

June 2008 Report

Once again, I would like to thank congregations and individuals who have continued to send us support.

We started June under very high pressure just after settling children in their different schools. But by and by the Lord continued to strengthen and bless us in different ways.

The country has experienced dry weather in the second half of June. The month normally marks the beginning of harvest all over the country, but this has not reversed the rising food prices. Needless to mention, but as a matter of routine, I must say everything in market has had its prices doubled or 75% higher than ever since March 2008. Inflation rate has gone up to abnormal 12% according to end of month national financial report.

Like I said in the previous report, Transport costs have gone very high and this affects me directly as I travel regularly (4 times a week) to preach and teach the Lord's word over 80km away.

In all these abnormal negative changes, the Lord has continued to encourage us with HIS word and giving fruit to our labor.

Evangelism and Baptisms

The Lord helped me make a major stride in June. After many lessons on the love of God and forgiveness of sins, we witnessed a very positive response. I baptized 5 ladies on Friday 27th after many teachings. "And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved". I started special classes for them lest they get stunted in the things of the Kingdom. I request brethren to be praying for us for courage and for the new converts to grow.

One gentleman who is HIV/AIDS victim failed to turn up for baptized because he became so bed ridden. I pray that he find strength in the Lord sooner than later to the glory of God.

Lakeside Church of Christ,

I prepared and taught very many lessons from Mat 7:1-5 and Mat 9:10-13, and used John 8:2-11 and Luke 7:37-50 to demonstrate Jesus' willingness to forgive sins and HIS unfailing love for sinners. We all have been edified with the Lord's word.

We will probably begin to study Apostle Paul's letter to the Corinthians. As I mentioned in my previous report, the type of questions saints ask will most time guide me on what I shall teach/study with the church. The questions Christians have will normally give an indication on what they need to have knowledge of. I will tend to note questions and prepare lessons and teach the entire attendants. Jesus and the Apostles paid attention to questions too.

Kampala Church of Christ

The church has remained strong in the Lord. We continued to meet in the afternoons/evenings for services on the first day of the week. And we study on Tuesday evenings with a few brethren. Normally 10 to 15 brethren will attend bible

studies. Some will find problems attending because of transport problems.

Sometime commuting here can be a nightmare.

I'm starting to study with one man called Francis from a distant place. He wrote to me requesting to understand the truth. He'd been in denomination all his life and going no where. I pray the Lord bring out some fruit from these studies.

Another person, a catholic, I studied with last month has moved to Southern Sudan for a few weeks of official duty. He is still interested in studying. We will resume studying with him when he returns.

The church attendance has remained stable to the glory of God. Please continue to pray for us.

Tororo Church of Christ

Rain reduced in the month. However, there were reported cases of cholera in Tororo area, but thank God none of our saints were affected. After rain reducing, the work is lighter as Christians can move more easily.

I continued to encourage the saints to mind about their hearts rather than the way they look when I visited them in the month. I quoted Luke 16:15-16, and encouraged them to mind their hearts and press into the Lord's kingdom,

Rosemary visited with me this time.

Rosemary's Efforts

Rosemary has continued to commit herself to the Lord's services among women and children. Brother Jim Johnson boosted her small fund projects towards Christian women microfinance services.

She continues to teach and evangelize among women and children. I will always remind brethren of her single-minded commitment to God and the Lord's work. I'll not forget to remind the sisters in the Lord who read my reports to keep in touch with Rosemary and encourage her.

I won't forget to say that sisters have written and encouraged her. May the Lord bless them all.

Challenge

After taking children back to school, we continued limping financially through some part of the month. At one time, I thought my children were going to sleep hungry, but the Lord used Brother Keith to send emergency support then later a few individuals from 32nd Street church sent some more support. May God bless all of you for the support and prayers.

And the word of God says, "Let your conduct be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, '*I will never leave you nor forsake you*'" Heb 13:5. Amen. In His word we put our trust.

I greet all brethren and wish them all the best.

Francis Okech,
Uganda