



Stephen and Angelina Cowan

Location: **Tuum, KENYA**

Mission: **Church-based community development and outreach**



As many of you know, our time in Ireland was briefly extended because of the decline in health of Stephen's mother and subsequent death in old age just prior to our intended travel date. We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who passed on messages of condolence. Your kind words were greatly appreciated.

We will return to Kenya on 9th December in time for the December youth camps. This is the first opportunity to run the camps since 2020 on account of Covid restrictions and shortened holiday periods. The more localised village camps that were put in place during this period communicated the gospel well, but wider area interaction among the youth is essential to encourage growth and development, and as schools have closed for the exam season, we know that many children and young people are looking forward to their time together.

Reports from Tuum indicate that the harsh dry weather continues while cattle raiding appears to be intensifying. Recently, 900 animals were stolen from Samburu and subsequently found in the Turkana area. After negotiation, men from the raiders' community agreed to return the cattle, but their witch doctor (amaron) said "no". The spiritual dimension and the binding fear generated by demons is clearly seen in this. When the Bible talks about freedom in Jesus Christ we realize just how amazing is its message.

DECEMBER 22/JANUARY 23

The drought has led to shortage in food supplies throughout Kenya and the importation of maize from other countries has been vital.

Amongst the literate city population, the issues associated with imported GMO food is hotly debated while in rural areas illiteracy creates a barrier for dissemination of knowledge and issues of the day are largely unknown. We continue to seek technological advances that will help improve literacy rates within village communities thereby improving knowledge transfer and opportunities for all.

The gospel still continues to impact lives and we are encouraged that some want to meet to study the Bible and see how it speaks into their lives. Each generation needs to understand that God expects them to persevere and that He is with them in the struggle as they seek to pass the gospel on, generation to generation.



Prayer Points

- Give thanks for the continuing opportunity for the SAA programme to foster change in the area.
- Pray that the iTech programme would continue to develop, allowing for greater knowledge transfer at village level.
- Pray for the young people as they attend the youth camps from 10th – 20th December that they would be challenged by the gospel message and lifestyle choices and that they may return to school in January 2023 for a more settled year.