

The Sawyer Scoop March 2022

Hello Dear Friends,

We greet you all in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. I hope this letter finds you all doing well and growing in the knowledge of Him.

Since coming back to Kenya on the 9th of December the Sawyer family has been non stop busy. To be honest with you it is like we never left and our 5 month whirlwind of a furlough seems like a blip. We have had different visitors with us since December 29th



and still have visitors even now as I write this letter. We had my dad who basically removed an entire mountain where we will be building our high school. We had a husband and wife come out who are good friends and were very encouraging to us. We also had a group from Zion Baptist Church in Morganton, NC come out and 6 of those were medical personnel. We saw over 650 patients in a week and many had the Gospel shared with them after treatment. They were a major encouragement to us for the week. We now have 2 from Shapleigh Baptist Church and they are making a lot of saw dust! Making new tables and benches for our kindergarten classes and doing much needed repairs on the other classroom desks.



This is definitely an old school newsletter and I hope you can make it through to the end. We have many ministries here so it takes a minute to share about.

I have been super busy with all the different projects going on here on the mission. We currently have 79 staff and it continues to grow. We could not do what is happening here without our amazing staff!

The Haven is moving ahead nicely! This is our new home for the girls that are 18 or older who are in our children's home and can no longer legally be in the home. The downstairs should be ready for them to move in by end of March. After that we can start the upstairs which will house 6 of our women staff.

Mara Bible Institute has started back in full force and every Thursday I have about 16 students who are getting the opportunity to dive deeper into the Word of God. We have one book left and will be finishing Lord willing by end of this year.





Mara Christian High School is a huge project, 70 yards long! We have never built a building as big as this. It will be 2 story and L-shaped when we are finished. It has 14 different rooms for the new education system that is being implemented. We have technology rooms, a science lab and much more. It is so exciting to see it happening and we have started pouring the slabs for down stairs. The opportunity to share the Gospel with these kids until late teens excites us the most!

Mara Christian Academy, our K-8 school soon to be K-6 is doing fantastic. We have really enjoyed this year with the kids. We currently have 307. The school year ended on Feb. 25th and the new year starts on April 25th. Our class 8 starts taking the big exam on Monday and finishes on Wednesday. They are so ready for it and I'm sure at the end of it all they will do very well. Mara Christian Academy has become a very sought-after school and I even received a call from a man last night from Nairobi asking if his son who is in third grade could come. Many parents say it is just not the education but how their child has changed since coming to MCA, they eat well, they are loved and they are taught about Jesus Christ. That encourages me to hear parents speak that way.



Mara Children's Home has grown as well. We are now up to 31 rescued children. To say the least, the home is full but also full of giggles, smiles, happiness and much hope for the future. They are such sweet children and it amazes me how anyone could ever do the things that happen to them. We have also added another Matron who is an older lady and she has brought a much-needed "grandmotherhood" to the home. We have 5 children now under 4 and they need a grandmother's touch. Mara Children's Home is truly an amazing ministry that doesn't just rescue children from their terrible situation but invests in that child's eternity.

Straight Up Medical Clinic still stands out as one of the best available in the area. Having the ability to run labs and do X-rays or ultrasounds in the bush is no joke and lifesaving. While the medical group was here there was a lady who had given birth 3 weeks prior and was terribly sick. Come to find out the placenta was still inside her and she was septic. We were able to pay for her to go immediately to the hospital for surgery and most likely saved her life. It is another truly amazing ministry that shares the love of Jesus to our community.





Women's Ministry: I have to say the women here are so faithful in so many ways. They love their Savior with a love that fascinates me. They bring joy to me as their pastor. Laura is so faithful in teaching them the Scriptures on Tuesdays and Fridays. Laura also does a ton of counseling especially for the young ladies and girls. I can attest to you with full confidence that the Bible is true when it says, "he who finds a wife finds a good thing" I have one of the best, who is a faithful servant to her King Jesus.

My kids amaze me! They are as much a part of this ministry than any of us. They faithfully serve so many and share the Gospel with everyone. They never complain about their lives and often say they have not missed out on anything. In fact, they usually tell us they don't want to go back to America, this is home and this is ministry. **Sarah** pretty much manages the entire mission station now, making sure all the different areas have what they need. She manages all the food for the school and Children's Home! She does an amazing job at it. **Summer** feeds widows once a week and sits and listens to the Scriptures with the older ladies. She is also finishing up her senior year and hopes to graduate by the end of the year.



Savannah is in her freshmen year of high school. She loves playing with the school kids in the afternoons and is a huge help to her mom in the kitchen. **Skylar** is in the 6th grade and loves animals. I pretty sure she would start an animal shelter if we let her.

Kweli Kweli Ministry has also taken off again. We have 15,500 people now following from 5 different countries. It is an amazing opportunity to get solid biblical teaching into the ears of many people. Unfortunately, since coming back from furlough it seems Facebook is ghost banning me. Meaning they are not letting my posts go out to as many people as before. That is not only on Kweli Kweli ministry but also on Sawyers in Kenya and my own personal page. Before leaving some of my sermons were having 18-20,000 views and now I am only having a few thousand. Good to know even though evil is strong in this world we know who prevails as King.



The Church is growing leaps and bounds. It is amazing to see how our people are growing in their knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are currently in our 30x40 church building and on a Sunday morning we have about 300 plus in the building and we have started live streaming the service into the dining of the school for the 140 boarders. When the High School is finished we will have another 100 boarders. We are in need of that new church I hope to build. It will hold about 600 people. Hopefully next year we can start building that.

What an amazing blessing to not only have started these ministries but to see the fruit of them. I often look at everything going on here at the mission and tell Laura that it is truly humbling to be here doing what we are doing. I can promise you this, when God calls you to do something He will see it through. Without all of you faithful friends who give to us and each of these ministries every month we could not do all that is happening here. I am truly overwhelmed with thankfulness for each of you. May God continue to bless you and grow you in Him.

If you would like to support The Sawyers or any of the ministries listed please feel free to email me for more info at: travis@straightupmissions.com or you can go to www.straightupmissions.com/donate and give any many different ways.