

Greetings from Malava, Kenya.

On Sunday, the 8<sup>th</sup>, I travelled on pikis with Agneta to Malekha, to visit a small village church of Friends near Shirugu. One of their leaders had been to New Hampshire! They greeted us with having us wash our hands, then taking our temperatures and signing a register of attendees, before entering the church with all its doors and window open and each chair space carefully apart. As I and Agneta then shared with them, we congratulated them for their procedure, but also encouraged them to wear their masks correctly, (covering both their mouths and noses, not just around their chins or neck). Agneta shared how her brother-in-law was in Eldoret Hospital with Covid due to not wearing a mask correctly.

On Tuesday, I went to Kakamega by piki and after doing a few errands, Pastor Shimala, of Amalemba Friends (where Eileen Malova was a member), drove me to Eileen's grave at her Kitale farm, picking up Roselyn Amugune and Agneta Injairu on the way. I found out Uganda Friends had contributed 3000 Kenya shillings in tribute to Eileen. We spent the night and most of the next day with Eileen's son Sammy and his family at the farm. Agneta and Roselyn stayed up very late at night to encourage and counsel them. The next morning we all helped pick vegetables and plucked them to eat with ugali for lunch.



*Granddaughter with banana flower      Roselyn, Sarah(Sam's wife) and Agneta among collard plants*

We spent the next night at Evelyn Mukonambi's home in Kitale. We had a prayerful meeting of the four of us, and agreed we wanted to continue the work in Uganda as a team, and would ask for one from Amalemba Friends Church to join us. We also will invite others to join us periodically.



*Plucking lisuza greens from garden*

*Uganda team- MKB, Evelyn, Roselyn, Agneta*

On Thursday, after doing some quick errands in Kitale town, we took a matatu to Chwele. This shuttle limited the vehicle to only seven passengers instead the overcrowding of 15. From Chwele we took pikis 30km to Lwakhakha, the border of Uganda. The former Clerk of Uganda YM, Apollo Wopicho walked across the border to meet us. We were surprised to find the road paved all the way to the border and learned it is now paved to Magadi to accommodate delivery from new oil wells on a road less crowded than the usual Busia and Malaba border crossings. It was good to get caught up with news of Uganda Friends. We then returned to Evelyn's in Kitale for the night.



*Roselyn, Agneta with Apollo Wopicho*

Evelyn drove us the next day to the home of Gladys Kangahi before she returned to her job in Kitale town. Gladys was glad to see us. She enjoyed sharing as we recorded about her experiences as a Friend as a child and Sunday school teacher. We then travelled to Webuye, to the home of Charles Wakhisi, the first general superintendent of East African YM (before all the splits). He was delighted to see us and we had fun sharing the history of the early days of Quakers in Kenya when East Africa YM was started with Kenyans leading. He was also eager to hear news of others who were active Quakers during the 1960's and 1970's. He is the only member of the original staff still alive.



*Roselyn, Marian, and Agneta with Gladys Kangahi*



*With Charles Wakhisi*

We returned to our homes by nightfall and have spent today resting. Was awoken with a ripe papaya which Ruto had fetched from Agneta's tree. We have had several very heavy rain falls this afternoon, as though someone is pouring a bucket of water on us. Great for growing vegetables. On Sunday, instead of attending a large gathering, we went to pray for a neighbor whose son had just been in an automobile accident. His mother was a member of the small prayer group of Shirugu Monthly Meeting along with Agneta. Thanks for all your support and messages. Marian