

NEWS IN BRIEF

- » Since the last newsletter we have had the honor to welcome the following international guests: from ELCA the World Hunger Delegation; Nadja Gehm and Volker Schauer from NMZ; Reinhard Hansen and Jochen Kronester from MEW; Ernst Hetzner and his family representing Rotary Uffenheim.
- » End of May a team of eight ladies met to brainstorm on how to support the Ongata Rongai project in Kenya. They will be responsible for fundraising locally.
- » We are warmly welcoming Julia Kahuthu, Adelaide Muturi and Pastor Sam Wolff as new members to the PLCC committee.
- » During the April holiday the PLCC family gathered to bid farewell to those girls who either finished their studies or decided to leave school early. But still as a family we keep in touch.

» Anne Catherine Zins and Lena Deser, international volunteers from Germany, arrived in Nairobi in August. They will be assigned to the rehabilitation classes and the Pangani House girls. May God bless them and their service in PLCC.



The father to Elizabeth, Mary Mshana, Margret, Zipporah, Nyagothie and Shantal during the farewell

FARE WELL

On August 2nd the PLCC family had a fair well to a long serving volunteer Claudia Heiss who for the six years in Kenya accompanying her husband in the ministry, devoted her time for the well-being of PLCC. On 10th in the same month Ronja and Lisa young women volunteers who worked for the

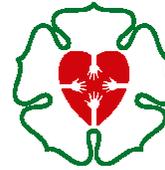
project for one year also said goodbye. All will always be remembered for their tirelessly effort in strengthening PLCC team spirit. It is sad that they had to go but it is joy for the testimony they left behind. Fair well Claudia, Lisa and Ronja.

If you prefer to receive the newsletter by email, please send an email to plcc@kelc.or.ke with your **name** and **country** and the subject **'PLCC news by email'**.



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Pangani Lutheran Children Centre



FRIEND

A friend in need is a friend indeed.

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“Where the vision is one year, cultivate flowers, where the vision is ten years cultivate trees, where the vision is eternity cultivate people.” *Oriental saying*

Dear friends!

It is within this eternity vision that PLCC has become what it is today. When the project was born 16 years ago, at a women committee meeting of the Kenya Evangelical Lutheran Church, the aim has been to reduce the number of family street beggars. The women coordinator by then a Swedish missionary Ms Ruth Abrahamson presented the idea of having a home for street girls, and it was enthusiastically discussed and finally was put to action.

Since then, with the help of friends and well wishers, we have been bringing in not less than 10 children per year from the streets of Nairobi for rehabilitation. While accommodation facilities remain the most significant need, we have not lost the vision. Through donations we have been able to start constructing a shelter and rooms for those who cannot cope with the public schools curriculum. But we do not have enough money though we are ready to do the job. As you read through this bulletin, it is our humble request that you continue supporting us in reaching out a higher number of

needy children, through restoring the missing respect, guidance on talent recognition and self acceptance.

I am confident that the solid foundation we have laid through your support will lead us in having a center with learning environment and enough shelter for the most vulnerable needy girls.

Within the 16 years we have developed our service effectively, while keeping the PLCC vision that says: *'All girls will develop their God-given talents to be able to live according to God's plan and take over their responsibility to act as honest and appreciative people in the community.'* And we change things - and I am sure you have noticed - for example, the layout of this bulletin. The web designer Thomas Donker from Germany created the new logo and donated his work to PLCC. We are very grateful for the combination of Luther's rose and helping hands. These hands are yours and ours as we all are serving the PLCC girls!

*Yours,
Mary Mshana*

GROUND BREAKING TO FIRST FLOOR



This is the day, that the Lord has made: On March 30th was the day we celebrated the groundbreaking of the first house which will host four families each providing shelter for 12 girls in maisonettes. The event's main topic was to pray for God's protection and blessings during the building period. Architect Abdul Kahn and his team, the representatives of Nihal Construction, KELC's leadership, the chairlady of the Women Department and of course girls and staff of PLCC shared the momentous occasion. (read more > <http://kelc.wordpress.com/plcc/>).

At the beginning the rainy season was hindering the progress, but now you

can see the building growing daily. By entirely manual work the natural stone for the ground floor walls was cut, a time-consuming and hard work, but worthwhile. Now the first floor is done and you can imagine the rooms being occupied by girls chatting and laughing.

Having managed a pretty long period of preliminary activities we are now excited in looking forward to entering the shelter.

At this point we would like to mention Mrs. Notburga Frey from Munich whose legacy sponsored two of the four maisonettes.



I WAS BORN A SINGLE CHILD OF MY MOTHER

It has been the wish of PLCC as a family to have every child a place to call a home. As much as we have been trying to empower our parents/guardians through seminars and workshops, we still have a number of parents/guardians stay in the streets. In the beginning of the year we managed to organize a special meeting for them. The aim of this meeting was to identify those who were interested to venture in to business. The two meetings we were able to bring together six women. Four of them were ready to stop going to the streets to beg and embrace our idea,

but two who seemed to have been abusing drugs were not able to make any decision.

As we continue pursuing them to venture in to activities which will help feeding their families, one parent confessed that she will not survive a different kind of life style.

"My mother gave birth to me there; I have got four children in the same environment, where do you want me to go? I was born a single child of my mother; I do not know the whereabouts of my father. To whom do I belong to? Take my daughter as your child and

leave me alone". Full of anger, a twenty two years old mother of four said these words while throwing her hands apart as she walked out of the meeting room!

While it is not easy to ignore these

words, the reality remains our big challenge especially for their children who are as young as six years old and their parents are not there to guide them!

CAMP 2010 - IMPORTANCE OF PRESERVING WATER

This year's camp opened its doors at Uzima Sisters Covenant 47 kilometers away from the center. The joy on the faces of the children was obvious on the arrival day. The warm welcoming of the owners of the catholic sisters place made us feel at home. The sleeping arrangements took the better part of the evening and finally everyone had a comfortable place to sleep.

The morning warm up exercise made everyone to be up by six every day. Before breakfast, the children had time to visit the huge compound which had a village environment. The most exciting thing was the animals. Some of the children were their first time to see coffee trees, cows and chicken. The place was full of noise as the children tried to imitate the animals crying while others feeding the calves with grass which was stored outside the zoo.

As we sat around in different groups according to the groups work plan, the



Playing 'kubb'

main talk was about the animals and how beautiful they look.

We also had time to visit the Nairobi water company main water source which supplies water to a population of about three million people. The visit was very educative as the tour guide took us around to see the inlet of the water and the different stages of having it cleaned. The emphasis throughout the tour was educating us on the importance of preserving water since it costs a lot of money before we have it flow in our tapes.

As we continue with our daily activities, five days flew very fast and the children started asking for more days of staying in this quiet and dustless place which led our minds to think of how our new center will look like in few years to come. Glory is to Him for sending His angels to guide 84 children and 9 staff in having a safe and successful camping.



Weaving is still one of the favorites