



### SENDING CHURCH

Bible Baptist Church  
3301 North First Street  
Jacksonville, AR 72076  
(501) 982-8826

Pastor: Dr. Mike Files  
Website: [www.bbcjax.com](http://www.bbcjax.com)  
[m.baker@bbcjax.com](mailto:m.baker@bbcjax.com)

### Phone

501-251-9138

### E-Mail

[mail@shelbysinkenya.org](mailto:mail@shelbysinkenya.org)

### Website

[www.shelbysinkenya.org](http://www.shelbysinkenya.org)

### MISSION ADDRESS

Baptist International  
Missions, Inc.  
P.O. Box 9  
Harrison, TN 37341  
(423) 344-5050  
Website: [www.bimi.org](http://www.bimi.org)

*"To give light to them  
that sit in darkness  
and in the shadow of  
death..." Luke 1:79*

Dear Friends and Prayer Partners,

May - June 2020

We have been doing Facebook updates during the month of April when things started getting crazy everywhere with countries closing borders.

Things have calmed down a bit, but some of the lockdowns are still in place. We are not sure when they will be lifted, but it won't be any time soon here in Kenya. Most of the country is going about its daily business as usual, but with the precautions of face masks, checking for temperatures in some businesses, and with road blocks between counties. Church services have been banned as well as all large gatherings. Funerals have been confined to less than 15 people.

We encouraged our Pastors and College students to hold small Bible Studies in their homes and divide the church into area groups, so that they can still meet and help each other through these difficult times. I'm excited to say that it is working very well and there are more than 50+ groups (from the 28 churches that we have started) meeting together every week. Over 25 have people have been saved in these home Bible Studies, and in Narok (where we have plans to start a church) there are several that are ready to be baptized. Pastor Andrew Maiko was able to lead his mother to the Lord through these Bible Studies, and it has also given college students more courage and it is developing leaders. I have been sending out my messages to all of the pastors and students and several others to encourage them during this time. They are using it as well to encourage others. We are praying for revival here, and we are excited about what God is going to do through all of this. All of our nationals are doing well, trying to cope with the new normal.

There has been a lot of rain throughout Kenya and Lake Victoria has been hit really hard, at one point over 100,000 people were displaced because of floods. We have several members living in schools for shelter, because their homes were flooded. Our church in Sidundo was under water for at least a week. Lake Victoria has risen over 40 feet since last year, and it has caused problems for 30 million people that live around the lake in East Africa.

On the other hand, Kenya just reached the 1,000 mark in Corona virus cases and has 50 deaths. There is a lockdown of movement for International travel and also transport to and from the Nairobi area. They have also closed the borders with neighboring countries. We are outside the Nairobi area and cannot drive or fly there until they lift the lockdowns. Thankfully we are able to travel in the whole region where our works are. The International Airport here is working on making the changes to international standards for the social distancing of passengers and other corona virus precautions, but it could take a couple of months to complete everything.

We were expecting to go to the States to be there for Abigail and Robert's wedding on June 6th; but this isn't going to be possible. We thought that since the lockdowns are so open-ended and vague on the reopening, that they should still have their special day and begin their lives together. Please pray for everyone during this time. Her wedding will be streamed online. You can look up details and even RSVP as an online guest here: <http://theknot.com/abigailfoundrobert>. Thank you for your prayers during this time.

We have been able to complete our move to Kisumu, and we are getting settled in with contacts of people. We were able to get a one-room air conditioner installed through some donations this month. Tonya is doing much better with her breathing and heart rate at this elevation, and we are so thankful to God for this.

We are still trying to get our shipment from the states and had a few logistical problems. We still need to raise \$5,000 + for this. I have been told that it should ship out by the middle of June. We are not sure how much it will cost on the Kenyan side because of the delays that are being experienced at the port due to the Covid-19 situation.

Thank you for your prayers and your sacrificial support during this very difficult time. We pray that God will keep you and bless you very much.

*Luke + Tonya Shelby*

Luke & Tonya Shelby  
Missionaries in Kenya

