September 12, 2023



## Dear Friends,

By the time you receive this letter the month will be half over. The first week of September I was busy moving from College Place back to Spokane, so have also been moving all my files back into the main MDP office. Needless to say, the days have gotten ahead of me, but I hope to be back into the swing of things shortly. I have to say, it is wonderful to be back into the office with the other MDP workers, instead of communicating only by phone or zoom.

The month of August was busy for our MDP lay pastors as many of them were called upon to assist in campmeetings throughout the vast area of Maasailand. Reports from our Pastors show that as a result, many people showed their new found love for Jesus through baptism. We lift up each precious soul as they move forward in their journey to become acquainted in a more intimate way with their Savior.

Last week MDPEC received a new girl, Soipei Lesisa. Sopei's mother reported to MDP Lay Pastor, Stephen Leboi, that her husband planned to take Sopei out of school to circumcise her and then marry her off, she then asked for assistance to help protect her daughter. Pastor Stephen immediately reported the situation to James at MDPEC, who upon investigation found the allegations to be true. After reporting to the Children's Office, James was given the green light to rescue Sopei. Of course the father was angry to loose the dowry, but Sopei's mother is relieved and happy that her daughter was able to be rescued. Sopei is now back in school and living at the MDP Education Centre. Her smile in the picture shows the relief and happiness that she is feeling. Sopei, who is 13 years old and in class 5, is in need of a sponsor at \$70 per month.

It is encouraging when the mothers step forward to help protect their daughters at a great cost to themselves. I have seen mothers thrown out of their homes and their children taken away, as a result of going against tradition to save their daughters. In one case we had to go to great lengths to protect the mother so that her husband would not find out that she was the one to contact MDPEC manager, James Nanka. She was afraid for her life and at the least would have received a severe beating. Please pray for these women who are brave enough, at the cost of their own lives, to give their daughters a chance at a better future.

The Guesthouse renovations have been completed and the builders are back at building churches once again. They will be building 5 churches over the next month or so. By that time we hope to send money over for more churches. This will bring our total for the year to 10 churches. We only need the means to build 13 more churches to reach our goal for building 23 in 2023. With only a three months until the end of the year, we appeal to you in your end-of-year giving, to remember our brothers and sisters in Maasailand, who are meeting for church under the trees. How they long for a dedicated church building to be able to worship in inclimate weather.

Thank you for your sacrifices.

Until Next Month,

Jan Latsha Founder/CEO Maasai Development Project

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Meet one of our newest girls:

Sopei Lesisa, she is 13 year old and in the 5th grade. Sopei is in need of a sponsor.





From meeting under the trees (left) to meeting in a church building (right)



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