

## Stephen and Angelina Cowan

Location: **Tuum, KENYA**

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

**November 2023**



Only after being delayed a week in Nairobi while we applied for, corrected, re-applied, re-corrected and then personally visited the immigration department, was Stephen's work permit application eventually uploaded on the system and we were on the road north.

We were accompanied by 'Blaze the Bee', PCI's children's ministry mascot and we tried to visualise and record the drive through his 'eyes'. He had a bumpy dusty journey and like us, was glad to reach Tuum! To look through another's *lens*, not shaped or focused by our cultural background, personal perceptions or even age, often requires effort and help! Blaze's exploits should soon be available on his web page.

Bonsoul, a Kenyan graduate is staying with us at present. To view life and work from his perception is refreshing and thought provoking. He is cleaning and preparing the existing SAA library to become a venue for computer literacy training during the holiday period. Apart from final exam students, all other pupils are finished for the year and much time and boredom leads to many sad situations.

Peter, a retired chartered secretary, originally from Ireland, continues to advise and mentor through his professional *lens*. We are deeply grateful for his willingness to work alongside the SAA leadership team both in the villages and in the Tuum programme office, and for formalising detailed written job descriptions that reflect strategic plans for the future.

There are now many students from Tuum and surrounding villages at third level education institutions. These young men and women have been nurtured through youth camps and various discipleship courses. To listen to their observations as they look back at their journey and look forward to where God might place them after graduation is informative and faith inducing.

During the past 25 years, communication of information has been revolutionised. While buying into this new technological world is challenging for most, for over 80% of 'older' people in the area who have no literacy skill, their *lens* has not just been clouded, but closed. The recently developed iteach literacy app works in a unique way and allows the learner to progress at their own pace and in their own setting.



### Prayer Points:

Give thanks that many people have loaded the apps on their phones and are seeing words in a new way.

Praise God for those who help us see different views of the whole picture.

Pray that we will all desire to look more through God's eyes and shine His Love and Light into the darkness.