

# Musings from MATONGO

NEWS FROM REV. DR. WALTER & ROBYN STEELE



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[SteelesInAfrica.com](http://SteelesInAfrica.com)



## A Conversation with Kelvin



**Kelvin, a Pastoral Student at Matongo, from the Samburu Region of Kenya**

### THE SAMBURU PEOPLE

-The Samburu are a Nilotic people, related to the Masai.

-They are nomadic herders of goats, sheep and camels in the arid region of northern Kenya.

-Although there are Christian congregations in Samburu, the Gospel has become mixed with African Traditional Religions, hiding the truth about Jesus.

-“African Traditional Religions” are syncretistic — meaning they mix together the parts of religions that please them.

-Kelvin’s concern is that his people are being led astray by these people and their beliefs.

-The Samburu need to hear the truth of the Gospel of the free grace of God in Jesus Christ.



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I sat down with Kelvin Lenasayan to learn more about him, how he came to seminary, and about his people—the Samburu.

*How did the Gospel first come to the Samburu People?*

**In 1948, missionaries arrived and established mission stations in the rural areas. Then, in 1982, Lutheran missionaries arrived, establishing two stations, one in my home of Ngilai and another further north.**

*How has the Gospel fared among the Samburu?*

**Beginning in 2000, “Pentecostals” began to proselytise. They confuse people by adding African Traditional Religions to the Gospel. So now, I can say, with that most Samburu have not heard the pure Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. They still cling to their traditional beliefs and way of worship. That is a big problem.**

*Tell me about your father.*

**Yes, my father was called Kilaikon. He was a respected community elder. When the Lutheran missionaries came, he was already married to four wives. He was the first man to welcome them. He heard the Gospel and liked it so much. He requested they baptise him and his household. He was given his Baptismal name: Lazarus. He became a very active churchman. He even showed them where to build the church building. It is there to this day. He entered glory 2008.**

*So what was the motivation for you to come to seminary?*

**Actually, at first, I did not want to become a pastor. I wanted a white-collar job. The Church barely pays its pastors. But my people said that I should. So I came. After...**

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## PRAYER REQUESTS:

- For Kelvin as he continues his studies, so that he can be a more effective pastor, bringing the Gospel to the Samburu people.
- For the Samburu people, that they hear the pure Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ and not be confused by those who mix in false religions with the Truth.
- For Robyn and I as we continue to serve in Kenya, that we remain healthy and strong.
- For additional regular supporters of the mission, so that we can continue the work we have been called to do.
- For the entire LCMS Africa Team, that the Lord guide us as we work with our partner Churches here on this vast continent.

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... two months I left. But then I became convinced that this was the Lord's will. So I came back and finished the Certificate Program.

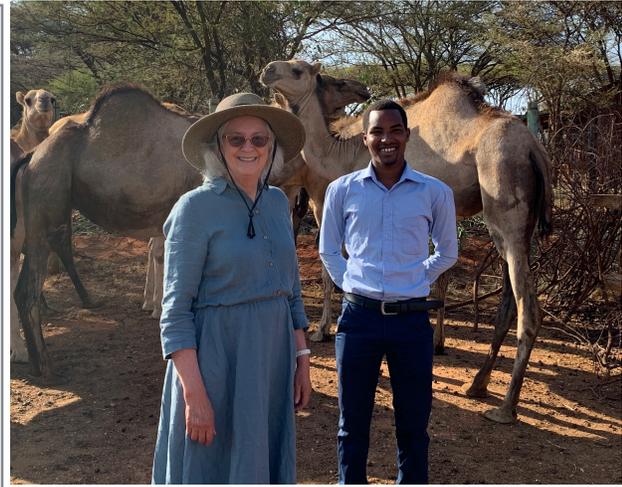
*And now you are back for the Diploma!*

Yes, my parish encouraged me to return for more training. So now I can study Greek and Hebrew and be a better pastor for my people. I will be much grounded in the Bible and Lutheran Theology.

*When you finish your studies for the Diploma in Theology. Where do you see yourself serving?*

I believe that I will be going back to serve in the rural parts of the Samburu. And I will have a big task, because I am the only trained man there. Samburu is a very big geographical area. So I believe I am going to be working there.

My heart is in the rural parts of the Samburu.



**Robyn with Kelvin. The Samburu heard Camels**

Remember, you can help us continue to teach faithful men like Kelvin by your prayers and financial support.

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**Samburu Lutherans coming for the Divine Service**

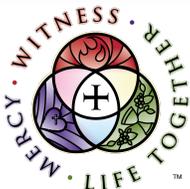
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