

## WILDFIRE MINISTRIES KENYA (WMK) “EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES, BRINGING CHANGE”

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Thank you	1
Reports from the field (Nyangaita)	2
Reports from the field (Kakleshon)	3
Reports from the field (Chesagon)	3
Praise Reports	4
Prayers/Needs	4

### Thank you ( Christmas and New year with a big smile )

Wildlife Ministries Kenya (WMK) and Wildlife Ministries USA thank God for all the wonderful blessings HE has bestowed upon us this year 2013. The year 2013 was a blessed year for us : Our partnership was strengthened and taken to a new level, thanks to the leadership of Joram Kingori (WMK) and Pst John Mills (WM USA). We thank all staff and volunteers of the two ministries who worked hard to see our dream come true. The year 2013 was a very busy year for WMK. Through the help of our sister partner, WM USA, we planted a new church at kakleshon headed now by pst Aggrey. WMK also planted a new PEFA church at kamanau, and now headed by Pst Philip who is also supported by WM USA. The church membership at Nyangaita church increased from 45 in the year 2012 to 103 people in 2013. Currently there are 5 men, 35 women and 68 children. We thank WM USA for all the inspiration, motivation and endless dedication to make WMK a success. There are very many positive stories from west pokot and from all the people who have been touched by your effort. This first newsletter is dedicated to you and to all the people who have worked so hard for the organization. As you celebrate the birth of our savior, know that the people in pokot truly appreciate you and thank you for everything you have done for them. They are celebrating Christmas with a big smile in their face. As we celebrate our first anniversary, on behalf of all the pokot brothers and sisters at Nyangaita, kakleshon, kamanau, Sigor and Iomut, WMK wishes you a blessed and happy 2014. As you read this first issue, smile with us and help share the success stories we have had. We also invite friends and prospective partners to partner with us in prayers or in any way you think the lord is directing you. Please read through, thank



Nyangaita church congregation with their lead pastors



wildlife Ministries Kenya staff and volunteers ; pst Joseph kolikin ( Nyangaita), Joram and pst Aggrey (Kakleshon )

### To our volunteers and staffs.

We thank all volunteers and staffs both of WMK and WM USA for their support and dedication this year. You have been a blessing to the people in pokot. We thank God for the grace, and for using you to impact the people. The organization will not be where it is today, without your contribution, passion and endless commitment. WMK now has ministries in three locations: Nyangaita, Kamanau and kakleshon. We are reaching to more than 500 people in both ministry centers. At Kakleshon, we are reaching to more than 100 children and 100 youths and adults. We thank God for the endless opportunities and for raising and leading you to WMK. We thank Brandon, Andrew and Kirstin for visiting and accepting to spend time with us in pokot.



Kirstin Mills teaching teens in the service at kakleshon

## Reports from the field

### Nyangaita

Three years down the line, our Nyangaita church is growing strong and strong. Built on a one acre piece of land donated by the community leaders, the church structure constructed by YWAM Athiriver DTS students now serves as a worship and prayer centre, for more than 150 pokots who congregates during every Sunday service to listen to the word of God and also sing and dance as they reflect the goodness and mercies bestowed upon them. Currently there are two pastors leading the church at Nyangaita; Pastor Joseph Kolikin and Pastor Joseph Akorle both supported by WM USA. The pastors are dedicated men of God working hard to keep the church programs in Nyangaita running. Just recently, pastor Kolikin relocated to Nyangaita where he has now built his new home, and now even able to serve the community well. Thanks to WM USA who donated cooking utensils, and also now providing money for porridge, the church attendance has increased to the extent that some are now forced to sit outside during the Sunday church service. Every Sunday, the church provides porridge to the congregation, some of whom travel a long distance to attend the service.

Through the leadership of pst Kolikin, the church now implements village meeting program that aims at sharing the gospel to as many people as possible. Every Wednesday night from 8pm-11pm, members of the church visits selected villages where they share the gospel and also encourages and motivate each other. Currently, more than nine villages are participating in the program, but the church aims to reach more this coming year. During the village meetings, the host prepares food and serve it to the visitors. The church in Nyangaita also recently started home cells groups where the members from each group visit one group member, and share the word of God, encouraging each other and participating in different income generating activities for the benefit of the group. One such IGA (income generating activity) is the weekly merry go-rounds where each group member contribute a weekly fixed amount of money for a certain period and gives it to one member. The fruits of the merry go-round have started to shown. Just recently, a beneficiary bought a goat with the amount she received from the merry go-round, and now many people are showing interest in joining the cells groups. There are currently 40 active members in the merry go-round activity.



Some of the Active members of the cells groups and merry go-round.



Children sleeping outside as they watch the Jesus film in one of the village at Nyangaita.



Members of PEFA nyangaita singing and dancing in the



Joram and Sylvia, a volunteer dancing with the Sunday school kids at PEFA nyangaita.

In the month of October, a team from WM USA visited Nyangaita where they participated in different programmes. Kirstin Mills preached in the Sunday service attended by over 70 people (adults and children). The team, led by Joram also showed the Jesus film in three different villages. The host prepared dinner for the visitors and other friends and neighbors who walked along distance to come and watch the film. The children and adults, both enjoyed watching the film which showcases the life of Jesus and his death on the cross. In some villages, we were even requested to repeat the film, forcing us to spend many hours in the night and outside our tents. The children also enjoyed different gospel videos sung by favorite artists.

On 25th December, members of the church in Nyangaita celebrated their Christmas at the church during a special Christmas service. There were songs and dances as they celebrated the birth of Christ. There was also official appointment of church leaders who will be leading different church programmes and activities in the year 2014. Starting 2014, there is also a plan for the church members to start giving church offerings and contributions that will help in running the church programmes and activities. In the year 2013, the church at Nyangaita also managed to host teams from different regions. The teams participated in different evangelism programme and camps. In the month of June, a team from Sirikwa organized a medical camp at Nyangaita; distributing free medical supplies and offering free treatment to the community. We hope that this coming year 2014 will also be a huge blessing to the pokot people. We pray that many teams will visit the place and spend time with the community at Nyangaita.

**"I thank the YWAM teams, Joram and pastor John Mills for the wonderful things they have done to the Pokot people, they have been a huge blessing to the community, May God bless them"**

**-Bishop.**

## Reports from the field

### Kakleshon



Teenagers from moi academy (Kakleshon) sing in the Sunday service at Kakleshon.



Circumcised girls (all below 12 years ) here with their mentor. The girls will be married off after three months.

### Chesegon (Kamanau)

PEFA Chesegon has been in existence since the year 2012. Pastor Philip Sirwanyang, also supported by WM USA, is the lead pastor of the church. Due to many logistical challenges, the church is still young and small. Initially, the church attendance stood at 100, but now it has reduced steadily due to several factors. One of the reasons is that very many people moved from Chesegon to Iomut due to the difficult terrain and tribal wars between the Pokots and the Marakwets. During the clashes, many people moved out leaving the place deserted. Unlike in Nyangaita and Kakleshon, porridge is not provided during the Sunday service, and therefore only few people who reside near the church attend the church service. This coming year, we hope to camp at Chesegon, show the Jesus film in different villages with the hope of reaching to as many people as possible. WMK is also hoping to have a children's camp at Chesegon in the month of April. Through the support of WM USA who will also be sending their volunteers to the camp, we hope to have more than 300 children in the camp. Different speakers will be called to come and speak during the 7 days camp. There will be a host of activities for children including sports, music and dancing.

Last year, WMK planted a new church at Kakleshon. Kakleshon is 20 KM from Sigor, the main town, and a distant shore from Turkana. The place, once deserted due to the fighting between the Turkana and the Pokots, now has a population of more than 5000 people. Sometime back, due to the tension brought about by the tribal wars and cattle rustling, many people shifted to other villages leaving only a handful of people who remained putting their hopes in the government and local leadership. Through the continuous peace talks and local government intervention, the community is slowly embracing a life of peace and unity. Even the only school in the area, that was constructed by the then president Daniel arap Moi, and which was demolished by the Turkana during the fightings, has begun to attract children, thanks to WMK through the help of WM USA who have worked hard to revive it. Due to the prevailing peace in the area, WMK saw it as an open door, and started a church near the Kakleshon footbridge. The church, led by Pst Aggrey Kai, has more than 50 members. There are very many challenges that are hindering the growth of the church at Kakleshon. The education standards at Kakleshon are down because of FGM (Female genital mutilation), polygamy and cattle rustling. Many girls still drop out of school as soon as they undergo the female cut and soon later get married to older men. Men also marry many women, some young girls who have been forced to drop out of school due to poverty and pressure from their parents. Many boys also drop out of school to herd their family livestock's. Moi Academy at Kakleshon therefore has very few children due to many reasons. Young girls who have undergone the FGM are also discouraged from attending church service by their mentors who have the responsibility of preparing them for marriage.

Despite the many challenges, the church at Kakleshon is still very active, thanks to WMK and WM USA. During the last visit, WM USA through their volunteers: Brandon, Andrew and Kirstin donated school materials to the school at Kakleshon. Seeing the progress and development of the school at Kakleshon, the government through the intervention of local leaders led by the area chief, organized a fundraising for the school. The fundraising raised more than 5000 USD (400,000 Ksh), with WMK contributing 80 USD. The money will be used to buy more books, furniture and building materials.

WM USA also offered to support the church at Kakleshon by providing support towards the church feeding programme. Through the support, the church is able to provide porridge to members and visitors who travel a long distance to attend service. We hope to reach to as many people as possible. WM USA also supports Esther, a girl from one of the villages who goes to school at Lela, 80 KM east of Pokot. The girl is bright, talented and visionary who hopes to one day return the favor by helping advocate against FGM. We hope such small and humble beginnings will bear fruits some day. God has connected us to the families and friendly communities in Pokot, this is an open door for us.



Esther with her mother outside their small house in Kakleshon

## Praise reports

### The church growth



Children and adults taking porridge after the service at PEFA Nyangaita.

Amidst many challenges, the church at both Nyangaita and Kakleshon have continued to grow. Thanks to our volunteers on the ground who have continued to show their dedication and enthusiasm, working hard in the field, the communities are beginning to cooperate and embrace change. We hope many will come to Christ, and also help disciple others for the glory of God. We thank God for the equipment and utensils donated by WM USA, this will contribute greatly to the expansion of the evangelism programme in Nyangaita, Kakleshon and kamanau. Very many people travel as far as 10km to attend the Sunday service at Nyangaita and Kakleshon. The provision of porridge has therefore help attract many people to the service. It is our hope that such simple act will help bring many pokots to Christ. At Kakleshon, the school attendance has increased steadily largely due to the support the school is receiving from the government and NGOs such as WM USA. Many children now opt to remain at school and finish. The communities in Nyangaita and Kakleshon are slowly also changing some of their behaviors such as drinking of alcohol and polygamy. At Nyangaita, many adults attend the service with the hope that their lives will change. We also thank God for the local leadership at Kakleshon who have donated to WMK 2 acres piece of land to be used for future construction of different facilities. We hope to start farming and irrigation projects near the school. Our future plan is to build green houses and plant vegetables and train children . WMKs commitment in kakleshon has also sparked and inspired the community and local leaders who had initially lost hope. Evident from the recent fund-raising that fetched more than 5000USD, the local leaders have continued to show commitment and care. WMK will continue to work with the local government and leaders.

WMK plans to start many projects and programs in Pokot in the near future. Our hope is that through the organization, lives will be transformed and people will begin to have hope for their future. The following are the prayer needs for the year 2014 and beyond.

## Prayers/Needs

### 1) Ministry Vehicle

There is great need for WMK to have it's own ministry vehicle. This will lower the costs of traveling especially when teams comes from far. The vehicle will be used to transport people from one village and another and from Nairobi or Kitale to Westpokot.

### 2) Support for more pastors and volunteers

There is a need to have many volunteers and staff at WMK who will participate and lead different in different programs. There are very many volunteers who are willing to commit their time in pokot but they lack support. We therefore seek many friends and donors who will commit to support our staff and volunteers in and outside the field.

### 3) Funds for different programmes.

WMK hopes to start implementing different projects in pokot starting with Kakleshon where we are planning to start green house farming. We also plan to begin different schools in future starting with a discipleship school at Sigor. Very many projects are on the line, but funds is needed to realize the plan.

### 4) Tents

There is need to buy more tents. Currently teams are forced to use the few available tents which are not enough. We currently have only two tents. There is need to purchase at least ten more tents that will be able to accommodate big teams that will be visiting next year. We hope to have bigger tents in future.

### 5)Scholarship for children

Many Pokot children drop out of schools due to very many reasons. One of the reason is lack of support from their families. Many parents give their children to marriage because of poverty. There is therefore need to offer scholarship and sponsorship to poor children and also children who have been neglected by their parents. WMK plans to work with as many schools as possible in the region as we seek to cultivate relationship building with the hope help and encourage children to stay in school.



Young pokot girls (victims of FGM and early marriages )



Our hired van during one of the trip to Pokot (there is need to purchase a ministry vehicle to save costs )

WMK wishes you a happy and blessed 2014,a big thank you to all.