



Volume 2 / June 2019

Introduction

The ability to recognise God sovereignly working for us, even in the most painful and sore trials, is sometimes lost on us. Admitting that God is working all things for good can be difficult when the way is extremely hard, but God in His grace is able to turn our sorrow into joy and produce steadfast endurance in the midst of various trials.

The key to patient endurance is faith in the sovereign grace of God, who in His omniscience, knows the way that we take, or rather, the way He has appointed for us. As you read the latest updates from the field, remember to pray that grace be given to our missionaries as they seek to juggle family life and health concerns with a busy ministry schedule and a burden to invest in the lives of church leaders and the children at the orphanage. Pray that they would know what it is to swim in the grace of God when they feel as if they are drowning in the daily routine and challenges of ministry.

Missions Moment

The official newsletter of
Friends of Africa Missionary Endeavour





Evangelism

On May 2, an old man from the village died. He was 97 years old and well known in the community. His older brother is still alive at the reported age of 108 years old. The funeral was expected to be a 'big' event and as always, Pastor Makua liked to promote the work of FAME in the community, and the clear preaching of the gospel.

He arranged, therefore, that I preach at the funeral, although there were many other churches with which the deceased was associated. The man actually professed faith a number of years ago through the evangelistic efforts of FAME. The funeral was held on May 11, and as I went, I had no idea of the numbers that would be there — an estimated 400 people sitting under tents and shade trees, hiding from the heat of the sun.

I took as my text Psalm 90:12 "So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom." I presented three simple

points. First, the certainty of death; our days are numbered, and our death is appointed (Hebrews 9:27). Second, the finality of death. Moses, the author of the Psalm, did not need illustrations of death. He was living the in wilderness in a 40-year funeral procession. Moses was praying to be taught the significance, solemnity and the finality of death. Third, the instruction from death. Moses, like ourselves needed to be taught to see behind the material to the eternal world.





Strengthening the Church

On April 21, Rev. Dunlop travelled to Eldoret for a three-day conference of the East African Christian Association (EACA).

The company and the fellowship of Ian Rimmington, the visitor from Canada, and another Kenyan friend, Stephen Kameti, on the ten-hour drive was enjoyable. Aaron was invited to speak at the conference on two subjects: 'The Ecumenical Movement and Liberation Theology' and also on 'A Biblical Response: The Glorious Fellowship of the Gospel.' On the trip there we spent the night at Lake Naivasha. Grace was thankful for the company of Ian's wife, Francie.

Child Rescue

On May 3, the Children's Office in Mwingi brought two little children to our Cole Baby Unit (CBU), Zipporah aged three and her brother Samuel, aged nine months.

The circumstances of this family are unfortunate. They are the youngest of five children, the oldest three having been left alone to care for themselves because the mother is mentally unstable, and the father gone to Nairobi to find work. The father had been forced to sell his land to pay for hospital bills when his wife took sick. Now, with no money and no land, the family is living in rented accommodation in the town, and the mother remains mentally ill. The youngest two children were rescued for their safety and protection, while the father has secured a job and hopes with some government assistance to stabilise the family. Two weeks later the authorities contacted us to take the older child, Florence.

Medical Aid

The work of the clinic goes on as normal. The routine, burns, typhoid, blood-pressure, poisoned thorns, etc. keep the staff busy. Once a month we have our Mother and Baby Day, when over 100 mothers come with their babies to get vaccinations and checkups. On Monday May 6, the lights were on late into the evening at the Curran Clinic. A lady had come that afternoon and was still in labour. A healthy little girl was born around 2am and mother and baby returned home the following afternoon.



Friends visit from Victoria, BC

We recently had a visit from Jack and Christine Van Domselaar, friends of our family from Victoria B.C., Canada. They made the trip with their 5 kids and it was wonderful to be reunited again and to have them experience life on the field with us.

Their main goal was to visit us and see the work of FAME. But they also raised funding at their church and school communities to buy the orphans a new playground. The playground arrived the same evening as the Van Domselaars, and they were able to witness the excitement of the orphans as they saw what was coming off the truck—a colourful playground in parts to be assembled. It was great fun to watch all of our kids help in the digging and building together as they began to put the playground together.

It was such a blessing to have friends come and live along-side us for a short while and take an interest in God's work here. They left five happy orphan children behind, committing to sponsor them and keep in touch. We thank them for their kindness and generosity.

My three Months at FAME

Ian & Francie
Rimmington

My 3 months at FAME began on April 10, 2019 ostensibly having two broad purposes: spiritual and practical assistance to the Dunlop family.

Briefly speaking, the spiritual aspect involves leading a weekly Bible study for the older orphans, taking morning devotions whenever required, and speaking scriptural messages of encouragement to the students. This is a true delight and privilege given to me by the Lord as He encourages me to use the gifts He has bestowed.

The practical assistance is multifaceted. It was obvious that what was needed most were controls and improvements in the daily operations in such a way as to bring resilience and reliability. There were several areas of focus:

1. Reorganise the maintenance workshop
2. Map all avenues of water flow in the compound
3. Map electrical lines
4. Reorganise storage and usage of supplies

You can read the full article at:





Missionary Devotion

Aaron Dunlop

In the last century or so Liberal Protestantism has made so many concessions to false religion that there are large sectors of Protestantism that can no longer be identified as Christian – in any meaningful sense. It is clearly seen of course in the West, with the secularisation of the Church, the inclusion of homosexual clergy, self-professed atheist preachers, woman pastors, as well as the long list of theological aberrations that have been accepted in mainstream Protestant denominations.

The African Church has stood against many of these, especially within the Anglican Community. However, Africa has its own theological minefield

to navigate. Among the many dangers facing the African Church presently are a number of theological forms of ecumenism, such as African Theology. African Theology is an attempt to find points of similarity between Christianity and African traditional religions; those that existed before Christianity and before the Muslim invasion of the seventh century. In the national school's Religious Education classes, this is very prominent, overshadowing Christianity, and it is a real concern amongst evangelical Christians and what it means for our children here at FAME.

One of our tasks here is to seek to correct this in those schools over which we have control. The answer of course is the Gospel, which promises to liberate from the power and guilt of sin, but also from the ceremonies, expectations and bondage of false religion. Paul's fear for the Corinthians was that their minds had been corrupted and drawn away from the "simplicity that is in Christ."



Challenge for workers

Lee Sterritt

Ultimately, all we do in life is for God's glory! All our service is for God and nothing done for Jesus is ever a waste of time.

We speak and serve by the strength God supplies in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ (1 Pet. 4:11). Whatever you do, in word or in deed, is to be done in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him (Col. 3:17). It is true, "we are saved to serve." A Christian is God's masterpiece, His workmanship created for good works (Eph. 2:10). A canvas on which God produces something beautiful out of something broken and He who began a work of grace in us will complete it (Phil. 1:6). God first works on us, then He works in us and amazingly He chooses to work through us. Are you seeking opportunities to serve the Lord Jesus Christ? Have you ever thought about a short-term mission trip? Perhaps you are a qualified nurse looking for field experience? Or maybe you have an accounting or administrative background? Are you a skilled labourer involved in construction? Whatever your experience or background God can use you. There are so many ways you could be of assistance to FAME.

God is looking for labourers to employ in his kingdom. There's a great work to do. The challenge is before you. Ask yourself: 'what can I do for my Lord and Saviour?'

Would you be willing to prayerfully consider spending time on the field? Would you be willing to give of your talents and time to serve the Lord in Kenya for a month or two? Maybe longer? God is looking for labourers to employ in His kingdom. There's a great work to do at home and abroad. Are you ready to engage in His service? Ask the Lord today: "what would you have ME do?"

"For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them." Ephesians 2:10.

News from the Field

We have recently welcomed a couple from a Church in Markham ON. Ian and Francie Rimmington have come for three months to help on the compound.

In May we enjoyed a visit from a family from Victoria BC. The Van Domselaar family, with five children, brought gifts for the children and also purchased a new playpark.

We are also expecting another couple from Singapore in May for two nights.

Rev. Dunlop will be travelling to Singapore again in June to present the work of FAME at the Cornerstone Church. He will be attending the Cornerstone church camp in Indonesia with his son James.

Our Church in Markham has recently set up a live-feed, which enables us to listen live to the weekly church services.

During the month of April, the children are off school. It is rain season, but the rains had not come and it was a good opportunity to repair one of the large subterranean water tanks. The tank holds about 200,000 litres and it is now freshly repaired and sealed with bitumen. In the good providence of God, after a month of waiting on the rains, they finally came. On April 27, it rained all night until well after sunrise. We are thankful that the tank is now half-full of fresh clean water.



FAME Board Contact Details



David Garrett
Chairman
T: 07850 334062
E: davidg@famemissions.org



Francis Lecky
Secretary
T: 07442 171825
E: francisl@famemissions.org



Alan Cunningham
Treasurer
T: 07553 379531
E: alanc@famemissions.org



Trevor Cunningham
T: +1(647) 5253051
E: trevorc@famemissions.org



Lee Sterritt
T: +1 (905) 621 4973
E: lees@famemissions.org



Ryan Kinney
T: 07746 217391
E: ryank@famemissions.org



Jonathan Lockhart
T: 07968 188794
E: jonathanl@famemissions.org

Friends of Africa Missionary Endeavour Ltd
Unit 16912, PO Box 1213 Belfast, BT1 9JY. United Kingdom.
T: +44 (028) 9002 5030

Friends of Africa Missionary Endeavor
2435 E. North St, Suite 1108-109, Greenville, SC 29615. United States.
T: +1-877-236-5892

Friends of Africa Missionary Endeavor Inc.
13-280 West Beaver Creek Rd, Unit #135 Richmond Hill, ON L4B 3Z1, Canada.
T: +1-877-236-5892

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