



Luke 1/19 • Tonya 6/20 • Caleb 11/25 • Kay-Leigh 11/23

SENDING CHURCH

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

Dear Prayer Supporters and Friends,

February 2024

We are already blessed with the New Year and new plans for our ministries in Kenya. This letter looks forward to those plans in the years to come, broadening our focus in the work that He has called us to do in Kenya. We will be heading back to Kenya on February 13th as empty nesters and covet your prayers for our family and continuing ministry.

Here are some specific prayer requests as we begin on the next phase of our work in Kenya:

1. **CHURCH PLANTING:** Initiating the establishment of 3 new churches that have been in the planning stages during our time in the states.
2. **EDUCATIONAL EXPANSION:** Expanding our Bible College classes for young people and pastoral classes, welcoming around 20 more students into our programs.
3. **INTERNSHIP PROGRAM:** We desire to influence, train, and develop young people into the next generation of missionaries in Africa. Over our 25 years in Kenya, we have witnessed the population more than double, and there's a projection that most African countries will double again by 2050. Recognizing this, we feel a responsibility to play our part in preparing missionaries for the next generations of lost souls. The growing need for missionaries in the harvest fields of Africa encourages us to launch an Internship Program for Bible College Missions students. This program aims to integrate a student's internship with their home church alongside a 1-3 month internship in Kenya, to enhance their success on deputation and in their initial years on the field.
4. **KENYA LEGACY FUND #501:** The need to acquire land and build church buildings for our ministries in Kenya is becoming more pressing as our ministry is starting new churches at an accelerated pace. Approximately 12 projects require attention and focus over the next several years. Drawing inspiration from Joshua 22, where tribes on the eastern side of Jordan built an altar as a witness of unity between them and the other tribes so that the generations to come would know that they were one people, and due to the amount of money that is used during land purchase and building church buildings, we have been advised to establish the **KENYA LEGACY FUND #501** at BMI for these endeavors. If your church wishes to contribute to these building projects, kindly use this account to help us avoid personal tax accounting issues.

Here are a few initial projects that we will address upon returning to the field, with most costs becoming clear as we assess the situation:

1. Bible College Dormitory Building (1st phase \$5,000)
2. Temporary buildings or rent for the new churches.
3. Purchasing or leasing land for churches where needed.

For those interested in contributing more than \$1,000 towards a project, please use the new account number (#501). Any questions about the projects can be directed to me via email, and I'll provide an updated list and address any inquiries. Thank you for your unwavering love for the Lord, our family, and for your dedication to serving Him.

For Souls in Kenya,

Luke + Tonya Shelby

Luke & Tonya Shelby
Missionaries in Kenya