

from the

REGIONS BEYOND

Bruce & Becky McDonald

March 2002

NAIROBI, KENYA: Founded as a stopover on the African slave-trading route, Nairobi means place of cool waters. Although we don't see much evidence of the cool waters around Nairobi, it is a good base of operation for us. Most places we minister present many physical and spiritual challenges. These challenges include travel, civil unrest and often ministering in the midst of war. Over the years we have experienced the necessity of having a base of operation that allows us time to rest, live as normal a life as possible and prepare for the next safari (*journey*).



Part of the group of over 100 pastors attending

Milepost 64: A stop on the African wagon trail, Eldoret was known simply as Milepost 64. Today, Eldoret is the major town in western Kenya and still serves as a transportation cross road. From the borders of Uganda to Lake Victoria to the vast Kenyan deserts that border Sudan, pastors converged upon Eldoret. Often traveling by bicycle, matatu (*bus*) or on foot, these conferences are often the only training, encouragement and fellowship the pastors receive.

Pastors are taking the teaching throughout Kenya: In addition to teaching and encouraging pastors, a primary goal of the conferences is for the pastors to take the material back to their homes to teach their leaders and churches. This requires a presentation of the material in a culturally relevant format that can be easily understood by the pastors. We select groups of key pastors, disciple them and impart to them the knowledge to teach and train others. Through this process we are able to multiply the effects of the conferences.



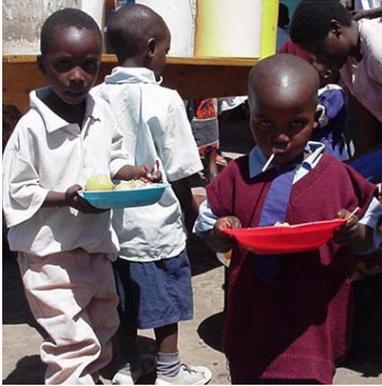
Relationships Are Developed During Meals
We enjoyed meals together of traditional foods: japatias, ugali, cabbage & Kenyan stew



John Traveled Ten Hours To Conference
This month we will travel to John's church for a crusade and teaching.

With little more than a vision and a heart for people, John started a church. He had been saved only a few years and had no pastoral or ministry training. The church he pastors has tripled in size in the past eighteen months. As the church has increased in numbers, the tithes and offerings have also increased, helping John to move away from his life of poverty and to take care of his family. John attributes the teaching, training and encouragement received in the conferences for the growth in his church.

"Our desire is to preach the gospel in the regions beyond" 2 Corinthians 10:16



Children's Feeding Program: In the past year the number of children being fed has increased to almost six hundred children. Most of these children are street children, who either have no parents or who have been thrown into the streets like rubbish by families that did not want them. Last March when we began to help the children, fewer than one hundred children were fed one bowl of porridge each week. Today they receive a nutritious meal six days per week. In addition, fifty-seven children are currently housed on the church compound in a makeshift orphanage. When the children come to receive their food, they are taught the Word of God and basic educational skills. Perhaps the most wonderful testimony is that children are being saved every day.



Government Orders feeding program to move: The local government has ordered us to relocate and separate from the local church. Details below.



THE REGIONS BEYOND. . . Children's Feeding Program . . . A wonderful lot is available adjacent to the current location of the program. In addition to providing a permanent location for the feeding program with a kitchen and dining hall, an orphanage can be built for the children. The cost of the lot is \$20,000. Please let us know if you would like more information or if you would like to help. **Burundi Women's Seminar and Sewing Project . . .** Becky will teach in a women's seminar and visit the women's sewing program that provides training and employment for war widows. **Christians In Exile . . .** Bruce will minister at the Christians In Exile Conference held in Nairobi. The focus of the ministry is to refugees from the war ravaged countries of Central and East Africa.

Mwuaji On Alert

Our dog, Mwuaji, has earned his keep this month. Recently someone tried to scale the back fence in the middle of the night. Mwuaji immediately alerted us and frightened the intruder away. Security is a daily event in Africa and we appreciate your continued prayer.

Life In Africa

We have discovered that you have to very careful what you throw away. A missionary friend threw an old girdle into her trashcan. Imagine her surprise when she went outside the next day to see her male gardener standing in the yard wearing nothing but the girdle.

Tentative Ministry Schedule March - May 2002

Kenya - Pastors & Leaders Conference
 India - Pastors Training & Evangelism
 Burundi - Pastors Conference & Crusade
 Burundi - Women's Conference & Project
 Kenya - Feeding Program for Street Children
 Kenya - Slum Ministry & Evangelism
 South Africa - All Africa Conference

Note Concerning Our Schedule

Due to ongoing security concerns, we are not currently publishing our specific schedule. For details, please contact us directly.

Ministry e-mail Updates

If you are not currently receiving our periodic e-mail updates and would like to be included, please send us a brief message with your request.