

# GPF



# AFRICA

Garments of Praise  
June 2014 Update

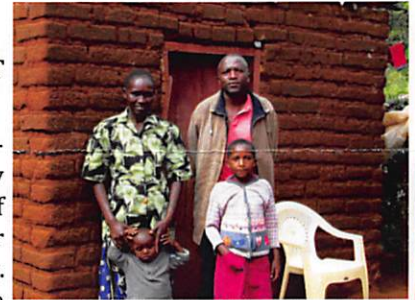
*Challenged by Isaiah 61:1-3 (NKJV) it became our desire to provide **HOPE** by bringing **Help** to the helpless, giving the **Oil of joy** to those who mourn, **Preaching the gospel to the poor**, and **Exchanging the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness**, with the ultimate goal that **God may be glorified**.*

## “VICTORY FOOTBALL TEAM”

God has worked in many ways to help us “bring the good news to the poor...”; BUT A SOCCER BALL?

In 2012 we purchased a soccer ball for Victory Church so boys could have something to do in their long days. Seven young men were saved the first Sunday they had the ball but how it impacted one of the coaches was just learned in May of 2014. The Munaiki Sect is a group of people whose religion is the worship of their ancestors. Christ is unknown to them and they avoid any “church” or gathering. They are feared by those around them because they have been responsible for the killing of many innocent people and people who leave this sect are targeted for retaliation and even death.

Sammy Mutua was a leader of this sect and was avoided when possible as he often beat people for no reason—this according to his own words. However, his love of “football” (soccer) drew him to Victory Church in September of 2012 when he heard they were forming a team. He had never heard of Christ and His love and when he heard this “Good News,” he immediately opened his heart and life to God and is now a new creation. He testified to this at a recent “Crusade” held in the village market by the soccer team. He shared how Jesus had changed his life from “the one who had closed the village market down”—he had been drinking and was going through the village swinging a machete shouting “I need blood”—to a coach who was helping boys turn from drink and drugs to Jesus. About 20 players and coaches have come to Jesus as a result of “A SOCCER BALL”.



## “SHALOM”

God continues to bless through His people who month after month provide food, education, and the love of God for the 150 plus children who attend Shalom. As the school continues to grow the need has become urgent to find land to build a larger and more “kid” friendly facility. Land that seems ideal has been located close to the present school.

We are praying God will provide the funds to purchase 3 acres to begin this new facility. There are another two acres adjoining the land that can be purchased in the future for expansion.



## “TAILORING”

This year we added the advanced level of Grade II training and it has been very successful. Six of our November 2013 graduates have worked hard during this training and are demonstrating great confidence and skill levels that justify the wisdom of adding this level. They will take exams in August. This training provides greater job opportunity and they can even start a tailoring school if they desire.



It is hard to imagine the level of poverty in this area. The only food a number of our students have is what they get at school. Several also walk a great distance to attend. Carolyn walked 45 minutes each way and the 1:00 pm lunch she had at school had to last her till the 10:00 am porridge was served the following day. Through generous donors, God has helped us set up a boarding program at the mission compound where she and three others receive board, room and a small personal allowance.



### **“JESUS CARES”**

What a joy to see our first “Safe Haven” as we rented a small room for two students, ages 11 and 13, from Shalom. Their situation had become critical as their guardian abandoned them and moved to another location and left them in a dangerous place with no food. God provided a godly teacher who offered to oversee their welfare as Jesus Cares provided “room and board”. Pray for these precious children. Many others are also in need of such care and as Shalom acquires land, a larger “Safe Haven” will be part of the facility.

### **“Equipping the Saints”**

We continue to support five in Bible school and provide a place 24/7 where the church in Eastleigh can worship, witness and train disciples.. This brave Church is in great need of our prayer support as much violence has been suffered by them; not just by the bombings of the terrorists, but also by the police who are often brutal in their efforts to control the terrorists.

It was a great blessing to celebrate Resurrection Sunday with them and even though the situation was very dangerous to them, the church was full and overflowing.



### **HOW YOU CAN HELP**

- ◆ **Prayer:** individually or with our prayer group; this is our greatest need
- ◆ **Sponsorship toward one of the above ministries** (\$10 to \$40 per month)
- ◆ **One -Time Gifts for Land/Buildings/Equipment** (any size donation is appreciated)
- ◆ **Participate in a Mission Trip** hands on help with projects
- ◆ **Share the Vision and Need with Others** personal friends/ on the web/ arrange a speaker for your group
- ◆ **Assist at Special Events**

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