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Dear Fellow Redeemed in Christ, Partners in Mission,

Jesus lives! Paul writes: *“Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father”* (Philippians 2:9-11). So today, the powers of darkness must tremble before Him. Read on!



The DT10 Class (Diploma in Theology, the 10th Lot). Standing: Gideon, Bakari, Brian. Seated: Paul, Daniel, John. Gideon, Paul and Daniel are Masai. Brian is from Zambia. Bakari is from Mombasa, a converted Muslim (see story below). Only John Omollo is “local” – from the Cathedral Parish in Kisumu. I’ve really enjoyed teaching them Greek this semester and plan to continue with them in that subject during the fall semester.



Matongo, 28 April 2011. Meet Bakari (last name withheld on request) from Mombasa, the 2nd largest city in Kenya. Located on the seacoast, it has a large Muslim population. Bakari comes from a Muslim clan, and his uncle was a sheikh in the local mosque. Bakari's father was a polygamist, with 21 wives. At his birth, his mother contracted a serious illness and could not be healed by the witch doctors in whose custody his father had left her. A Christian woman met her and witnessed to her. After her conversion, a pastor prayed for her and she was healed. Later, the Lord protected her, when her husband was about to murder her, as witnessed by the family. As a result, Bakari and his younger brothers "really desired to know this God called Christ."

In high school, an American math teacher, Jerry MacDonald, would reward good students like Bakari with a sweet, which he would often present saying, "As sweet as the love of Christ." Bakari writes: "I really wondered and thought of this Christ, how he is like and where he is found. I was seriously missing love and peace in my life. I was restless." He was soon converted but suffered isolation, lack of food, beaten for no reason and mocked as a blasphemer in the community.

In September of 1993, his father and eldest brother, in Bakari's words, "decided to offer me to jinns as a sacrifice in Tanzania, at a place called SIMBA WANGA, well known for such practices. Normally, the witch/magician would consult spirits/jinns to summon your spirit to appear in a mirror at the time of sacrificing the desired person; and, regardless of where he is, the person would truly die. But in my case, when my spirit was summoned, the image of Jesus Christ appeared and destroyed the powers and charms of the witch. When Daddy and brother came back home, they asked me, 'Is this Jesus of yours alive?' They told me they had seen Christ and He is so powerful and cannot be conquered by evil powers. This reminded me of the book of Daniel."

In June of 1997, Bakari took some visiting missionaries to a mosque service, as arranged with the sheikh. But at the service, some 30 began to riot and seized him. They stripped him and threw a tire around him to burn him alive. The uproar grew: "Kill him! Kill!" An elderly man ran to his rescue. "Here God gave me the boldness and I said to them, 'What is wrong with a Christian coming to the right worship place at the mosque? If a sinner decides to become a Muslim by attending the mosque, he is doing the right thing and you should give him or her a welcome. Why do you want to kill me?' At this they left me for they felt guilty, no one uttered a word. The old man who had come to rescue me led me out of the compound and said to me, 'You are trusting in Christ the God of the Christians. He is strong and powerful. Continue believing in him. You will be a teacher of the faith.' So I praised God again and continued to trust in the Lord Christ my Savior and my God."

Bakari received the Evangelist Training Course at Matongo between 1998 and 2000. Since August, he has been studying here again for the Diploma in Theology, to enter one day into the ordained ministry.

"I pray to God that He may open the door for me to pursue Islamic studies so that I would reach my brother Muslims with the Good News, the Gospel of the risen Christ." Amazingly, in fact, he has been invited to tell about Christ in a different mosque back home!

One never knows where God will send. The pastors and deaconesses trained here today may one day, by the providence of a gracious God, be missionaries to their own people or even to an apostate land in the global North or West. I want to continue training such men as Bakari, that their calling from the Lord to bring the sweet love of Christ to the nations, including the Muslim world, may be fulfilled.



Henry Okombo and his mother at the gravesite of his father in Karabach. Mzee (honored elder) Okombo lived into his 102nd year.



Preaching at Karabach, not far from Kisii Town, 17 April 2011. Paul Okeyo translates. Paul has translated for me on many occasions and will graduate this June.

I have now visited and preached at nearly all the home congregations of my students in the DT7 class, and in some of them several times. In these last days, we are challenged to get the imperishable Gospel into the hands and the mouths of those who can best deliver it to the teeming millions who live in Africa. Teaching the doctrine and the love of Jesus Christ at Matongo Lutheran Theological College here in Kenya is an effective and God-appointed means to do just that.



Pastor Okombo finishes the Consecration, Palm Sunday, in Karabach.



Members of the Karabach congregation continuously stream to the altar during the Holy Communion. A beautiful tent has been erected on the site of the future church building.



Greeting the congregation following the Divine Service. With me are students from the class of DT7: Aloys Okeyo, Paul Okeyo (no relation), and Pastor Henry Okombo. The 10 men in this class are to graduate in June



The beautiful new clinic at Karabach. The facility is a birthing place and is also licensed to provide short term (24 hour) care.

We need your help! I cannot continue teaching here without it. Yesterday, I received an alarming note from our Treasurer to the Board of Directors for the Saint Timothy Society: ***“Best guess is we will be short at least \$1,000. The last several months have come down to the last week to get the cash we need. This time it may not happen.”*** If each of our supporters would spread the news about the work of Project Timothy – Kenya to at least one other, I am confident others would

be blessed to enter into the work of this ministry with their own support and we would not be facing this financial emergency. God bless your efforts!



You can make your tax deductible contribution by credit card at the PTK website using **Pay Pal**.

A reminder: Please make checks in support of this ministry payable to:

The Saint Timothy Society

18360 Minnetonka Boulevard

Wayzata, MN 55391

Please note in the memo line **“For Project Timothy – Kenya”**. Thank you!

The quote of the month: “Thus the critical matter is not whether God is faithful and righteous, but *what kind of God* he is – a God of Law or a God of Gospel. One could, theoretically, know the orthodox formulae about the Triune God but, failing to hear that God is for us (*pro nobis*), believe nonetheless that the Holy Trinity is a God of Law, an exacting taskmaster, and that Jesus will return on the Last Day to be a harsh judge only.” (Jonathan F. Grothe, *The Justification of the Ungodly: An Interpretation of Romans*, I:56, fn. 18.)

Your brother in Christ,
Rev. Thomas V. Aadland

**And what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses
entrust to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.**

– 2 Timothy 2:2.



Project Timothy – Kenya is a mission endeavor promoted by The Saint Timothy Society. STS is granted 501 (c) (3) status as a religious organization by the United States Internal Revenue Service.

Previous issues of this newsletter are available at www.projecttimothy-kenya.org.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- Thanksgiving for those who are being prepared as future pastors and deaconesses in East Africa.
- Thanksgiving for the abundant rainfall in western Kenya that has enabled planting new crops.
- Thanksgiving for God's blessings on the work this past year of The Saint Timothy Society: Rev. Dr. Armand Boehme, Rev. Dr. Michael Albrecht, Mr. Rob Severson, Dr. Chris Barnekov, Rev. Dr. Gordon Bynum, Mrs. Janet Preus, Mr. Tom Watua.
- Protection and boldness for our students as they witness to Christ in their home congregations and among unreached groups, as among the Muslim population by such men as Bakari.
- An influx of new support to help meet unmet expenses for the work of Project Timothy – Kenya.
- An immediate renewal of my work permit by the Office of Immigration as I visit this Wednesday in Nairobi, extended delay of which has aroused suspicion that someone is looking for money under the table.
- Physical health & stamina for those at Matongo before threats of malaria, typhus and cholera.
- Openness to the Gospel of Christ and rejection of all false substitutes for it in Kenya.
- Spiritual strength to withstand any attacks of the Enemy.
- Resources to expand the facilities at Matongo for a growing student population.
- Funds to support the doctoral program study of Rev. Moses Okoyo and Rev. Hamilton Timothy Shihemi at Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, Indiana.
- A successful reception for the grant proposal for funds needed to expand the MLTC library.