

January 4, 2023



Dear Friends,

Happy New Year! I trust that you all had a joyous Christmas season, filled with laughter, joy and peace with your loved ones with times of reflection of God's blessings on your lives throughout the past year.

Our year ended with a bang with evangelistic meetings in all three districts. Patrick Muya, Kajiado Coordinator reported that in December 170 were baptized and gave their hearts to Jesus.

Narok County Coordinator reported that in Narok, 19 men and women declared their faith through baptism. Also reporting from Kilgoris, 26 gave evidence of their faith in Jesus through baptism. What a wonderful way to end the year

During the December holiday, a one week seminar was held for all of our girls. The girls were divided into two groups with two facilitators, with topics on the history of FGM and the dangers, sex education, (age appropriate), what is rape, and the right to say no, and more. The facilitators came with a syllabus for each girl with assignments included. The girls expressed how much they appreciated the seminar and the frank talk by the facilitators.

A community meeting was held at MDPEC in cooperation with the Children's Office in Narok. MDPEC Manager, James Nanka organized the meeting at the request of the government office. This is the time of year when female circumcision and early marriage is high. To the amazement of the Children's Office, 137 community members showed up. They even paid for the transport of the officers and provided food. There has been a real shift as a result of the meeting, so much so that the Community Elders sent two cows to the Centre, one for James, and one for the Children's Officer, as a thank you for taking the time to speak to them and give them a greater understanding of the dangers of circumcision, and the risks they are taking.

The officers told the community that they should know that out of all the children's homes, that MDP is one of two homes that are working *for* the community and is NOT run as a business. They highly praised the integrity of MDP and the way we run the Centre. We can only praise God and continue doing the work that He has called us to do.

This week, our girls choir at the Centre was asked to go to Evangelistic meetings to help with the music. The local church who was hosting the meetings provided transport for our girls. We feel this is an excellent opportunity to share through music what God is doing in their lives and being a living testimony.

Dina and I will be heading to Kenya on January 25. Dina will return home on the 13th of February and will be in the office soon thereafter. I will return on the 28th of February. Please pray for us as we travel and that we will accomplish all that God has in store for us. We will send updates to be posted on our website.

Until Next Month,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Jan Latsha'.

Jan Latsha
Founder/Director
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Community meeting held at MDPEC with the Government Children's Office



Left: One of the 215 baptisms reported by MDP Lay Pastors



Above: MDPEC girls choir "The Hope Sisters" getting ready to go share their faith in singing at an evangelism meeting



Left: Week long seminar held for the MDPEC girls