year we were able to launch two new “branches” of CCBTI** — returning in August 2016 to the training center in **Ewaso Ng'iro** in Narok County and beginning in September at the CCC training center in **Ng'atataek** in Kajiado County (both in **Maasai Land**). I (Joshua) have taught a number of courses: [Eating the Word of God](#), [Evangelism](#), [Discipleship](#), [& Cross-cultural Missions](#), [Church History](#), [Christian Stewardship](#)

[& Congregational Finances](#). The latter course I co-teach with **Walter Mwambushi**, a Luo who serves as an elder at the **Narok** town CCC. I continue to work with church leaders on curriculum development for these courses. Last year I worked Maasai church leaders **Francis Yenke**, **Wilson Kutinkala** to re-write the curricula for [Kingdom of God](#) and for [Church Administration & Church Discipline](#). I did the same with **Evarlyne Ololchoki** and our teammate Dori Cazier for [Spiritual Disciples](#) in 2015. (Evarlyne was my NBTI student in 2008.)

I work extensively with our good friend and Maasai pastor **Samuel Loibormong'i Tome**, as Sam is stepping into administrative roles at the two Maasai branches of CCBTI and teaching classes at all three locations. I am especially grateful for Sam. Whereas I enjoy developing teaching materials and delight in teaching, all of the administrative responsibilities are really stretching me! **Paulo Lopongo**, a Turkana, is the capable administrator of the TBTI branch. There are many other CCC church leaders — Turkana, Maasai, Kamba — who share in this work. **Please pray with us for the CCC leaders and CCBTI co-workers whom we have named above.**

This year I have taught [Church History](#) at the Ng'ataek branch and will be teaching [Christian Stewardship & Congregational Finances](#) with Walter there in this month and in Lodwar in July. After teaching Church History the first time in Lodwar a few years ago, the students told me, *"Now we know that the Church is not just the religion of light-skinned foreigners, but is deeply rooted in African soil."* After teaching Church History this year, the Maasai pastors asked me, *"come and teach this again as a seminar for the local churches in our areas!"* So you can see, partnerships like yours with us are making a difference in the expansion of God's Kingdom in Kenya!



Joshua teaching *Church History* in Ng'ataek, June 2017



Wamaitha, Ruth, Wachera (at HomeGroup)



Ahaviah (4) thinks her Daddy is a king and made him a crown

As always, we would be happy to hear your own news of the Kingdom. If you'd like to join our prayer team, or our team of financial partners, let us know that as well!

grace and peace to you in our Lord and Friend Jesus,

Joshua & Ruth

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CMF-Kenya

Would you or someone you know like to partner with us financially?
Communicate with the CMF office (see address below), send us an email at JoshuaRuthBarron@CMFmissionary.org,
or visit <https://give.cmfi.org/p-57-joshua-ruth-barron.aspx> online.

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