

March/April Newsletter from the Hornes



Dear Ones!

The year is almost a quarter gone and we're just now getting to the first newsletter of the year. We apologize for the lack of communication. If our financial support level were based on newsletters then we would be in trouble! A lot has happened this year already so let us share with you.....

SUSIE'S MOM WITH THE LORD

Just after the first of the year, we got word that Susie's mom, Jean, was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. At 83 years of age, and with a late detection of this disease, there was no hope humanly speaking, for her to survive. Jean Williams was clear about it all, "I'm ready to go

meet my Jesus face to face. I only want to live long enough for Susie to get here."

So Susie went to the US and ended up being there for a whole month. Her mom passed into the arms of the Lord on February 1. After 60+ years of marriage, her dad will now move to live with Susie's sister in Missouri so that he will not have to live alone. Susie's parents served the Lord together for more than 50 years. Awesome!

GRANDBABY KARIS!

On February 3, just two days after Susie's mom died, our 3rd grandbaby, Karis Hope Dillon, came into this world. I sort of reckon that Susie's mom and Karis passed each other – one going *to* heaven and one coming *from* heaven!

Little Karis was born with a slight complication. It has been discovered that she has a hole in her heart (heart murmur) and the pediatric cardiologist says that unless it closes by itself then surgery at age 4 may be necessary. We just pray that God will close this up. As we know, everyone has a "God-shaped hole" in his heart that can only be filled by God, but we pray that this physical hole will also be closed up soon.

Grandchild #3, Baby Karis Hope



MINISTRY NEWS!

TIWI BAPTIST ACADEMY 8th graders took the Kenya Certificate of Primary Education (KCPE) exam late last year and we received the results in mid-January. All passed! Our mean score ranked 4th in the District out of over 300 schools and all are now in secondary schools. Also a praise, in this new year we have 300 enrolled in the school.

Mariam Stands For Jesus! The news gets even better. Many of you know that this school is designed to win the Digo Tribe to Christ. This is an official "unreached people group" that is solidly Muslim. Mariam came to our school many years ago. From a Muslim family, she has constantly had pressure on her NOT to convert. When she went to her secondary school far away from here, she had to declare her "religion". With a conscience toward her father she checked the block for "Islamic".

A day or so later at the mosque she felt ashamed. She began to cry and was depressed. Finally, her supervisor found that she felt badly because in her heart she knew she was a Christian and not a Muslim, had never really known how to worship as a Muslim and wanted to change her status to "Christian." With the help of her good teacher this was done and she is doing quite well spiritually and academically!

Construction of \$320K Project/Phase 2 Begins



CROSSROADS FELLOWSHIP- Nyali

Ground Breaking for Phase 2 We just broke ground to build Phase II of this “non-denominational Baptist Church”. After months of deliberation and taking bids etc, I signed the contract just last week to build our educational wing at a total cost of \$320,000. That is a lot for this church to handle! Through our giving and some donations in the US we currently have half of what is needed to finish the project. We have a “labor only” contract which means that we are trusting that our members will step up and help supply **materials** as well as money.

This project will go on for 8 months and the addition is *right in front* of our worship center so we will have to look at a big, yet beautiful mess for a long while!

Christmas Worship Service We had our most blessed Christmas worship ever with almost 800 in attendance. We took an offering for the Tumaini Children’s Home again this year and were able to donate \$1600.00 to help this HIV orphanage.

Mission Trip CF gives 10% of its general fund offerings to missions and we sponsor five different projects each month with a budget of around \$500. Last year we were also able to give a total of \$3200 to help build the South Horr Baptist Church building just near the desert in northern Kenya.

This just wasn’t enough for some of our members! Our couples Life Group took it upon themselves to do a mission trip to a church I helped build about 18 years ago. A group of 30 CF people traveled 2 hours out into the bush to help rebuild some broken down things in the church and to donate quite a lot of clothing and other items to the church. ***It has been decided that there will be a mission trip like this every quarter!*** I am very excited about what God is doing in this group of people in our city church!

Quick Facts of CF

- Church began in store front in June 2002
- Moved to hotel in June 2003
- Moved to house with tabernacle tent in back in Nov 2003
- Moved to permanent facility Dec 2007
- Has grown an average of 23% for 6 years
- Grew 28 % in 2009 with average attendance of 683
- Average attendance in 2010 is 710

CROSSROADS BAPTIST BIBLE INSTITUTE

Formally called Faith Baptist Bible College, we relocated to the campus of Crossroads Academy in Vipingo last year. We have just completed our first term of 2010 with 18 students. I am more excited than ever about the potential of this institute! With the new location and facility, we are able to do much more than we could before. We have built the dorm so that we can actually take up to 32 students per term. I believe that this will be a reality in a couple of years!

CROSSROADS FELLOWSHIP AND ACADEMY - VIPINGO

The first term is almost over and we now have 204 pupils in K – 3rd grade. The staff at this school is marvelous! They work tirelessly and cheerfully! Great people! In partnership with Fox River Christian Church in Wisconsin, we rejoice that God is doing so many great things in so many lives. The church on the same campus (Crossroads Fellowship – Vipingo) now averages well over 400 for Sunday worship.

Fetching Muddy Water

TUMAINI BAPTIST CHURCH AND ACADEMY

Stephen Chengo is a great man of God working in a difficult place doing a fine job with very little resources. He has 123 children in a broken down mud school building, with 30 of them being orphans. He has helped to establish 6 other churches in his area in addition to being a pastor.

I can only help with the feeding of the children in this school but I would like to do a project to help that community. A bore hole yielding clean water is essential in that area. During the dry season (August – April) the people draw water from a pathetic pond formed during the rainy season by use of a dam the people of the area made a long time ago.



★ I would really like to drill this bore hole soon at a cost of \$6500. If you can help, please send a gift to Christian Light Foundation in Jacksonville, FL designated to this cause!

BARAKA BAPTIST CHURCH AND SCHOOL

Way down near the Tumaini Baptist ministries mentioned above is the Baraka Baptist Church and Academy with 188 children enrolled. This year we have been able to build a new classroom and we finished up the dining room. The good people of Abundant Life Baptist Church in Missouri have generously sponsored this ministry for several years and have graciously agreed to send much needed funds to help build another classroom, new uniforms, new toilet facility and books!

Personal

- Susie and I will be visiting the US in mid-April to:
 - Health checks for both of us
 - Susie will need hip replacement surgery sometime this year
 - Jim has his regular check to make sure cancer has not returned
 - Visit Jim's mom who is in the last stages of Alzheimer's
 - See our newest granddaughter, Karis, born in Jan – for the first time for Jim!
- We just had a major surge of electricity that killed our micro-wave, fridge, tv, all computer adaptors, printers and cell phone chargers. Sometimes Kenya Power gives you too little – and sometimes they give us too much! Replacing these things won't be easy.
- We have to vacate the house we have lived in for 5 years upon our return from the visit to the US in May. Moving to an apartment. Less hassle, cost, better security..... But sadly we have to give up our dog Victor! ☹

Please pray for:

- Susie to find *right doctor, right time and place* for hip replacement
- Jim to remain cancer free!
- Finances for Operation Give Hope. Many children in our schools need sponsors.
- Crossroads Fellowship to complete the building project on time – December this year!

Finally Susie and I want to again apologize for the poor correspondence this year. We promise to do better! We are truly grateful for your partnering with us in these ministries in Kenya. God has done great things. Only eternity will reveal it all!

With love and prayers!
Jim and Susie Horne