



News from Kenya

Spring 2010

u.ten.go (Swahili): a refuge, shelter

Two Water Tanks Near Completion!

Later this spring, the short rainy season in Kenya will help fill new water tanks now under construction at two Kisii-area schools. It has been a joy to watch the evolution from dry earth, to deep holes in the ground, to walls of brick and mortar. We have also learned that community leaders enlisted enough local assistance to increase the size of each tank from 30,000 to 57,000 gallons! At full capacity, this would meet the water needs of 1,000 people for a week or more.

The pictures below from Ritaro Primary School show the progress over the last six months. The Ritaro tank will be operational

after roof gutters are routed to the tank. Bugo is scheduled to be completed within two months. These will bring to three the number of tanks funded by Utengo supporters.

Principal William Ombati stressed the impact the tank has had at Boruma Secondary: "Students are in class more and they are healthier because they aren't going long distances to get water from polluted streams."

We thank God for donors who have enabled us to share this wonderful gift. We are praying for \$8,000 in funds to complete two additional tanks in 2010.



June 2009 - Parents get started



July 2009 - Excavation



October 2009 - Finishing walls



January 2010 - Final touches



January 2010 - The water bearers



The Word Brings Life

In many Kenyan churches, the tithes and offerings consist of a few coins, and some tomatoes, corn, or other “first fruits” picked from the fields. With little income, pastors toil year after year to share the good news of the Kingdom of God with their congregations. Utengo cofounder Pastor Zedekiah Osoro is one of those who continues to light the darkness in the crime and poverty ridden slum of Tassia, Kenya (outside of Nairobi).

Utengo is committed to helping ministries like these. We primarily focus on providing Bibles so new Christians can become mature, strong Christians

through whom the word of God lives!

We regularly receive requests for Bibles from ministry leaders. Pastor Zedekiah is using previously purchased Bibles at Tassia Church. And an order was recently completed to furnish 200 Bibles to a pastor who has waited patiently for 18 months. He still needs another 200 to provide a minimum number to the churches under his jurisdiction!

A Bible is simply unaffordable for most Kenyans; a country with an unemployment rate of 40% and inflation at 26%. Utengo purchases study Bibles from Colorado-based Biblica (formerly Inter-

national Bible Society) and the Bibles are delivered via the Biblica offices in Nairobi, Kenya. Have you ever given an \$8.00 gift that was worth so much?



Pastor Zedekiah’s church conducts a youth crusade where several accept Christ as their Savior!

Visiting Kenya in 2010



Verway (r), in 2008, with high school student Dinah (l)

We look forward to returning to Kenya later this summer. Our itinerary will include:

- Bible delivery and ministry
- School visits
- Visits to orphans who receive support through Utengo
- Review of current and proposed projects

(Our travel costs are personally funded; the entire amount of donations is allocated as specified to us.)



OUR MISSION

To faithfully manage contributions from caring persons to support communities and Christ-based Kenyan ministries

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Orphanage Note

In recent years, kind-hearted persons have supported dozens of orphans in Kenya. After careful consideration, we are modifying our support in that we will no longer coordinate sponsorship of specific children who reside at orphanages. We are taking this step because of the difficulty in tracking funding to individuals, and the fact that sponsorships can place facility staff in the difficult position of helping one child while the rest remain in need. Utengo will continue to welcome general contributions for living expenses to be shared with orphans as best determined by Utengo.

We appreciate your understanding and for your continued support of orphans in Kenya.

Be sure to call or write with any questions or comments, and look for more updates in future newsletters!

