

# NEWSLETTER JANUARY-APRIL 2009

## *The Tenth Anniversary*

Before we give any report; we first of all thank God for the favor he gave us this day. We would also like to thank you for the support you gave us in prayer, financially, or in any other way.

We haven't had such



*THE VENUE*

a big anniversary celebration since HCF was launched in 1999. For this reason; having gone through the ten years, we thought it would be good for us to meet with our friends and give thanks to the almighty God for everything he has done. When we decided to have our celebration and fixed the date, we were full of expectations. E.g.:-

1. We expected

many persons with disability to grace the occasion as the honored guests.

2. We expected many of our friends to come and join us from all over Kenya and even across the borders.
3. We also expected several government officials to be in attendance.
4. We expected that people would be blessed both spiritually and physically.

**(1Jn 3:23)**

**This is his commandment: to believe in his Son, the one named Jesus Christ, and to love each other as he commanded us.**



*Ms. Elisabeth (HCF Founder) gives an overview of the ministry.*

5. Due to our venue Choice, we expected to have good weather for people to travel without any difficulties.
6. We expected all bills towards this function to be fully paid on time.

And the list of expectations can be taken further than this. For all these to take place, we needed lots of things e.g.,

- Buses to transport people from as far as Thika
- Tents and chairs
- Food and drinks
- Lots of ground preparation because the land has no buildings and is about 5 Kilometers from the road.

As the day approached, we noticed that we had a huge deficit in terms of finances to enable us host all the people we had invited. We

had to write to our friends explaining the situation we were facing. The response to this need was awesome.

### **THE DAY**

Despite the transport hitches we had in the morning, people arrived in large numbers. One bus picking people from the city centre arrived at around 10:00am instead of 8:30am as



*A group from Thika fellowship presenting a song.*



*Pastor Ben Irungu shares the Word of God with the congregation.*

## The tenth anniversary



PEOPLE SINGING SONGS OF PRAISE TO THE LORD

agreed. You can imagine the struggle from the organizers who had to explain to the wait-

ing disappointed crowd. We want to send special thanks to those who patiently waited for the bus for all that time as we also apologize for the inconvenience caused.

When we reached the venue some minutes to 11 am (the time the function was to begin), the tents people were still struggling with the wind and dust that was heavily blowing through this treeless ground. At a certain moment, the wind blew the chairs down. People started arriving and at about noon, the program begun.

Pastor Masha from Parklands Baptist Church (PBC) led the congregation in a vibrant praise and worship as the youth ushered people in; helping the persons with disability alight from their buses as clouds of dust whirled across the congregation. May the Lord richly bless these youth from PBC.

After several presentations, Pastor Ben Irungu from Membly Baptist Church presented the word of God to the people and we were truly blessed. Food was served at around 3pm, and we thank God that it was

sufficient and delicious.

*Were our expectations met?*  
**YES!**

About 450 people were in attendance, from different parts of the country and even across the borders. Our friend and supporter; brother Bernd Winkelstraeter flew all the way from Germany to come and attend

this anniversary. Some came from the western part of Kenya, some from Thika and many others from Nairobi. Several neighbors also attended and the government was also well represented by the area chief and politically by the area councilor. The weather was also fantastic; every one drove to the venue

without any difficult.

Thank you again for your involvement in whatever capacity. Even those who were unable to attend; we thank you for keep-



OUR GUEST BROTHER BERND SHARING ON BEHALF OF OUR GERMANY SUPPORTERS.

ing us in prayer and also for your contribution. May God richly bless you.

For about ten years, we have been fellowshiping with persons with disability from Tanzania who beg in the city streets of

Nairobi. For effective ministry, we desired to go and visit their home country for us to have an idea on how they live. We felt

### HCF TEAM IN TANZANIA

that, this would help us serve them better. Finally this year, it became possible for us to travel

over the Easter.

The journey began on 8<sup>th</sup> April 2009 at 6am in Nairobi. Three staff from HCF namely Johnson, Reuben and John were in this trip plus two hosts of the Korogocho fellowship namely Mr. Ibrahim and Mr. Paul who have suffered from leprosy and lost some parts of their bodies.



## *Hcf team in Tanzania*

It took us more than 12 hours to reach Mwanza town situated at the shore of Lake Victoria. After alighting from the bus, our efforts to get a vehicle to transport us to our second destination was not fruitful. We learned that, Vehicles are not allowed to travel at night. We therefore had to spend the night in a guest house in Mwanza.

Early in the morning on 9<sup>th</sup>, we took off in a “DalaDala” similar to the Kenyan “Matatu”. In about an hour, we arrived in Bukumbi the home of Mr. Paul.

We spent some time with Paul’s family and in the afternoon, we went to visit other families. We shared and prayed with them and bid them farewell as we proceeded to Kigongo where Ibrahim’s family resides. The family was very generous, they placed before us fresh fish which had just been fished out of Lake Victoria with the famous Ugali meal both known to the Kenyans and Tanzanians.

We spent the night in Kigongo and on 10<sup>th</sup> we again took off in a

DalaDala aiming to reach Shiguna before 4pm. The journey took longer than we expected. We found out that the route we wanted to take did not have proper means of transport and we had to wait in a certain place for more than three hours.

When the DalaDala arrived, it had more than enough passengers; we had no other choice but take it. The driver was over speeding and overtaking carelessly. It was a very scary journey.

Our final part of the journey was to be done by bicycles. We hired 6

bicycles which were enough to carry us plus our luggage.

We arrived at the church at around 6pm and we really thank God for His protection. By this time, the pastor was releasing the people to go and rest in preparation for the next day’s three services. The Pastor then took us to his house, and

what a joy that we could now rest.

On 11<sup>th</sup>, we joined the other believers in a service from 9:30am. The Pastor gave us an opportunity to briefly share with the congregation and latter on attended a water baptism where more than 100 believers were

water baptized. Praise the Lord!

The people of this church tirelessly praised God through singing. This really blessed our hearts. The songs were vibrant and the message was very clear. We had also brought some Bibles with us which we handed

to the Pastor who later distributed them to the elders/ evangelists of the church. They were very glad for this gift. The pastor later shared to us that, one particular person had really been requesting for a Bible and this was an answered prayer.



*HCF  
PRESENTS SWAHILI BIBLES  
TO THE CHURCH LEADERS  
IN TANZANIA*

### **OUR FINDINGS**

- The most impressive thing for us was that, our hosts whom we travelled with i.e. Mr. Ibrahim and Mr. Paul were what they were in Kenya. How we had known them in Kenya was exactly how people knew them in Tanzania. We were therefore encouraged to know that whatever we had been

learning in our fellowships was put into practice.

- We found out that, the church was not discriminating them unlike the community which practices isolation of lepers.
- Some of the people were not as desperate/poor as they appeared in the Nai-

robi Streets while begging. We shall now be able to help people more effectively.

- We also met some people who have been coming for our fellowships in Nairobi, to be people who are involved in occult practices. We saw some small houses on their compounds which were completely unusable. When we inquired what these houses were for; we were surprised to hear what they said. They believed that, their forefathers were dwelling in these houses and were able to answer their prayers. This was an eye opener for us. We request you to pray for these people to come out of this bondage.

*Thank you so much for your prayers and support. Receive many greetings from our brothers and sisters in Christ from Tanzania.*

### **(1Jn 3:18) ...we must show love through actions that are sincere, not through empty words.**

We've had several visits to people and the need to reach out is as urgent as it was ten years ago if not the day of the great commission.

We visited several families of persons with disabilities, some had never had an opportunity to hear the gospel in an individualized setting and they were so grateful and accepted Christ as their personal savior.

When a child is born, new responsibilities also begin. Please pray for Mama Dennis and her family for spiritual growth.

One of the ladies we visited was recently diagnosed with cancer and has to start treatment which is expensive. Please pray for Susan, for healing, provision and the peace of God upon her life.

We also visited another man who was going through serious neglect from the family. He was infested by jiggers and our team had to offer some type of first aid but truly more should be done. His name is Kanatha.

Teressiah a mother of two is also going through hard times financially, she needs to be financed to start a small business to boost her income.

The needs of the people we've visited revolve around this two areas.

1. Discrimination/rejection from the society.
2. Lack of very necessary things for everyday life e.g. food, good shelter etc.

Against all odds, those who know the Lord have decided to offer praises and thanks to our God.

In April, we had very encouraging fellowships in Nairobi and Thika respectively. We spent time worshipping the Lord and encouraging one another. If you came into the room, you wouldn't think that these people were under such circumstances.

We are currently in the final stages of taking some people to offer them housing. We've already identified the house and our prayer is that they will receive holistic reha-

bilitation of their lives.

**Mat 25:35** I was hungry, and you gave me something to eat. I was thirsty, and you gave me something to drink. I was a stranger, and you took me into your home. I needed clothes, and you gave me something to wear. I was sick, and you took care of me. I was in prison, and you visited me.'

Jesus knew we would always be presented with such opportunities and that's why we shall have no excuse for our lack of involvement.

For any further information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

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*May the Lord richly bless you.*

*Elisabeth Resner & team.*