

Surveying the District

Due to the extensive road construction taking place this year, we felt it absolutely necessary to obtain title for Nuru Ya Mapendo in December. If any of the road machines hit or damaged our walls, the government would be entitled to pay for any damage. Without a title, one is on their own!

Our work during January included hiring surveyors for four parcels of land belonging to the church. Obtaining a title for property is too expensive for most people in Kasenga and they go without. Similarly, the church does not have the funds, however some problems occurred which caused it to be necessary to obtain the titles.

Surveyors marked off the property for Galilee, Jerusalem and Kasomeno churches, as well as the new parcel of land for a home for the Superintendent. In some cases, squatters have wandered over church property lines and built homes, fields and so forth. In order to evict any squatters with legal means, one must have title to the property.

Since we walked along with the surveyors, I was amazed in many cases how large the church properties are- large enough to build schools and other buildings such as clinics which may benefit the community.

We're anxious to have "papers in hand" in the next few weeks in order for the church to continue its work.



Church Growth & Development

District Pastors and Lay Leadership welcomed 20 representatives from the South Congo Conference during two days in December. The group was given a tour to show them all of the changes taking place in the Kasenga area. After worship and exchange of messages, the Conference awarded a parcel of clothing to each District representative, food supplies for the D.S., a \$100 gift toward the completion of the roof at Jerusalem church, a \$700 gift to purchase a parcel of land to build a house for the Superintendent, and a voucher for 40 bags of cement toward building the walls at Galilee Church. It was a joyous day for our District!



In January we visited Kaluba Church which is accessible only by motorcycle. They are working hard to build their church walls and meeting under a tree in the interim. NYM will assist Kaluba Church with some of the materials needed for their roof when the walls are completed.



*Prayerfully consider a pledge of monthly ongoing support; Nuru Ya Mapendo is an approved 501(3)c non-profit organization. Visit www.nuruyamapendo.com or e-mail nuruyamapendo@yahoo.com. You may also give to General Board of Global Ministries Advance Giving, show **check memo** as: "Advance Number 982465- Jane Wise"*
Mail to: Advance GCFA, P.O. Box 9068, New York, NY 10087-9068.

Prayer Requests/ Answered Prayers

- Pray for Jane as she works to learn Swahili.
- Pray for the people whom God is calling right now to be on a mission team to Kasenga in 2017, that they will be open to step out in faith for God to provide all they need.
- Continue to pray for the election of the Bishops in the DRC next month (March). Pray that God will raise up a bishop for the South Congo Conference who will be a just and compassionate advocate for all the people of the Conference regardless of tribe. We pray for the initiation of an equitable pay system for pastors so that pastors can be willing to serve regardless of location.
- Pray for us at NYM as we interview and make a decision regarding a new staff member this month.
- With the Conference visit in December, God answered our prayers for a parcel of land to build a house for the D.S. We praise God!

Who Do You Know?

Do you know much about the Democratic Republic of Congo? Are you interested in learning more about the rural area where I live or about the work that we are doing at Nuru Ya Mapendo? I'd love to come to your church, office or organization to share with you at the end of this year (2017) when I'm on furlough. I hope to bring with me D.S. Sylvain Ilunga so that he can also share the exciting work we are doing in the District.

If your church, Sunday school class, men's or women's group, mission committee, community organization or business would like to learn more, please send us an e-mail at nuruyamapendo@yahoo.com and I'll be happy to schedule a time to meet with you. Who do you know who would like to learn more?

Agriculture

Gardens- We have just another month or two left for the rainy season and our gardens are bursting with fresh fruits and vegetables- bananas, papaya, sweet corn, swiss chard, squash, cucumbers, onions, lettuce, peppers, tomatoes, okra, watermelon and even a few flowers. Our gardens feed not only me and my staff, but provide food for the large groups we host at NYM and "extras" for pastors and our neighbors.

Trees- All of our trees are doing amazingly well this year with the benefit of the rains. The moringa trees are shooting up and will produce seeds next year. Flowering trees are lush and full, and our citrus trees (lemon, oranges, mandarins) will also begin bearing fruit next year. We planted lawns last year which have filled out and we are mowing this season. We have a beautiful shade tree which will be large enough next year to provide much-needed respite from the hot sun. I continue to be in awe of the great beauty God has provided here at NYM; some days I feel like I'm in the Garden of Eden!



Poultry- We enjoyed raising the colorful local variety of chickens and had nearly 100 at Christmas time, but this month we sold all our stock and began raising broilers for meat. Commercially raised, these chickens produce nearly twice the meat of the

*Prayerfully consider a pledge of monthly ongoing support; Nuru Ya Mapendo is an approved 501(3)c non-profit organization. Visit www.nuruyamapendo.com or e-mail nuruyamapendo@yahoo.com. You may also give to General Board of Global Ministries Advance Giving, show **check memo** as: "Advance Number 982465- Jane Wise"*
Mail to: Advance GCFA, P.O. Box 9068, New York, NY 10087-9068.

local variety. In March we will add a laying hens in order to provide a continual supply eggs. We continue to use our turkeys as a good source of meat for the larger groups we host at NYM.

Something to Think About

These thoughts are not related, but I meditated on both this past month and thought perhaps you would enjoy them too.

Son: "You're the nicest person I know and look at you- you don't even know who I am. I'm the meanest person I know. My life is perfect. Explain that to me."

Mother: "Sometimes the devil allows people to live a life free of trouble because he doesn't want them turning to God. Their sin is like a jail cell. It's all nice and comfy and there doesn't seem to be any need to leave. The door's wide open. Then one day time runs out, the cell door slams shut, and suddenly it's too late."

-excerpt from the movie *God's Not Dead*

But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your toil is not in vain in the Lord.

-1 Corinthians 15:57-58



Blessings, Jane

Prayerfully consider a pledge of monthly ongoing support; Nuru Ya Mapendo is an approved 501(3)c non-profit organization. Visit www.nuruyamapendo.com or e-mail nuruyamapendo@yahoo.com. You may also give to General Board of Global Ministries Advance Giving, show **check memo** as: "Advance Number 982465- Jane Wise"
Mail to: Advance GCFA, P.O. Box 9068, New York, NY 10087-9068.