



Help give our kids a  
joyous Christmas.  
See how on back page.

*Empowering Children to Help Themselves*

# Outstretched Arms

ccikids.org

## Dear Friends of Chosen Children International:

In August, CCI Founder Marilyn Cohn traveled to Kenya with our US Board Chairman, Karen Hunt.

This was Karen's first trip to Africa, where Marilyn has traveled for the past 15 years. Our schedule was full, but the grace of the Lord was upon us to accomplish all we had hoped, and more.



Clinton, Meshack, Marilyn, Oliver, Lydia, Jacinta, Melphine  
Meshack is one of many kids needing sponsors.  
To sponsor a child go to [ccikids.org](http://ccikids.org).

## Our Village Family

A priority was to check on the kids living in our Children's Village, along with their house mother. One sign of how well they have adjusted to being a family is their continual laughter and camaraderie.

We are busily making plans to move six more orphan children into our first Children's Village house in the next few months, along with an additional house mother as finances allow.

Your prayers and financial support are making a difference in the lives of precious children dearly loved by their Heavenly Father! We are glad for this opportunity to thank you from the bottom of our hearts!



## Saturday Child Development Program

Before our trip, Marilyn was inspired to have CCI T-shirts made for the children who have most faithfully attended this program held every weekend at our two Jehovah Jireh churches, in Bungoma and Mbita, Lake Victoria.



Attendance on Saturdays has held steady with about 150 children on average participating between the two churches. Volunteer teachers from our two churches report that the children are gaining confidence and security in their ability to survive in the world as they learn how much they are loved by God. In addition they are learning age appropriate life skills, language & math skills, disease prevention, and more.

### Countdown to a New High School Year

We are greatly encouraged by the enthusiastic reception our new high school has received in the town of Bungoma, since the nearest high school is several miles away. However, we are still in urgent need of science equipment – microscopes, test tubes, aprons, burners, and more – in order to prepare our students for national exams which are mandatory in order to graduate. **Would you consider designating your generous year end donation to this worthy cause?** Thank you for sowing toward the future of the nation of Kenya!

## From Drugs to Freedom in Christ



Emmanuel is 14 years old and in the 7<sup>th</sup> grade. He used to be homeless and a drug user. Emmanuel began seeing CCI teachers and children going to the Saturday Child Development program. His curiosity grew until finally he decided to come along.

Initially, Emmanuel's favorite part of our program was the free mid-day meal. He was used to having to haul heavy containers of water in order to earn a meal, so a free meal was worth sitting through the rest of the program. But after attending a while, the love of God transformed him. He began inviting others and, before long, he was sharing the testimony of how Jesus has turned his life around.

Today Emmanuel is free from drugs and has returned to school. He attends Jehovah Jireh Church, where he is a member of the choir and the church dance troupe! He is well disciplined, loves soccer, and would like to be a musician in the church.

**Emmanuel is one of many children needing a sponsor. \$37 a month will pay for his school fees and uniform, as well as other clothing and necessities. Visit [ccikids.org](http://ccikids.org) to find out more.**



## A First for Everything...



Promotional poster for Bungoma crusade

A first for Marilyn and Karen both was being the featured preachers at outdoor gospel crusades held by our Jehovah Jireh Churches in Bungoma and Mbita. Many teenagers surrendered or rededicated their lives to Jesus in Bungoma, while those who came forward in Mbita were mostly adults. Follow up reports indicate that attendance at both churches has benefited from these crusades.

We are so grateful for your prayers and support which made this trip possible! We hope you will continue praying for our two churches, that they grow in their faith and vision to parent the orphans of Kenya. **Not all of the costs associated with this trip were covered by the gifts that came in, so we gratefully welcome your continued donations toward our Kenya travel fund.**



Marilyn preaching with Pastor Isaac translating

## Strengthening Our Kenyan Board of Directors



Pastors Peter Otieno & Anthony Wafula  
CCI Kenya Board Treasurer & Chairman

An important part of our trip was meeting with our Kenyan Board of Directors to encourage them in their vital role in the future of CCI. The members of our Kenyan Board are strong in their faith and committed to making a difference in the lives of Kenya's many underprivileged children. Several of the Board members were taking abandoned children into their homes before their involvement with CCI.

We covet your prayers for our Kenyan Board as they seek the Lord for ways to support the expansion of CCI and enable us to help many more desolate children of Kenya. **Please visit [ccikids.org](http://ccikids.org) and share our ministry with your pastor, friends, and family.**



US Board member Karen worshipping in the dance with Kenyan Board members Isaac, Anthony, & James

# *Get Involved!*

## **Prayer Requests:**

- 1) Pray for sponsors for the six new kids moving into our Children's Village house, and for an increase in donations to pay the salary for an additional house mother.
- 2) Pray for the new believers who responded to our gospel crusades, that they grow strong in their faith as they are discipled by our churches in Bungoma, and Mbita.
- 3) Pray for unity, vision, courage, and faith for God's provision for our Kenyan Board of Directors.
- 4) Pray for sponsors for the under privileged kids in our Saturday Child Development Program, and for the program as a whole to impact the youth for the Kingdom of God.
- 5) Pray for the reopening of our high school – for provision for science equipment, desks, books, and salaries for highly qualified teachers. Pray for many students and for sponsors for those unable to afford school otherwise.
- 6) Pray for wisdom for Marilyn and our US Board of Directors.

## **Giving Opportunities:**

- 1) Help us equip our high school. We need people to give \$500, \$1000, \$5000, or whatever you can afford so that this school can impact the lives of countless young people in Kenya.
- 2) Sponsor one of our children: \$37 a month can change a child's life. Visit [ccikids.org](http://ccikids.org) to view the children waiting for sponsors. Make your selection, and you will be mailed your child's profile.
- 3) Make a monthly pledge or one time gift of whatever amount you desire. To make a monthly pledge, simply call us at 719-634-5437 or e-mail us at [info@ccikids.org](mailto:info@ccikids.org) with your credit or debit card information. A pledge of even \$20 a month can help make a difference in the lives of these children.
- 4) We need to buy a 4 wheel vehicle. We currently have no vehicle at all. This hinders our operations. The cost for buying a vehicle is: \$14,000.
- 5) We want to buy land for our church near Lake Victoria as currently we are renting a very small building. The congregation is outgrowing this space so we need to build our own church. The cost for buying land is \$21,000.

**Please consider giving your most generous end of the year gift towards one or more of the above urgent needs.**

*Thank you very much!*

### **Dear Monthly Donors & Sponsors:**

As our annual children's Christmas party approaches, would you please donate \$50 in addition to your monthly pledge? There will be gifts for each child and a Christmas feast, along with a retelling of the story of our Savior's birth that will capture the imagination of every child. Thank you for your generosity!

Would you like to avoid the Christmas frenzy and support our ministry at the same time? Our African crafts make great Christmas gifts! Click "online store" at [ccikids.org](http://ccikids.org) to find beautiful and unique clothing, jewelry, art and more. We will ship to anywhere in the US.