

PHARP MONTHLY

August 2023

NEWSLETTER



In this month

- i. Our partnership with the Lutheran Church in Ewuaso kidong- Kajiado West County brought hope and peace to 30 pastoralist families facing drought.
- ii. The Calvary of Hope Church-Kibera slum training for 20 youths on self-care and personal development and conflict transformation.
- iii. The graduation of 22 men and women peace ambassadors at the Exodus church, Lindi in Kibera.
- iv. Equipping of TOTS (trainer of trainers) at the Njale Evangelical church, Blantyre-Malawi.
- v. Capacity building of senior Church leaders at Ngurdoto, Moshi- Tanzania; to train them on discipleship and peacebuilding and thereafter, basic computer classes so that they are up to date with the changing methods of preaching the Good News.
- vi. The joy of PHARP-Jilore, Malindi beneficiaries harvest bags of corn, selling and getting an income for the family needs and beneficiaries partnering with likeminded organizations to upgrade their knowledge on better farming skills.

When you're weary!

When you are weary! This simple phrase brings to mind a short word 'Simplicity'. I really do believe that many people are tired, weary and are looking for simplicity and rest. There is a lot of white noise and clutter in people's lives that creates uncertainty or instability and leaves people feeling exhausted. People want a life that works, people want clear direction and purpose. We all want a roadmap that helps to live for that which is most important.

In the second quarter of the year (May to August) I have heard words that are a disguised plea for a simpler life. I hear words like exhausted, overwhelmed, overscheduled, stressed. People's lives feel cluttered, confused and complex...anything but simple.

Dan Sullivan, the founder of Strategic Coach says "The biggest challenge for everyone living today is how to adjust to a continual increase of complexity in every area of life."

God is today telling us; 'Come to me', those who are weary and burdened, 'and I will give you rest'. Not the rest from a good night's sleep, not a break from reality that we see on television, not even the relief when a problem has been solved.

Although these may be good sources of rest, the relief they offer is short lived and dependent on our circumstances. The rest that Jesus is giving us is lasting and guaranteed by His unchanging character. He gives us true rest for our souls even amid trouble because we know that everything is in His control. Therefore, as we get into the third quarter of the year (September through to December), let us trust and submit to Him, endure and even thrive in difficult situations because of the strength and restoration only He can give. 'come to me', Jesus tells us. 'come to me'.



Pastor Bosire highlighting the challenges of youths in Kibera.

5th August: Kenya

PHARP has since May 2023 been walking with and training 20 youths on how they can best take care of themselves, grow into spiritual maturity, develop themselves economically and socially. As a youth growing up in the slum, they are faced with many negative circumstances such as drug abuse, engagements in crime and violence, infectious diseases spreading fast due to people living in such close proximity to one another, a great need to earn money; so older children drop out of school in order to do menial jobs and contribute to the family income.

As a result of this, Pastor Bosire of Calvary Hope church and PHARP partnered to capacity build these youth leaders and more so, walk with them in the discipleship program. The youths are being guided through understanding the causes of conflicts and effective methods to resolve them. The facilitators covered both internal and external conflicts, effects of poverty, unemployment, and drug abuse. The youths are so far expressing their satisfaction in gaining valuable conflict resolution skills, which is equipping them to deal with these challenges.

7th August

The relatively high degree of dependence on livestock for income and household diet, makes the pastoralist households vulnerable to drought, which causes water and pasture scarcity and this leads to loss of many cattle during the season of no rain. Due to this, PHARP trained beneficiaries have been greatly affected by this situation.

Due to this, Pastor Konana who heads the Lutheran church in Ewuaso Kidong town made a plea of any possible support. The church on Sundays would be empty because men, youths and women have taken their frail cattle in look for pasture. As a result of this, 30 families were supported with meal package of at least one week



Above: Word of encouragement to the pastoralist present and prayers.

Below: Graduated peace ambassadors and disciple makers



12th August

This day saw 22 men, women and youth leaders serving with the Exodus church-Lindi, Kibera slum receive their certificate of participation in a three-month peacebuilding and discipleship training. The extensive session aimed to give the participants comprehensive knowledge on personal growth and transformation in their walk with God, then develop a need of forming small discipleship groups that will engage each member of the church or community in studying the word of God in depth. PHARP is encouraged to know that these direct beneficiaries will reach out to two other people and the gospel will continue to spread within the second largest slum of Africa.

19th August: Malawi

Pastor Mkwate, a peacebuilding and discipleship beneficiary of PHARP trainings in Blantyre, Malawi in the year 2021 was invited to Njale Evangelical church to train the Sunday school teachers. Pastor Mkwate has been moving from church to church under the bigger Evangelical churches in Blantyre, teaching and forming discipleship groups.

These trainings give great opportunity to speak to teachers, parents and the students who came for two days training. We were supported with children bibles and Sunday school materials! This was a good gesture which some un-saved parents appreciated. 'My child will be reading the bible for me in the evening. We have no reason to give why we are not praying and growing in the word of God.' Said one parent in attendance. I am very grateful for the time that our facilitator from PHARP takes to correct my notes and add content to it, so that I may not teach misleading doctrines, thank you- Pst Mkwate.



Left: Pastor Mkwate with some Sunday school teachers and parents. Children gifted with Bibles.

Right: senior leaders class pose for a photo and in the Computer Class.

26th August: Tanzania

As a result of conflict transformation and leadership trainings offered in Moshi, Tanzania by PHARP in 2022/23 and in partnership with Pentekoste Imani na Matendo Churches-Tanzania, has challenged and given Bishop Palanjo a heavy burden to train the members of his senior leadership.

This month of August up until November he will be working with 17 senior leaders at the Ngurdoto church assembly to unlearn and re-learn the need of discipleship and effective leadership for growing the church and especially how to make the gospel attractive to youths so that they may stop migrating from church to church, citing poor leadership and old ways of running the ministry.

In order to combat this issue, each leader will also be required to attend computer classes so that they are open to the world through the digital forums.



A great harvest

Throughout the month of August, PHARP Jilore beneficiaries have partnered with like-minded organizations who came to train them on better yielding farming skills. We are grateful to Pwani Agro vets who dedicated this month and the month of September to empower the women and men who meet at PHARP center to learn on peacebuilding, discipleship, and development.

We thank God for a good harvest for beneficiaries of PHARP-Jilore center. This harvest shall help women and men get an income to support their families and also get fees to take their children back to school for the last term of the academic year. This working together has built a strong need to disciple one another and be mindful of each other's needs.



Thanksgiving and prayer requests

1. We thank God for the ended month of august. We welcome september with joy and gladness.
2. We thank God for all ministry opportunities and ministry carried out in the month of August.
3. Pray for the nation of Kenya and its neighbors as we grapple with high costs of living.
4. Pray for the students who have resumed the last academic term of the year.
5. Pray for PHARP partners and friends who are not feeling well in health.
6. Pray for the september activities.
7. We continue to pray for stable peace in Niger, Gabon, Sudan, Egypt, Russia, Ukraine, DR Congo and many other nations facing violent conflicts, drought and starvation.