



# Kenya Connection

## Meet Mama Robi at the Annual Gala! November 8 at Peachtree Road UMC 6:30-9:30

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*C*ome meet Mama Robi, the visionary behind *The Kenya Project*. Also enjoy dinner, music, a silent auction, and fellowship with friends of *The Kenya Project*! This special gala will be held in the Peachtree Road United Methodist fellowship hall, 3180 Peachtree Road, Atlanta, Ga. 30305, on Tuesday, November 8th, from 6:30-9:30.

The Mully Children's Family will not be able to perform due to a difficulty in getting visas. But we are very excited about the opportunity for guests to meet Mama Robi and enjoy music provided by singers from the Kenyan American Community Church in Marietta with our very own Jerioth Robi (Gideon's wife).

You will also have the opportunity to meet mission team members, who will be sharing

their stories. And you will see taped interviews of Mountain Park Academy (MPA) teachers and leaders. During the silent auction you can purchase Kenyan artwork, wood carvings, and jewelry handmade in MPA's community. There will also be numerous restaurant gift cards and opportunities to bid on fun vacation getaways. Photos of silent auction items will be posted on our website.

Please support the final stages of lower school construction by enjoying an evening with us and participating in the silent auction.

Bring friends who may be interested in going to Kenya on a mission trip with us next year. This will be a great opportunity to hear about mission team experiences.

*(Continued on page 2)*



Mama Robi



We need your help to finish the new lower school building

### PROJECTS

#### Completed

- Upper school building with dining hall, 5000-book library, playground equipment
- Electricity for MPA and 200 homes
- Community well
- First children's home

#### Current and Ongoing

- New classroom building
- Two new children's homes

## The MPA Campus Is Being Transformed

**M**any changes are taking place on the MPA campus! The final inside painting of the new lower school will be underway soon. The window glass has been ordered and the floor is in the final stages of completion. We are hoping that the Gala ticket proceeds and donations will allow completion of the new addition in time

to open in January at the start of the new school year. The two new children's homes are close to completion as well. The toilets, sinks, and window glass are the last remaining items to be installed. We are in the process of selecting two house-parent couples and 40 orphans to live in the new homes.



The second children's home is almost complete



Beth Wanjiku Chege

## Spotlight: Mrs. Beth Wanjiku Chege

**M**rs. Beth Wanjiku Chege is in her third year at MPA where she teaches mathematics and science to eighth grade students. After graduating from college with a bachelors degree in business management, Mrs. Chege went to work in the finance department at a university in Eldoret, north of Nairobi. However, she was

displaced during the 2007 post-election violence and resettled near MPA. This unfortunate circumstance provided an opportunity for Mrs. Chege to become a teacher at MPA. Even though she is a manager by profession, Mrs. Chege says she now realizes her "inborn career is teaching."

Mrs. Chege is married to Samuel Chege Kiragu, and they have two children, Lenny Kiragu and Elsie. Her hobbies include listening to gospel music, traveling and reading.



Samson Oseko Nyanchongi

## Spotlight: Mr. Samson Oseko Nyanchongi

**M**r. Samson Oseko Nyanchongi comes from a family of eight children. His parents are peasant farmers. After graduating from secondary school, he decided to become a teacher and successfully completed college. He has been teaching for 13 years and has

worked at MPA since January, 2007.

Currently Mr. Nyanchongi is the school's deputy head-teacher, a counselor, and a sixth grade teacher. He mainly teaches Kiswahili, science, and mathematics.

Mr. Nyanchongi loves children and is a great fan of soccer. During the last two Hope Camps at MPA he has been one of the teachers in charge of the students.



Esther Wambui Njau

*(Continued from page 1)*

Gala tickets are \$50 each and tables for eight people are \$350, allowing one person to attend free of charge. All proceeds will go directly to the school and the new addition.

To purchase tickets, make your check out to The Kenya Project

and mail it to 2765 Chandon Place, Alpharetta, GA 30022. You may also use your Visa, Mastercard, or Discover card to purchase tickets on our website (see p. 4).

Call Joan Munoz (404-556-1273) if you would like an invitation mailed or emailed to a friend on your behalf. Call Joan

or Monika Majors (404-983-4137) no later than November 1st if you would like for them to pick up items that you want to donate to the silent auction.

God is blessing the students and orphans at MPA with your involvement. Please join in this celebration and meet others who also love these children.



Joseph Njoroge Kamanda

## Esther and Joseph Need Sponsors

**E**sther Wambui Njau is six years old and is in the Top Class (kindergarten). She has two sisters and one brother, and her parents are both farmers. Esther, like any young child, enjoys playing with her toys, but her favorite pastime is singing. She is a good student

and continues to improve each year.

**Joseph Njoroge Kamanda** is seven years old. He is in Grade Three. He has one sister and one brother. Both of his parents are casual laborers in the community. Joseph loves to sing and dance and especially loves to

play with balls of any kind. He is doing well at school, and his teacher says that he is a happy child who is very open and talkative.

## Many Firsts for the May Mission Team

The members of the team arrived at MPA in May to carry out three annual responsibilities: updating administrative records, providing medical exams, and helping with pending construction projects.

The medical crew saw over 800 students and 200 community people. The administrative crew took student photos and helped students with writing letters and completing questionnaires for their sponsors.

The construction crew made repairs around the school and the team dorms. They laid the foundation for the second chicken house and modified the first chicken house to meet the requirements of Kenchik, the largest chicken corporation in Kenya. They also met with the construction contractor for the new lower school and the two children's homes to assess the progress of these projects.

The crew replaced a leaky water tank in the team dorm and installed a new pump to pressurize the showers.

This year's mission team also worked on several first-time projects that went beyond their three annual responsibilities.

One of the highlights of the trip came when Ashley and Trevor Turner treated the children who live in the Hutch's House children's home to a trip to nearby Lake Nakuru. The children enjoyed their first safari and had lunch at the park's restaurant. The children and Ashley and Trevor had a great time on this adventure!

Megan Maloney, a Lilburn elementary school teacher, trained the teachers and lower grade students on the Teacher Mate, a hand held teaching device for reading and math. Twelve devices were left at the

school for the Top, 1st, and 2nd grade classes to use.

Career Day for the 7th and 8th graders was a huge success with twelve speakers, four from Kenya and eight from the team, giving presentations on a variety of careers.

Greg Wisont, a nutrition consultant from Washington state, worked with kitchen staff to analyze the food being served to the children. He will be preparing a report for Ann Kennedy. Greg will also be doing a comparative study using height and weight data on the students over the last three years. He tested the water using kits provided by Living Waters and found all sources at the school to be satisfactory.



**Ashley and Trevor Turner at Lake Nakuru with some of the Hutch's House children**

## Gideon's Message: God Had a Plan

When I boarded the flight from Nairobi to Atlanta in October 1998, I had a folder of newspaper articles and photos that my mother wanted me to show to my American friends and members of my church in Stone Mountain. She had a dream that I would find a few people who would agree to sponsor the children in her village and help her find a way to provide educate them.

I decided to try to find sponsors as my mom had asked, but I felt that I would soon be telling her that her plan didn't work. Yet God had a plan.

Today we have over 550 students at MPA. Three hundred and fifty students are sponsored. We have three special needs students in special schools, 152 students in secondary schools (9-12 grades), and four students in college.

MPA's campus has become a landmark in the community. It has a dining hall and a modern kitchen. A new classroom building is almost completed. The people in the community rise each morning with a feeling of hope because their children have a place to go to school and they know these young ones will have a hot

breakfast and lunch to eat during the day. And yes, over 30 adults have jobs at MPA.

Across the road from MPA, we have a children's home which houses 19 orphans in a loving and safe environment. We expect to open two more homes before the end of the year.

My mom's dream in 1998 is a reality and a reflection on the great work that God has done through your support.

*We must expect great things from God and we must attempt great things for God.*

—William Carey



**Gideon Robi,  
Executive Director**

The Kenya Project, Inc. is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing education, spiritual growth, and homes for Kenya's children. Current projects are focused on helping in the village of Githioroinii, Kenya.

**Donations**

Liz Nichols 678-596-1374  
kenyaproject@bellsouth.net

**Sponsorship**

Nell Pressley  
thekenyaproject@gmail.com

**Mailing Address**

P.O. Box 2023 Lilburn GA 30048  
Gideon Robi: 678-207-7515

[www.thekenyaproject.org](http://www.thekenyaproject.org)

**The Kenya Project, Inc.**

Executive Director: Gideon Robi  
President: Auma Reggy  
Secretary/Treasurer: Lynn Chastain

**Board**

Chairman: Dee Ann Turner  
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Secretary: Ann Kennedy  
Fundraising: Peyton Mosher  
Communications: Joan Munoz

**Newsletter**

Fran and Mack Cawthon



**Kenya Project Shopping List for Contributions**

**New Classroom Building (our top priority)**

	Each	Quantity	Amount
Student Desk and Chair (need 600)	\$55	_____	_____
Teacher Desk and Chair (need 20)	\$90	_____	_____
Large Chalkboard (need 20)	\$100	_____	_____
Window (need 150)	\$110	_____	_____
Gallon of Paint (need hundreds)	\$30	_____	_____
Cement Block (need thousands)	\$10	_____	_____
Furnished Classroom (need 20)	\$24,000	_____	_____
Administrative Office Furniture	\$6,000	_____	_____
Library Shelving	\$10,000	_____	_____
Computer Laboratory	\$30,000	_____	_____
General Building Fund		_____	_____

**Grand Total**

Please mail contributions or have your bank's online bill-pay service send a check to: Kenya Project, Inc., P. O. Box 2023, Lilburn, GA 30048.

**Important Announcements**

**Christmas Gifts**

Can you believe it? Christmas is just around the corner. We get many questions regarding Christmas gifts for your sponsored children. First and foremost, these children love to hear from you. They would be thrilled to receive a Christmas card with a picture of you, your family, and your pets. Also, you can always enclose something small and flat, like a bookmark, a festive pencil, a piece of gum, or a handkerchief. We will take these cards and hand deliver them in January.

**Annual Christmas Project**

Each year The Kenya Project Board designates a Christmas project for the children enrolled

at MPA so that every child receives a Christmas gift. In recent years, we have given shoes, socks, shirts and sweaters. The board has not determined what this year's gift will be. But if you would like to contribute to the 2011 Christmas project, mark "Christmas" on your check. As always, your generosity and kindness is such a blessing for these children, not only at Christmas but through the entire year.

**Cost-Free Giving**

When you order your Christmas gifts online, remember you can use *The Giving Seed* program to donate to The Kenya Project *at no cost to you*. It's so easy to do. Simply start at [www.givingseed.com](http://www.givingseed.com) and se-

lect your online retailer of choice: Amazon, PetSmart, Walmart, Macy's, Dell, and many more. For example, when you buy a book from Amazon, start at the website above. Then choose The Kenya Project from the list of recipients and select Amazon from the list of online retailers (see the screen snapshot to the right). Click the *Go* button and you will be redirected to Amazon where you can proceed as usual. Call Joan Munoz at 404-556-1273 if you need help. Keep in mind that *The Giving Seed* works year-round with any online purchase from participating retailers!

**HELP SPREAD THE WORD!!**  
Please forward this newsletter to your family and friends.

