



Food stuff to be delivered

FOOD SUPPLY

During this pandemic, it has been interesting to see the items that people in the United States have been buying for their homes and often finding them in short supply due to hoarding. I recently read that major food companies are studying the patterns of people's buying habits, trying to predict which items will remain in high demand after the pandemic and identify those of decreasing interest.

Here in Kenya, it is a bit simpler. Yes, we do have supermarkets that rival ones in the United States, however the average Kenyan rarely needs the diversity of products available in the U.S. More likely, Kenyans will go to their little shop around the corner or to a farmer's market and purchase what they need for the next day or two. The only things that they may buy in bulk are cereal items (flour, maize, beans) which sell for much less in bulk.

So, when people ask if we have enough tissue (toilet paper) here in Kenya, I say "Yes! Come on over."



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Food distribution to our Project 24 students



Due to the pandemic, our ministry to the students in our Project 24 children's boarding facility program has changed to meet their current needs. As of March 17th, all students in Kenya were told to return home since all of the schools closed for an indefinite time. That included our students who reside at our Project 24 sites. The site managers had to quickly act and ensure that all of the students returned to their family clans. Since then, the site managers

have visited each of the children in their respective homes. It became clear that their families needed some assistance during this time, due to the declining economy, a mandatory lockdown in some counties, and a nighttime curfew. The LCMS along with the ELCK agreed that the monthly monies sent to take care of the students at the sites would now be used to help distribute food to these families. We are glad that we are still able to meet the students' needs as well as reach their families with the Gospel.



The ELCK Northwest Diocese leadership help distribute food to a few students at the cathedral. (top)

The ELCK Lake Diocese leadership make food piles ready for distribution to the girls from P24 Tumaini. (left)



Shepherds serving in Kenya



bringing food to the children entrusted to them. This month, I would like to highlight Amos Naisankau, the site manager at Lenkishon.

Amos is from Mopia village within Kajiado county (close to Nairobi county). He is married with five children, ranging from high school to toddler age. Before he became the site manager in February 2017, he assisted at Mopia Lutheran church and ran a book shop. He considers taking care of children who depend entirely on him as the most important part of his work. Amos is honored by their trust in him as they open their hearts, sharing the good and the bad with him as their immediate guardian. The most difficult aspect of his job is not being able

to assist everyone in the community. Amos's commitment to the children of Lenkishon and His Lord are guided by his favorite Bible verse, Hosea 14:3 : "In you the orphan finds mercy".

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- for the students of the Project 24 program and their families
- for the Gospel to be shared around the world during this time
- for the people who live in Kibera as Covid-19 continues to spread within their community

GIVE THANKS FOR:

- our partner church, the ELCK, who work tirelessly to distribute food to those in need
- Silas's 3rd birthday

PRAISE GOD FOR:

- The many congregations and individuals who pray for us, encourage and support us

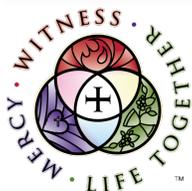
"Shepherd the flock of God that is among you, exercising oversight, not under compulsion but willingly, as God would have you; not for shameful gain, but eagerly, not domineering over those in your charge, but being examples to the flock. And when the chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the unfading crown of glory". 1 Peter 5: 2-4

When you personally meet the P24 site managers, you see their hearts for God and for children shine through. Each one is unique with his/her own story, but God has brought them together to serve as humble shepherds, leading God's flock and caring for His lambs within Kenya. During this time of crisis, their work continues as they eagerly and willingly serve by

"Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful". Col. 3:15

We are thankful to God for giving us peace during this time of unrest and uncertainty. We are also thankful for all of you. May God rule in your hearts and give you His peace.

Love, the Odembas



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The LCMS

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