

Message 2- 20-27 October. – Ebwambwa, Kakamega, and Kitale area

I am grateful for a week less hectic than last week. I arrived at Elizabeth's after an hours pikipiki(motorcycle)ride from Khalenda on the back roads to Kakamega. Was warmly welcomed by Elizabeth and my namesake, Marian, the first time I had seen them since the Covid pandemic began.

On Friday, I did errands in Kakamega town and then returned to Ebwambwa with Agneta plus Alfred Wasike who made a video of Agneta's talk ready for the Zoom conference on the 30<sup>th</sup> of this month for African and Latin/South American Women Pastors. Saturday I was finally able to transcribe it and send it via email at the local internet café.

Sunday I visited Ebwambwa Friends church that is within walking distance of Elizabeth's, and rested the rest of the day.

Monday, my Kenyan support committee met, with five of us meeting in person and two via Zoom. We met in the old Kakamega Care Center (orphanage) and met John Chisholm (son of the late Sukie Rice). Right now all the green courtyard with trees is replaced with the start of an enormous church building, as their regular meetinghouse is too small to fit all their members.



*Thirsty travelers enjoy yogurt!*



*My support committee*



*Looking down at new meetinghouse*

The support committee helped plan who would travel to Uganda and Tanzania during the time I am here. I expect to get to Uganda, but with Covid, am still uncertain about Tanzania. After the meeting, Judith collected Agneta and I and drove us all to Agneta's home in Kalenda (near Malava). We planned out the activities for the QREC Africa Quaker Archives Oral Project.

Tuesday, we travelled to Lumakanda, and visited the home of the late David and Gladys Zarembke. The daughter in law and her children were excited for our visit. Agneta and Judith were very interested in seeing the large traditional marriage certificate of David and Gladys (not usually used in Kenya). In the afternoon we visited the home of the late Gladys Khangahi. Her husband was very grateful to see us. In both homes we sang, prayed and shared stories about the deceased.



*Standing under David and Gladys's marriage certificate*



*Standing in front of grave of Gladys Knagahi*

Wednesday, we traveled to the home of Walter Malenya, who transcribed one of the oral interviews we did last year. We have planned out with Robert Wafula to have Jane Matasio, a Kenyan Quaker from the National Archives of Kenya, to come to FTC to guide the librarians and staff. Then we have chosen 10 Kenyan leaders, plus 10 of the QREC oral project people, to come learn what to save, and to begin gathering some materials, while we continue to work on constructing a proper building as an extension to FTC library in which to house them. Those doing oral interviews will demonstrate the methods we have developed using a smartphone, a small lapel microphone, and tiny tripod. All those invited to this conference will be expected to in turn teach others in their respective yearly meetings or Friends organizations.



*Agneta, Judith, Ken, and the Malenyas*



*Greetings from Marian Malenje, Elizabeth's daughter*

Today I will travel back to Kaimosi to visit Elizabeth Mulimi, the Kenyan representative to the USFW International Executive Committee, on my way to the FTC Graduation.

Thanks for all your prayers and support. The border to Uganda has opened, and you can pray that I will be able to get the negative Covid test in time to enter Uganda next week to attend Uganda YM sessions to assist them in planning for a possible health dispensary in Busoga region.

In gratitude, Marian