



Pandemic, Plagues, and Praises

As the old adage goes, when it rains, it pours. It feels like it has been pouring around the world and Kenya is no exception. We care about the country of Kenya as a whole, beyond the gates of our children's home. While our homes may not be experiencing every difficulty directly, our children and staff call this beautiful country home and carry a burden for their country. They also carry a burden for all of us in the United States. We often let you know how you can be praying for our staff and children in Kenya, but we also want you to know that they faithfully pray for you. We hear from them often

how they are praying for the Chariots family -- those who support them from America.

Our Kenyan staff follow the news from America closely. Recently, they have been watching the mounting death toll from COVID-19 and the rising racial tensions that have been prominently featured on TV in Kenya. They have expressed their prayers for safety from the pandemic for all of you. They are also praying that America would experience the love and unity among and between all people that they have experienced with all of the Chariots sponsors and supporters who have visited them in Kenya over the years.

Pandemic

Our homes, children and staff remain healthy! This is no small thing and we are so thankful for God's continued protection over their health. In the broader communities surrounding our homes as well as other regions of Kenya, numbers are rising. As of right now, our children and staff are remaining at the homes and making only essential trips to town for supplies. The latest information is that Kenya is hoping to open schools again in September for the start of the 3rd term. Please pray for continued wisdom for our staff and country leaders as they make decisions.

Plague of Locusts

With visuals that will take you back to the Old Testament, Kenya, Somalia and Ethiopia are experiencing an infestation unlike anything we've ever seen. The first and second waves have caused significant damage to crop, but a third wave, feared to be the largest yet, is expected this summer. Devastation to crops leads to sharp increases to food prices and food scarcity around the nation. In a country where so many live in utter poverty, this could have dire consequences.

Thankfully, our homes have not been in the direct path of the locusts. Learn

more: <https://www.washingtonpost.com/graphics/world/2020/05/05/locusts-africa-swarms-kenya-ethiopia/>

Praises

Amidst really hard things, we have so much to be thankful for! Keep scrolling to see just a few of the many encouraging things we have seen recently!

In 2018 our homes worked through the important "Healing Trauma" curriculum created by the American Bible Society and adapted specifically for Kenya by the Kenya Bible Society. They have recently released materials specifically related to the COVID-19 Pandemic. We are so thankful for the

opportunity to provide our homes with solid resources to help our children understand this complex situation.

We are like proud parents each time we see and hear accounts of our children stepping up and going above and beyond in caring for others. Read just a few of those stories below!



At Ogada, Steward took the initiative to gather a few of the other older boys and work on the tree nursery at the home, keeping the trees pruned and healthy.



At Maai Mahiu a young man named Cyrus has been using this time to give back to the home and younger children. Cyrus is 21 years old and is attending college to study accounting. He has used this break from school to help out the home in the garden, help lead devotions, and assist with caring for the animals. It has been wonderful to have the younger children see his example of giving back to the home where he grew up!



At Mahiga and Mulango several of our university students used their time off of school to invest in the children of their home through tutoring. Pictured above is Daniel at Mahiga. Daniel is 22 and close to finishing his degree at KCA University. He came to Mahiga when he was just 5 years old. It has been his joy to be able to give back and pour into the children.

At Kaptagat a small group of children were able to help out a local man in the community with repairs to his mud hut, washing of clothes and delivering a meal. The staff were able to give a safe (socially distanced) way for the children to give back to their community during this challenging time.



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