



## FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER 2020



*Disciples in Blantyre-Malawi 2020*

Lost people matter to God, they should also matter to us. PHARP follows the command of God in Matthew 28:19-20: “therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup> and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely, I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

In the month of February, PHARP ministered to communities in Malawi, Rwanda, Kenya (Kajiado County, Kibera Slum and Malindi) not forgetting a visit from tSOAR in Democratic Republic of Congo.

**On February 1:** Mrs. Kavira from tSOAR ministry in DR Congo visited PHARP-Kenya to share about the ministry. The ministry operates in Beni region which is experiencing violence; For this reason, people are not allowed to have open air meetings. As a result, the discipleship work is being done through house to house visitation and this has been a challenge. Although there are some challenges which hinder the

Gospel to reach many in this region and country as a whole, those using the tSOAR material “Finding your place in the World” by Joe Williamson translated to French as “*Decouvrez votre place dans le monde*” are benefitting from the book as it helps them to read the bible and pose to reflect on what God is teaching them through the hard situations they are passing through. Mrs. Mbusa, a widower is much grateful for the support she receives from tSOAR USA. Let us continue to pray for the discipleship work in Beni.



Left: Mrs. Mbusa sharing on DR Congo situation. Right: Mrs. Mbusa and some members of PHARP team

**On 6<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> February** the second of three training sessions of disciples in Malawi was held at Everlasting Covenant Ministries International- Mbayani. The participants handled major topics on spiritual leadership and conflict resolution within the church. The 52 participants from 12 churches were very much grateful for the first class which was held in October 2019. The material they were given on discipleship have helped to develop committed church members and church workers. Many questions in regards to handling conflict within the church were on the rise; which means that the church in Malawi is struggling with aspects of leadership and conflict.

It was very encouraging to see women pastors very active in asking questions and giving their opinions on how best ministry can be run.

*Maria gave this testimony: I lead choir in our church. Before attending this training, I never knew that we are all needed to engage in discipleship. Through singing, that was enough to serve the church. During the week it was not easy to find me taking some time off to do personal devotion. The nature of my job as a market vendor, I have to wake up early, go and source for vegetables to sell, by the time am getting home, am too tired and other chores await me. But through training and the book we were given, this helped me read the word of God, reflect on it and even share with my fellow vendors in the market. Every lunch time, about 7 vendors come to my small work place, we read through the short passage given, we discuss what we have understood and what God is saying to us, we pray then go back to our business. Through this, we have developed a friendship and accountability for each other. I hope I can get some copies for my fellow disciples, since we are using my one copy. I have come to understand that discipleship is an intentional opportunity to share God's word.*





*Top left: Maria giving her testimony of transformation. Top right: Group discussion  
Below left: Another group discussion. Below right: Group leaders present.*

*Bottom: Disciples of Nyambandwe-Mbayani*

**On 15 February** training of Kibera disciples was focused on spiritual leadership and how lack of proper leadership mechanisms is slowly killing the church in Kibera.

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One of the pastors ministering in Mashimoni had this to share: *One of the youths in the choir was not able to afford money to pay dowry and even plan for a church wedding. So this young man secretly moved in with his fiancé. The church leadership noticed and informed the pastor. The pastor felt that he should not rush to punish this young man and decided to give him time to see if the young man will voluntarily come and report himself. But in that period, immorality starting rising in the church and his lay leaders were stepping down one by one. When he did an investigation as to why all this was happening, painfully he came to the realization of the mistake he did: not addressing the youth leader's illegal way of settling down. So, this set a bad precedence and angered many leaders.*

*As we speak now from the last class held in January 2020, he was able to call the youth and his wife and counseled with them. He also asked them to step down from leadership as they seek to formalize their union in a respectable manner. The pastor was able to meet with each leader who stepped down and apologized. But he does confess that leadership is not easy and one needs the guidance and help of the Holy spirit.*



*Top: left and right pastors ingroup discussion. Below: Group photo.*

**On 20 February** a monthly meeting with Naserian group focused on women empowerment met at the PHARP office. Their goal is to grow deep in the word of God but also growing economically, so that they are able to contribute towards family budget and easing a huge burden on their spouses.

Hellen, a jovial lady had this to share: *When I first joined the group, we did a lot of learning on conflict, trauma healing and discipleship. I was not confident to speak in front of other women, so I rarely contributed during group discussions. But as we continually meet, my confidence and knowledge of God*



*is growing every day. Recently, I led the first bible study in my home. This was a praise report for me and my fellow women. Since I joined this group, I am always positive and confident in everything I do because of the training and encouragement I received from the women coordinator at PHARP. Every day when I wake up, I have to do my bible study and the question 'Lord, what are you teaching me today in my home, ministry and work' has helped me to focus more on God. When we meet as women in our poultry project, instead of gossiping, we share God's word. Am very grateful. My business of beadwork has also improved, thanks to the business skills and teachings received from PHARP team. I am getting more orders from interested customers.*



*Left: Naserian group in session. Right: Hellen (in red) with some of her beadwork and the raw material she uses.*

## **PHARP CENTRE- MALINDI**

**PHARP Group leaders:** 8 leaders from the 3 PHARP groups met on 10<sup>th</sup>/02/2020 to plan for joint church visit at Ebenezer in Jailor-Malindi. These leaders were reminded about the peace building cycle. The leaders promised to: Prioritize the word of God in their day to day activities, Making Fellowship a lifestyle, visiting more schools and Committing to making sustainable peace a reality in 2020.

**Peace talks held on 13<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> February:** The PHARP-Malindi field officer received several invitations to give talks on peace and conflict to students and youths in peace clubs as well a medical college. He spoke on the Art of PEACE BUILDING emphasizing the fact that; Peace is our God given gift to offer service above self to humanity. It's our promise for Better & Bigger things in life.

At the North coast Medical College, the field officer had talks with 15 participants. He inspired the medical students to promote peace in their life as individuals and as professionals. He emphasized the fact that peace is a choice we all have to make amidst, scarce resources, chaos and a world that promotes the culture of violence.

**PHARP women field trip:** On 24<sup>th</sup>, the officer mobilized 40 PHARP members and the community in general to go for a field trip in Mvera Education center, Mangarini children's center and organic farming demonstration in Malindi. The delegation from PHARP-Malindi were able to learn the following: Why organic farming (seed banking and organic fertilizers) is important, Challenges to organic farming, Opportunities in organic farming and the relationship between organic farming and peace.

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The field officer graced the day with peace and discipleship talk to the students, teachers and participants, emphasizing about our roles as peace ambassadors and disciple makers. For we are commanded to go and make disciples.

**Ebenezer Church visit:** On 17<sup>th</sup>, PHARP team in Jilore had a fellowship at Ebenezer church where 10 other churches were represented. The church has about 30 to 50 members of which a greater percentage is that of Sunday school children and this led us to start “**Uji -(porridge)-drive for a child** “ to not only help them concentrate on listening to the gospel but also provide nutritional value for them as the common majority come from needy families. The pastor who says he has never been to the Bible school and therefore he doesn't know whether what he does is right though being confident that relying on the Holy Spirit inspires and empowers him to keep going, but also the discipleship support he is receiving from PHARP and tSOAR USA through the ‘Finding your place in the world’ is greatly helping the pastor. In the next training scheduled, he and some of his few leaders shall be in attendance to be empowered and equipped further.







*Photos above are showing students and local communities receiving talks on need of peace and need for discipleship- Malindi*

## **PHARP- RWANDA**

**On 5<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> February 2020:** A three-day training seminar on discipleship and trauma healing was organized and conducted by PHARP-Rwanda in Janjagiro in Rwamagana District, Eastern Province. The training brought together 38 single mothers making the group 'ABAKOBWA BA YESU' (Jesus' daughters) and 5 local preachers from the Anglican Church. This is a discipleship group which started in March last year 2019 and has been meeting regularly, praying together and studying the word of God with particular attention on what Jesus has taught.

The training seminar was organized as a response to their request to be accompanied in their healing process. When the women were visited during the regular visits, one of them said that they have wounds in their hearts and need healing and that they chose to be called Jesus' daughters because Jesus himself having suffered will heal them.

During the training, we focused on - The love of God in Jesus Christ; Give time to listen to God through his word; Knowing the truth of his word; Trust him; Obeying him; Abiding in Him and in His word; and Being reconciled with him, as the way towards trauma healing.

We took time to explore the Love of God in Jesus, and the content of tSOAR. We explored various bible verses and the participants applied them to their life situation.



*Top left and right: Julienne and Rev. Anastase (PHARP-Rwanda staff) train women.  
Below Left: women burn their burdens at the cross. Right: Jesus Daughters.*

## THANKSGIVING AND PRAYER REQUESTS

1. We thank God for the strength and provision in the activities of February 2020.
2. We thank God for the success of what was accomplished highlighted in the newsletter above.
3. Continue to pray for the plague of the coronavirus affecting China and the world: in health and also economically.
4. Pray for peace within our borders.
5. Pray for the outlined activities of March 2020: Training Isiolo, Kibera slum and Kajiado County
6. Pray for all peace ambassadors and disciple makers actively involved in vulnerable communities.