

Prayer Letter from the Underhills

2025/1, 18th. February

Dear Brethren,

Greetings in the Lord Jesus Christ. I arrived back from Kenya on 5/2 and it has been so busy since then! The Lord has been gracious in keeping us both and in preventing any serious difficulties in the whole time.

Visit to Pokot

I do not need to duplicate the lengthy report by my fellow trustee, Oliver Allmand-Smith. at <https://trinitygracechurch.net/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/Pokot-Trip-2025-complete-report.pdf>. There are lots of photos to be enjoyed!

I take away three specific encouragements:

(1) The start of the Bible Light College at Kasei. There has long been the desire to train men 'on the ground' and it finally took off in January before we arrived. The study for the 4 days was on the doctrine of Scripture. The course is based on the Wisdom Training Centre studies developed by Elly Achok in Mumias and elsewhere. The following is part of a report from Joshua Sitet, the coordinator of the studies. The three leaders did the teaching.

- ❖ **Recaps.** What have we learnt that's new from Bible Light College. Students gave the following;
- i. The Bible is the basic for the Christian's life and practice.
 - ii. All books of the Bible have a systematic flow.
 - iii. The Bible is God word written directly and indirectly, i.e ten commandments written by God finger.
 - iv. The Bible is complete / no space or room for additional or subtraction.
 - v. The Bible is God word.
 - vi. The Bible is a Christian's rule of faith and practice.
 - vii. All Questions must be under Scripture
 - viii. General Revelation talks about God, while Special Revelation reveals God Himself.
 - ix. The Bible is God's breath.
 - x. God used inspired men to write the Scripture.

(2) The fight against polygamy. Polygamy has been an almost universal way of life for the Pokot people. Though we have preached against it for 25 years, many who have become church members have also become polygamists. We have been asking how many monogamous marriages there are apart from the 4 leaders. There has only been one church wedding in those years, and we ask why? So this time, in talking with the students at the Bible College we were pleased to find many who have been faithfully married for a number of years. We agreed that if possible, later this year, all these couples would have a very public church wedding ceremony together to broadcast what the Biblical standard is.

(3) The construction of the church building at Wasat. In the past we have showed you a picture of the slab for a church building in Wasat. Where would the money come from to construct the building? In November there was a 'fund-raising' meeting and we were told that 1.5 million shillings was raised (£1 = 160 shillings). That is an incredible amount of money for a church that is mostly made up of women, and who are almost all illiterate. As hard as it was to believe, when we arrived in late January there it was, walls, roof, window frames and metal doors in place! We were told that the church members had agreed that the men would each contribute at least one cow (30-50,000 shillings), the women a goat (5-7,000 shillings), and the children a chicken. In all the years I have been in Kenya I have never seen such contributions. We here in UK did not contribute anything. May it be the start of a movement to take responsibility for the work of the Lord.

Weekend in Kisumu

After the 6 days in Pokot I spent the weekend in Kisumu with the pastor of Grace Baptist Church, Kisumu. What a joy to meet up with brethren who became members of Trinity many years back, and who have been faithfully serving the Lord where He has called them. Tony Karwa was providentially brought in to the bed next to me when I was in hospital in 2014. He later joined the church on profession of faith, studied in the TPC, and was called to the ministry in Kisumu. I felt very much at home in the church, spending the whole day in worship and fellowship, appreciating the determination to be Biblical 'in church'. Tony led the Adult Sunday School class on Confession. I preached on the new covenant from Hebrews 8:6-10 focussing on the law written on the heart. There was lunch for everyone and then the time of 'Meditation'. I wondered what they would be, and it was a time of considering the morning's ministry. The day was concluded with the Lord's Supper.



Sunday morning service



'Meditation' meeting

David Ng'etich lives in Chebang'ang', over two hours to the east into the Mau Hills, through



the miles and miles of the tea plantations of Kericho. While a student at the Bible College of East Africa in the mid-1990s he became a church member, I married him and Caroline in 1997, and he has planted Glory Baptist Church in his home centre. It is still a small church, but God has given him open doors among many pastors in the region who long for Biblical teaching and church reformation. He has been a faithful brother devoting his life and resources to the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.



Tea Plantations



Sugar cane to factory

William Oneya was converted in later life in Nairobi and I baptized him there in 1995. As so many Kenyans do, he went back 'home' to the rural area on retirement, and became a pastor in the Othoo Church near Kisumu. While in Pokot I heard that he had passed to glory, so I had the opportunity to visit the family home and his widow Veronica. I found her continuing to trust in the Lord and we were able to sing many songs of praise to our triune God. As I was leaving I was honoured to be presented with his very own walking stick (not so easy to take back to the UK!).

Time in Nairobi

Both on the way to Kisumu and on the way back I had a little time in Nairobi. Once again it was a lovely time of fellowship re-engaging with dear brethren who showed such love to me. "Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brother dwell in unity" (Ps. 133:1). There were the Ngewas whom I came to know in the early 1990s, the Kiplagats who became church members in the early 2000s. Elizabeth was one of the first members in 1983, and later married Peter who eventually became a member. I was with their daughter Sarah and husband, recently married. What a joy to see the Lord keeping and seeing the gospel passed down in the family. Then there are the Mukethas, two of the founding members of Trinity Baptist Church in 1978. I was hosted by Huston, the young man who was the first of scores of undergraduates who have come to be part of the church since 2010. Michael Maura, pastor of Bethzatha, visited, as in the 2000s he had joined the church and had become one of the pastors. I had not seen Peter Njenga for many a year, and he spoke of how my teaching in the TPC and a couple of visits to Pokot with me led him to his ministry of church planting amongst the Masai (Bissel area). A family I have known for more than 25 years came, and they are now part of a church plant from TBC in the other side of Nairobi. You can see it was very busy, but a very joyful, uplifting time.

Present & Future Ministry

There continues to be much ministry here in England, and also on the internet.

(1) EBST (Ethiopian Bible School of Theology). This week is the second of 6 where I am speaking to 7 students on The Doctrine of the Church twice weekly. The school is run under the direction of the Addis Baptist Church.

(2) Preaching.

16/2 Grange United Reformed Church, Bebington (morning), where I preached on Being Ready for Christ's Return.

23/2 Maidenbower Baptist (Adult Sunday School on Kenya, morning and evening preaching on the Better New Covenant.

9/3 Kingston Evangelical Church, Hull (morning and evening).

16/3 Aughton Park Baptist Church (evening).

23/3 Parbold Evangelical Church (morning).

(3) Report on Kenya.

Most churches I go to want a report on my recent visit to Kenya, but sometimes there is a midweek meeting just devoted to the report and prayer.

19/2 North Preston Evangelical Church.

12/3 Pershore Evangelical Church.

I plan to attend the Banner of Truth Ministers' Conference 7-10 April.

Then I am in Kenya again, and Ethiopia, from April 21 to May 6. I will write more nearer the time.

I have continued to write the book on Grace. Of the initial draft, there is just one challenging chapter left, the struggles over the doctrine of grace in the history of the church. I will appreciate your prayers for this project as well as all the other opportunities of ministry.

Priscilla is doing well and sends her greetings.

Keith & Priscilla

kunderhill@digitalsavannah.co.uk

priscilla.underhill@digitalsavannah.co.uk

+44 7842698151 (Keith)

+44 7912079482 (Priscilla)

Other websites:

TBC Nairobi – <https://www.trinity.or.ke>

TPC – <https://www.tpc.or.ke>

TRAIN(Kenya) – www.trainkenya.com

Trinity Grace Church, Ramsbottom –
<https://trinitygracechurch.net>