

Message 7- Kenya and Uganda Nov 30-Dec 8, 2021

I feel safer in Kenya right now than in USA or other places in the world where Covid is raging.

On Wednesday morning , I met the women who were going to Uganda to get their Covid tests in Kakamega. I then proceeded to Kaimosi to meet with Robert Wafula at FTC. I also visited Janet Mulama who expected to go to Tanzania USFW Conference next week.

On Thursday, we celebrated Elizabeths birthday with a cake for breakfast! Marian had made a unique cake with the icing in the form of a basket, with scones placed like eggs inside the basket. She has started her own cake baking, and is known for unique cakes ready to buy for special occasions. If you are a Kenyan and need a special cake, consider ordering a cake from this talented young woman.



Marian

Elizabeth

The cake

On Thursday, the four Kenyan women started travelling to Uganda. When they reached the border, no results had yet been received as had been promised. I ended up travelling back to the lab, collecting the four negative tests, and sending them from an internet café. Margaret Musalia had decided to go back to her home and try the next day, but the other three, Agneta Injairu, Elizabeth Mulimi, and Edith Wekesa were able to cross the border around 5PM. The last matatu had left, so they ended up going on pikis (motorcycles) for the long journey to Mbale, arriving as it got pitch dark at 7PM. They were warmly welcomed and a meal was waiting for them.

On Friday, Roselyn Amugune joined me in travelling north to visit Elgon East YM Women’s Conference- located in Mitua, near Kitale. Evelyn Chonge, the new Presiding Clerk of USFW Kenya, was surprised and delighted to have us visit.



Part of the crowd of women gathered

Clerk is in middle of Rosylne&l , Evelyn on right

On Saturday, I visited Kakamega YM USFW Conference. They were a crowd of over 500, which could not fit into the church building in Shikoti, so was held outside with multiple tents. The women were mostly dressed in white, as they do for Sunday, for funerals, and for special occasions. They did a lot of singing and dancing and honored a number of “women of substance” – giving them blankets or other gifts to thank them for their service to Friends.



Former clerk gets a blanket.



Tote bags made by Shikoti women.



Dancing with joy

On Sunday, I stayed at Elizabeth’s and rested instead of travelling. Meanwhile, the team who had gone to Uganda returned home. They reported that there were 300 women gathered, full of joy after missing last year due to Covid. Margaret spoke on leadership; Sylvia, the clerk of Uganda USFW, gave an impressive PowerPoint talk on “The awakened women in the church”; Agneta on being a total woman; and Edith on Women in the Church. The women eagerly asked many questions. Pastor Rose Wamboga from Mutoto Meeting which hosted the event was the main speaker. The Kenyans were impressed with this growing women’s group so full of enthusiastic younger women.



Sylvia Wopicho.



Margaret and interpreter.



Elizabeth, Edith, Margaret, Agneta & Wamboga hosts

Monday, I went to Kisumu and met with two of the four Kenyan women who are now on their way to Tanzania for their conference. Janet Mulama had fallen ill with malaria, so we sent Pauline in her place. Tuesday, Agneta and I went to Ivona to interview Sammy Sore. Other than his white hair, he was his joyful self that we had remembered from 50 years ago at the Young Friends Camps (back when there was only one yearly meeting in East Africa.

REPORT OF USFW – UGANDA REGIONAL CONFERENCE FROM 1ST TO 5TH DECEMBER 2021

The meeting took place at Mutoto Village meeting Church in Mbale Uganda. The theme of the conference was “A wise woman” who cares from Ephesians 5:15. The main speaker was Rose Wamboka. She explored the theme well. Agneta Injairu from Malava YM taught on A Total Woman. Edith Wekesa from Nairobi taught on Women in the Church, Sylvia Wopicho from Uganda, talked on Awakened women in the Church, and Margaret Musalia taught on leadership. The topical speakers also explored the topics fluently to the congregation’s understanding.



Kenyan team with Wambokas(in grey suits)



Sylvia,USFW Uganda Clerk



Margaret and Interpreter

Compared to the past years the conference was well attended. All ages of the woman attended, mostly younger women. The women had been kept away from Church because of Covid – 19. They were happy to hear again and share the word of God. Though it was done secretly, the result was wonderful. The Covid-19 was an advantage to the USFW –Uganda since they had missed to be together and share the word of God and just being together. This was an optune time. They all came together in a big numbers, everyone was keen and so the teachings were hammered home.

There were few challenges that could be observed. Due to the excitement among the women, time was not well managed. Language was a challenge. Communication was done in four languages, they had to have an interpreter, and this was done wonderfully well by: Helen Namono - A Sunday school teacher.

The meeting had the highest number of attendance whereby 300 members registered. On the last day Pst. Stephen Wamboka dedicated 3 children. This proves that Ugandan Friends Church is growing strong and stronger.

The conference was attended by a team of four women from Kenya plus Apollo Wopicha – Former clerk, Pastor. Stephen Wamboka and Pst. Alfred Wasike - General secretary Uganda Yearly Meeting

May God Bless Friends Church Uganda

Report Compiled by

Elizabeth Mulimi – mulimielizabeth@gmail.com

Christian service Secretary USFW International

0718180066

Agneta K. Injairu – agnetainjairu@gmail.com

Missionary in Uganda

0726457753

Friday I will take off to Nairobi on my way home. The report and photos from the Tanzania Conference and our time in Nairobi will be in my next report. Thanks for all the prayers and support. Pray that the new strains of Covid and changed travel restrictions will not prevent my travel back to USA.
In gratitude,
Marian

Attached: 2021 USFW Uganda Report