

Message 3 Greetings from Malava – Oct 29-Nov 6

On the 28th, I went to Kaimosi to attend part of the Friends United Meeting board meeting. I was one of the very few women present. One interesting thing done was the planting of three memorial indigenous trees. Kelly Kellum, whose father had been born in Kaimosi had brought some of David Kellum's ashes and planted them with the Elgon Teak tree. Robert Wafula then planted a tree in memory of Rich Davis who had helped build a number of the buildings at FTC during his time of serving as principal. Then a leader of Elgon East planted a tree in memory of Martin Simiyu, the former chaplain of the college who died soon after last year's graduation ceremonies. I appreciated seeing trees planted instead of stones placed on the land, as it helps in terms of climate change issues and many can enjoy the shade of the trees in the future.



Kelly Kellum honoring David Kellum. Robert Wafula honoring Rich Davis, Honoring Martin Simiyu

On the 30th, I went to Agneta Injairu to the new Kalenda Friends Meeting in her village. After the service, we visited Andrew Mulupi, a 95-year-old Friends elder who had given the land to build the meetinghouse. We interviewed him about the history of Malava. He described how he, in order to attend high school, would carry his wooden box all the way to Lugulu, mostly on foot without shoes or socks, and he still owned that old wooden box! How different from today, where students expect to have buses to transport themselves to boarding schools. When asked his message for Friends today, he said that the splits has resulted in meetings too small to support themselves, and he thought it was better to have one well trained and supported pastor, rather than numerous ones in each area.



I spent the next few days at Elizabeth's in Kakamega and prepared materials for the workshop I will be leading at FTC the 9th-11th of November for Quaker Women who travel in ministry to cultures different from their own.

On Saturday the 5th of November, Agneta and I were picked up by Pastor Joseph Shimala of Kakamega Friends and driven to Cherengani (near Kitale) to visit Ben Tsimungu. We picked up Isaiah Bikokwa enroute. Tsimungu was overjoyed to discover who the visitors were- all old friends of his.



Agneta, Anna(wife of Ben), Shimala, Bikokwa listened in. as Agneta interviewed dynamic Tsimungu.

Ben, who is now over 80 years old, is known for his dynamic preaching- in multiple languages to all ages in Kenya, as well as over three years as a missionary for FUM in Tanzania. Isaiah is known for being the Kenyan who began all the work in Samburu. Agneta now ministers often in Uganda, and Shimala ministers at Amalemba, the large meeting in Kakamega, Kenya. What a joyous time we all had sharing with each other, with our many similar experiences of ministry in different places.

Some of you sent money to help towards famine relief in Turkana. When Zelika Galavu, former Clerk of USFW Kenya, had the opportunity to visit women in Turkana with Shawn and Katrina McConaughy a couple years ago, she felt a calling to reach out and help those women with food and has been collecting food from other USFW women and delivering it several times a year to Turkana. Recently, Getry Agizah and others of FUM meetings in Kenya have been gathering food to send and have recognized that Zelika is the one who knows how to get the food to that part in northern Kenya where there has been no rainfall in four years! Zelika will miss our workshop for women who travel in ministry to other cultures this week. Instead, we will have two Turkana Quaker women come to the workshop who travel regularly into Sudan.



Zelika with previous delivery. Getry of FUM collecting more food

Thanks so much for all of you who have sent messages, prayed for safe travel, and contributed towards our expenses. This week you can pray for the workshop at FTC for the women ministers, as well as for safe travels of all the women travelling to the event.

In gratitude,
Marian