

Message 9. Safe arrival back in New Hampshire woods- Jan 9-12, 2024

Greetings from the woods of New Hampshire.

Tuesday, when I visited Friends in Shirugu, I found Agneta's grandchildren had been creatively making banjos (after I sang with them using my banjo in a previous visit). Wednesday, I travelled by Easy Coach bus from Kakamega to Nairobi and spent the night at the home of the Kikaya family. Thursday, I met with David Kikaya, Miriam Were and part time with several other Friends at FIC, Ngong Road, and shared about the recent Africa Quaker Archives Workshop. One thing they suggested we record was USFW women singing some of the favorite older hymns that every Quaker in Kenya used to know by heart. Miriam Were invited me to her home in Nairobi for lunch and her driver delivered me to Judith Nandikove's home near the airport. Judith graciously delivered me to the Nairobi airport that night.



Banjos made by the grandsons.



Nelvin, FIC youth leader plus Miriam Were and I in Nairobi (photo by Kikaya)

I flew in a "big bird" to Paris all night, and much of the next day on to Boston, where I boarded a bus to Concord, NH. Janet, my helpful neighbor, collected me and I bought a few essential food items enroute, as another storm was expected. The journey from Kenya is long, and since I arrived at night, I quickly made a cup of hot tea and went to bed, instead of stopping to send a message to all of you.

It snowed late last night, but turned to rain and warmed up today, melting much of it. Dan, my nephew came by this morning and helped me carry in my large bags plus several armloads of firewood. It is such a blessing to have younger relatives now living in the neighboring town.

The bags include a number of things the women with whom I travel in ministry have given to me to sell to raise money for all our travels. Let me know if you would like me to come talk about East Africa in your area in the coming months and bring some colorful cloth and artwork/crafts.

Now that my house is warmed up, I am able to sit down and write this message plus deal with a stack of other important correspondence that needs attention.

Thank you all for all your support during the travels in the last few months.

In much gratitude,

Marian



Snow on ground and roof after I had shoveled a path to my garage and wood shed.