Ministry Highlights:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Activities</th>
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<tr>
<td>April – May</td>
<td>Transition. Deputation from the US. Arrival in Nairobi. Find housing. Transition…</td>
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<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>Make a house a home. Prepare for language school. Meet new “kinships”.</td>
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<tr>
<td>July – August</td>
<td>First semester of language school at The Language Center, Nairobi.</td>
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PLANTED IN “THE PROMISE”

…”so that people may see and know, may consider and understand, that the hand of the Lord has done this” … Bwana asifiwe (Praise the Lord)!! We bring you greetings and updates from Nairobi, Kenya! Thank you, so very much, to all of our new “kinships” and faithful supporters that sacrificed to make the month of March a launching pad for deputation in April. On April 11, 2012, having raised 75% of our year one support, we departed North Carolina to begin our term of service in the nation of Kenya … arriving on April 12, 2012 … planted, “The truth is a kernel of wheat must be PLANTED in the soil.”

The next 30 days was a grueling testing journey. A process of looking for housing (at least 10 properties), securing terms and a lease, identifying vendors for every item in the house (there is no Walmart, Linens & Things or Rooms To Go in Kenya), furnishing the house (sleeping on the floor for two weeks), adapting to a different culture, adjusting to a new set of expectations, acquiring cultural wit through experiences and accepting that God was still in control (no matter what it looked or felt like). “Unless it DIES it will be alone – a single seed.”

The process of adapting, adjusting, acquiring and accepting created incarnational opportunities. This edition of our newsletter is a glimpse into our journey of the familiar passing away and how the uncomfortable unfamiliar (placed in God’s hands) birthed the beginning of what He’s had in mind all along … the promise. “But its death will produce many new kernels – a plentiful HARVEST of new lives.”

TO BE CONTINUED…

You may be the only Bible someone reads! Daily, we have the opportunity to demonstrate Christ. Someone is always watching. In Kenya, for four years, we’ve had the same driver. This time he was unavailable and sent a different driver. Our new driver was not born again. One day he came to pick us up smelling like alcohol. Praise God our Pastor was present and advised us on what to do. We trusted God to get us home safely. Praise God, we arrived home safely and promptly had a conversation with our driver. He apologized profusely, and said it would not happen again. He continued to drive for us and we loved on him every single day. One morning he said, “I am reformed because of you people. I want to be born again.” What humbling words to hear! But we know it’s never about us but ALL about God! Hallelujah! We prayed the prayer of salvation with him and purchased a Bible shortly thereafter. He reads it every day. As a result of his new faith, specific prayers have been answered and his entire household is born again. You may be the only Bible someone reads! What are they reading?
The Turkana, an oral people, are 855,399, or 2.5% of the Kenyan population. The language of the Turkana is also called Turkana.

Livestock is an important aspect of Turkana culture. Goats, camels, donkeys and zebu are the primary herd stock utilized by the Turkana people. In this society, livestock functions not only as a milk and meat producer, but also as a form of currency used for bride-price negotiations and dowries. Often, a young man will be given a single goat with which to start a herd, and he will accumulate more via animal husbandry. In turn, once he has accumulated sufficient livestock, these animals will be used to negotiate for wives.

Traditionally, men and women both wear wraps made of rectangular woven materials and animal skins. Often men wear their wraps similar to tunics, with one end connected with the other end over the right side. Men also carry stools (known as ekicholong) and will use these for simple chairs rather than sitting on the hot midday sand. These stools also double as headrests, keeping one's head elevated from the sand, and protecting any ceremonial head decorations from being damaged. It is also not uncommon for men to carry staves; one is used for walking and balance when carrying loads; the other, usually slimmer and longer, is used to prod livestock during herding activities. Women will customarily wear necklaces and often have beads attached to the loose ends of their hair. Men wear their hair shaved. Women wear two pieces of cloth, one being wrapped around the waist while the other covers the top.

Child Hunger Facts: Did you know that...

- In 2010, it is estimated that 925 million people suffer from hunger (United Nations).
- Every day, almost 16,000 children die from hunger-related causes.
- In 2008, nearly 9 million children died before they reached their fifth birthday. One third of these deaths are due directly or indirectly to hunger and malnutrition.
- In 2005, 1.4 billion people in developing countries lives in extreme poverty, or on less than $1.25 per day, down from 1.9 billion in 1981.
- More than 50 percent of Somali children arriving in Ethiopia, and 30 to 40 percent of those arriving in Kenya, are seriously malnourished (UNHCR).
Partnerships and contracts can be cancelled. But “Kingdom Kinships” are established and maintained through a blood – bought relationship with Christ. We invite you to become a part of the Kenya Kingdom Kinship, in one or more of the following ways.

1. **Prayer Support** – a group of people intentionally and consistently covering us, our ministry and the people we serve in prayer…daily, weekly, monthly.

2. **Referral Support** – recommendations for others with global worldview and kingdom focus to be a part of our support system for Kenya.

3. **Financial Support** – monetary donations in support of ministry.

4. **Mobilization Support** –
   a. **Sponsorships** – opportunities to improve the quality of life for Pastoralist children through the provision of education, food and housing.
   b. **Short-term Missions Teams** – opportunity to make visible God’s heart for the people of Kenya in local villages and marginalized communities, through holistic discipleship.
   c. **Socio-economic Projects** – opportunities to join development efforts to strengthen the economy, foster discipleship environments and increase value and worth for the marginalized.

Join us today! Send us an email, inbox us on facebook or leave us a voicemail.

God continues to grant opportunities for us to meet new people that have a sincere heart for Him and his people. We praise God for the numerous requests, from ministries and individuals, locally and abroad, that wish to join us in serving the people of Isiolo. Wow God! Each ministry offers valuable expertise in areas that further solidifies our commitment to “holistic” ministry. The ministry tool box includes expertise in Biblical exegesis, men and women’s ministry, solar power energy, leadership development, micro-business, economic empowerment and much more. God is truly up to something, and we look forward to sharing how he chooses to use each new “kinship”.

KENYA KINGDOM KINSHIPS...

On the morning of Wednesday, April 11th, the two of us, along with family, friends and twenty-three boxes, arrived at the Charlotte-Douglas Airport. In less than forty-five minutes all of our boxes were weighed, paid for, checked-in and on their way to the aircraft. We praise God for a smooth and seamless process!

**But that’s not it!** Family and friends remained for prayer, prior to our heading to the gate. As the group prayed, these words were uttered: “and these two will be salt and light. Jesus said “if I be lifted up, I will draw all men unto me”.” When the prayer was over two young ladies, from Asheville, NC, approached the group and said, “we walked by and saw you praying. Normally, we are anointed and prayed for prior to traveling but it didn’t happen this time. Would you mind praying for us?” The group gladly prayed with and for the two young ladies. Someone is always watching. We praise God for the opportunity to intercede on behalf of others.

**But that’s not all!** Upon our arrival at the Jomo – Kenyata Airport, in Nairobi, we gathered our twenty-three pieces of luggage and headed to the Customs’ Desk. There were six men and six carts behind us. The first customs’ agent inquired about the boxes. As we answered his questions, another agent approached and asked more probing questions. We prayed (silently), smiled and answered the questions, accordingly. The awesome end to the story is that the second agent was from Isiolo! She knows our field liaison in Isiolo, as well as our governmental contact. Wow God! She shook our hands and said, “I will come and see your work. Isiolo is my home. Welcome to Kenya. Go!” There were NO charges for our twenty-three boxes! The six men that were with us were totally amazed, along the other customs’ agents and onlookers. God can never be confined to our limited capacity. He is limitless and infinite in all He does. God is Faith! We praise Him for His favor! DON’T BOX ME IN. GOD! Go!!!!

We met Dr. Karia Bunting, during Ridgeway’s Baptist Ladies Fellowship, in Nairobi. Dr. Bunting is the Founder of Focused Forward Ministries. She is a Biblical expository Bible teacher with the heart to effectively share the truth of Gospel of Jesus Christ. She has an especially soft spot for women. Her passion for the growth and development of women is evident in her book entitled Embracing Your Divine Design. For more information go to drkaria.com.
PRAYER NEEDS...

- Pray that all financial commitments are fulfilled.
- Pray about your financial commitment, in support of the ministry. Commitments needed for one to five years.
- Pray about your financial support of special projects, such as vehicle purchase, digging a well or supporting funds for building an orphanage in Isiolo.
- Pray for our success in Language Learning. Pray for clarity of heart and mind.
- Join us, daily in prayer, by memorizing and praying Psalm 91. Pray Psalm 91, not only for the two of us but for cross-cultural workers around the world.
- Pray that God’s peace and the healing power of the Holy Spirit overshadow our families, as we serve in Kenya.
- Pray about your future participation on a short-term mission team to Kenya. Seek God as to how HE wants to use your hands and feet on the mission field.
- Pray about your child/children’s future participation on a short-term mission team to Kenya (opportunities will be available during summer months). Information is forth-coming.

FINANCIAL NEEDS….

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<tr>
<th>An additional $2,000, in monthly support, for the remainder of 2012.</th>
<th>This amount is included in our annual budget.</th>
<th>Fundraising totals were 75% at the time of our deputation, in April.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A $5,000 one-time donation, for the purchase of a small vehicle, until we raise the funds for an all terrain vehicle.</td>
<td>This amount is in addition to our set annual budget.</td>
<td>The purchase of a small vehicle will drastically reduce our current transportation expenses.</td>
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<tr>
<td>A $25,000 one-time donation, to purchase an all terrain vehicle.</td>
<td>This amount is also in addition to our set budget.</td>
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** See below for donation information. Donations can be made online or by mail.
Mail to:

The Park Ministries – Kenya
P. O. Box 1691 – 000621
The Village Market
Nairobi, Kenya