

# Kenya Mission Report

April 2013

Volume 1, Issue 2

**"We came with our bags packed with burned out hopes and dreams. You encouraged us to explore the deep wells of joy and out jumped loads of laughter! We were inspired to hope and dream once again."**

**- Pastor Nelson Ojowi**

## In this issue:

- *March 2013 mission details*
- *Status of ministry projects overseen by Pastor Nelson*
- *Where we go from here*
- *How you can connect*

## What was planned. What happened. What now.

Last spring, Kenyan Pastor Nelson Ojowi contacted Pastor Art Dyer of Grace Covenant Church, Columbia, Missouri, asking him to come to help stabilize the network of 15 churches he oversees in rural Kenya and Tanzania.



**Pastor Nelson Ojowi**

The membership of Grace Covenant agreed that Pastor Art should respond to this request by gathering a team and go as soon as feasible.

Pastor Art, his wife, Linda, Elder David Briscoe, and Brad Licklider, a retired nurse and Grace Covenant

board member, left March 17th to fly to Nairobi and on to Migori.

### What was planned

Pastor Nelson had arranged an itinerary that included 4 days of tent meetings, a 2-day pastors' conference, baptisms and tours of the churches' various ongoing projects. The team also planned to spend a couple of days touring the Masai Maara game preserve and visiting Lake Victoria.

### What actually happened

We did everything on Pastor Nelson's itinerary and then some! Because the crowds grew larger day by day, the decision was made to extend the meetings an extra day. Attendance swelled to an estimated 400-500 at the



**GCC Team Receives Kenyan Clothing**

highest point, with people standing 5 to 6 deep on all sides of the tent.

The worship services were filled with lively and enthusiastic praise music that set the mood for the preaching of the Word of God. Each message was translated from English to Swahili to Luo, the local language.

In response to the preaching, a total of 15 people came to faith in Jesus for salvation during the tent meetings and the following week; 36 were baptized in the nearby river.

Men, women and children received prayer and many were healed and delivered.

The team also conducted a pastors' seminar and made two nearby home visitations.



**On the Way to a Home Visitation**



**Baptizing in the River**



**Singing Praises**



**Faculty and Student Body Assemble**



**Children Assemble in Schoolyard**



**At Work in the Sewing Shop**

## How you can connect with Pastor Nelson and his ministry

1. *Pray for Pastor Nelson and the congregations and projects he oversees.*
2. *Provide financial support for Pastor Nelson's ministries in Kenya, specifically high school tuition for highly at-risk students.*
3. *Consider being part of the team that makes the trip in 2014.*

**"The most exciting point is that all churches experienced some awakening power of God. Your ideas and passion and humor touched people's heart, mind & soul. "**

**- Pastor Nelson Ojowi**



**Kenya and Tanzania Pastors**

**"You encouraged us that all difficulties which might and would cross our way must be surmounted. Though the soul be tried, the heart faint, and the hands hang down, we must remain in Jesus' boat. What a wonderful message!"**

**- Pastor Nelson Ojowi**

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### About Grace Covenant

Grace Covenant formed in 1998 and located to an at-risk neighborhood a few years later. Involvement with the [Christian Community Development Association](#) (CCDA) helped equip us for inner city ministry. We became a member of the Southwest Association of [North American Baptist](#) churches in 2006. Pastor Art has been a staff chaplain at University of Missouri Healthcare for the past fifteen years. Between them, the Dyers have served on the boards of eight community not-for-profit organizations that address the needs of at-risk people.