

NEWS IN BRIEF

- » PLCC families benefited by KELC's food relief with 15 kg per family.
- » Mark Nagwaga joined PLCC on September 1, as head of the Hand Stretch Program
- » Teresia Wanjiru finished her studies of Early Childhood Development in July 2008 and Rosemary Nduta hairdressing in June 2008. We wish both of them a successful carrier.
- » In August a Youth group from Elmsborn passed by on their way back home from Loitoktok.
- » Special guests were the Kilian family, who surprised us with a visit in Naivasha and later came to



Mary Mshana and the Kilians

the center. Girls and teachers were very happy to see Mama Simon and her family who worked with us from 1995 to 2000.

IF YOU PREFER BY EMAIL

Dear friends,

posting the newsletter on the traditional way takes time and money, but it enables you to sit down – may be with a cup of tea/coffee – reading and also sharing with others PLCC news.

In this times of digital communication some people are used to spend some time in front of the Computer in a relaxing way. The information received through internet can easily be used for publications like parish websites or newsletters, or/ and can be forwarded to a friend. That is why we would like to offer you to choose, whether in future you would like to receive the PLCC Newsletters as it has been to date or to be sent through email.

If you prefer by email, please send an email to plcc@kelc.or.ke with your **name** and **country** and the subject '**PLCC news by email**'. You will receive the next bulletin by email. In any other case we go on like before.

**KENYA EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
PANGANI LUTHERAN CHILDREN'S CENTRE**

P.O. Box 54128 00200 Nairobi Tel.+254-20-780454 Website: www.kelc.or.ke
Email: plcc@kelc.or.ke

PANGANI LUTHERAN CHILDREN'S CENTRE

A

FRIEND

in need is a friend indeed

Bulletin 18

October 2008

*“For I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for welfare, and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.”
Jeremiah 29:11*

Greetings brothers and sisters, who are holding hands together for the welfare of PLCC. From what was going on within the corners of the slum areas in the recent past, we could not see how we were going to proceed with the PLCC ministry. We could not clearly define the way forward of the plans and the targets we had set for the year. But when we look back now we see light and understanding in what we have achieved to date..

Six very eventful months have passed and here again we have another opportunity to tell you what God has done in the PLCC ministry.

By His grace we were able to reach parents/guardians who were in one way or another affected by the events. We distributed food, clothing, beddings and in some cases medication. Apart from that, parents/ guardians of different needs have been reached through seminars, and plans are under way to issue more loans to the new parents..

To date the centre supports 105 chil-

dren in different schools (primary and secondary) and training institutions. Different activities took place such as group discussions with the girls where we had an opportunity to explore issues related to choosing careers; Mother Daughter talks were given enough time where the girls shared their adolescents' questions.



Mother Daughter talks in a very free atmosphere

The six months time was well spent with our goal still focused 'to reach out girls of between four to twelve years from the streets and from extremely poor families to give them an opportunity to excel'.

Mary Mshana, Director

TO ENHANCE OUR TOGETHERNESS

The return of normalize to the country after the chaotic general election was good news to everybody. More so to school going children who had doubted if they could ever step in a classroom after all that they saw.

The first term ended well, with most of our girls showing improved performance in their end term examinations. Coming to second term, the beginning was quite well in all the schools our children go to, but towards the end the country was hit by a wave of secondary school strikes that spread country wide. We thank God that all our girls in secondary schools were not involved in this. However, like any Kenyan guardian or parent we did not escape the consequences that came with it. The secondary school students were complaining about among other things the use of continuous assessment tests in the final grading which were against, they



Lydia amidst Kenya's wildlife on Crescent Island

wanted to have a luxurious life in school and improper administration. After discovering this the government took the following measures: stopped the pre national examinations, withdrawal of use of mobile phones in schools and severe punishment to those who will be found going against school rules.

Eventually schools closed for August holidays and as it is our tradition, this year we took our girls to camp in Naivasha YMCA Lake-side Camp 108 km away from Nairobi.

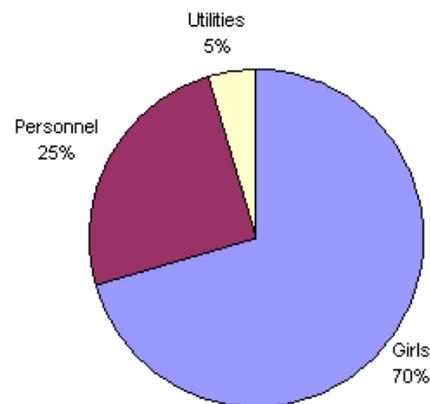
This event has always helped to enhance our togetherness as PLCC family as well as developing positive attitudes towards life.

While in Naivasha we visited Hell's Gate National Park, where we saw wildlife and walked through a gorge. Walking through the gorge was



We could only make it by helping one another - the gorge in Hell's Gate

THE PLCC BUDGET 2007



The overview about PLCC expenditure 2007 shows: 70 % are invested directly into education and the needs of the girls. Although, of course, we could not work without the other 30%, we are happy with this ratio.

Girls	USD
Informal education	485
Primary education	5.124
Secondary School	5.519
Vocational training	2.679
Clothes, shoes, uniforms	4.738
Food	14.238
Medical treatment girls	3.200
Travel girls	4.756
Hygiene / cleaning	738
Camp/Retreat	6.410
Fieldwork	857
Repairs and maintenance	885
Equipments	1.301
Extra charges	2.006
Security	116
Other expenses	68
Total Girls	53.120
Girls	53.120
Personnel costs	18.515
Utilities	3.547
Total PLCC	75.182



Some of the new scarves in different colors and designs

FOCUS ABOUT TOMORROW

Pangani House is committed to being a safe heaven for the girls. Many girls get transformed in behaviours; character as well as their health gets improved completely. As to the case of Zipporah Muthoni among other girls used to move with bad company which used to abuse drugs due to peer pressure, curiosity, ignorance and lack of knowledge. It was too hard for her to change her behaviour which contributed to deterioration of her health.



Zipporah

But she was admitted to Pangani House early this year and since then her life has totally changed completely physically,

mentally and spiritually.

What is so remarkable about her is her zeal for life: she is full of energy, faith in God and even positive outlook. She is ready to pursue her goal in life. About her stay in Pangani House she confides to her friends that she was completely welcomed with one heart and she always thanks God for that, because she has what a young girl like her needs and this motivates her in day to day out.

If you would tell her to go back home she is not ready at all because she claims that if she goes back her life will be mangle again. She wants to relocate and forget about the past completely especially the life in slums and focus about tomorrow.

I can conclude by saying that Pangani House strives to provide all the girls with safe studying conditions, safe environment and health impacts in all our endeavours.

Leonidah Mukua , Matron Pangani House

PANGANI WEAVING NAIROBI - PAWENA

Our order from Bavaria Sunday School was fulfilled in time and to the satisfaction of our customer. We met the challenges and this also encourages to go on with some lessons about colours and design offered by Janice Knausenberger. She was and still is a patient and well prepared teacher. After these lessons we started to weave scarves, which we hope you will all like them. Other meetings were to plan how to increase the production and how to find our way to the market. Her

advice is worth and helpful. Endless blessings for her have been our prayer.



Monicah, Janice, Mary Mumbi, Mary Mshana sharing ideas on what is possible in weaving.



High Jump is more than jumping high. You face a challenge!

the most exciting activity. There was climbing down, jumping, falling down and climbing up for 85 girls and their 10 teachers.



At Lake Naivasha

We also visited Crescent Island, a semi island of Lake Naivasha, where we did not only see but also came to a close proximity to wild animals such as giraffes, zebras, wildebeests and others. The cool air from the lake made our walk around the island more enjoyable.

Since this year's camp had coincided with the Olympic Games, we could not

have left Naivasha before conducting our own 'Olympic Games'. They were competing in football matches, long jump, high jump and running. There was a special competition for the small ones – carrying an Irish potato on a spoon with the mouth, and then walking as fast as possible. The best three in every event were awarded. A day before our departure from Naivasha we had presentations of traditional dances and gospel music from the girls.

We came to the end of our stay in Naivasha and returned to Nairobi with a lot of satisfaction.

Ronald Bosire, Teacher

Ronald Bosire, Teacher



Funny games for the small ones

JUST LIKE WIND

How hard can street life really turn a child such that even a broken hand will go unnoticed?

Eunice Wangui was born in the streets of Eastleigh in Nairobi and brought up from the same streets till she was five years. When the centre admitted her life's hardships in the streets, cold nights, rains, lack of food hardened

this young one's heart such that something as a broken arm could be hidden and not told. When the arm broke the second time on 29th July while playing at school, Eunice bore the pain as boldly as possible. But her hand was swelling from breaking a second time, just two inches from the previous fracture which had broken two weeks ago before the other. At Ken-



Eunice is taking her tea at Lake Naivasha Camp.

yatta National Hospital the doctors asked the social workers when the previous fracture had happened which by that time was healing. No one had noticed or heard of it and Eunice said it had never taken place. She was treated and taken home.

In life, we tend to assemble and scream our pains so loud that the world would see, hear and sympathize

with our situation. If only we knew what others have had to go through in their lives to make even a broken arm pain feel like an ordinary thing or just a normal experience. Sometimes life's trauma and hardships can make people to be so hardened to a point of ignoring their pain. They learn to keep on telling themselves that whatever their pain is would also pass away just like wind.

It is for this reason that PLCC comes in to help such children like Eunice to ease their pain. It gives them a shoulder to lean on and encouraging them to freely express themselves in whatever they face. Gradually in life they learn the importance of seeking for help in time without fear. This is because they know that someone in PLCC is ready to listen, understand and help.

Josephine Munini, Social Worker

BONDED DEEPLY

Fourteen out of sixteen staff members of PLCC went for the retreat at Naivasha in September, where we camped at YMCA. The PLCC staff bonded deeply through sharing of meals, visiting Hell's Gate National Park - especially the gorge experience, seeing the Geothermal Power generating industry and the morning and afternoon devotion sessions. There were also ball games, swinging and boat ride. The climax was the luncheon at Fisherman's Camp and we set off back to Nai-



Jane, Christine, Anna, Leonidah, Mary Mshana, Monicah, Gesche, Mary Mumbi, Claudia, Ronald (standing), Ann, Susan, Linda, Mark (sitting) in front of a great scenery

HAND STRETCH PROGRAM



Mark reporting to the parents about HSP

The Hand Stretch Program has picked up with great momentum. The first meeting was held on 19th September

WELTWAERTS VOLUNTEERS

We, Anna and Gesche, 18 and 19 years old, finished our school in Germany and then it was our wish/dream to come to Africa, Kenya. Now with the support of the new German Government Program "weltwärts" and our church organisations Northelbian Mis-

sion Centre and Centrum Mission EineWelt we are volunteering for one year in PLCC. We are very happy being welcomed cordially and we are looking forward to share time until July 2009 with the girls and the whole PLCC family.

Mark Nagwaga, Social Worker