



Dear Friends,

It has been a very enriching start to the new year, including a three-week visit to see our staff and partner projects in Kenya. **I can testify that FUM partners are working hard to minister effectively in all situations!**

While traveling in northern Kenya in the Turkana desert area, we sought to visit Friends in all their worship groups and schools. Seven of us rode in a rough terrain vehicle, escorted by John Moru, director of the Turkana Mission. We turned off the main road to follow what resembled tire tracks in the sand. After several kilometers, we saw approximately forty people standing in the shade of a thorn tree. When we got out of our vehicle, we could feel the heat rise up from the hot sand while the sun roasted us from above. As soon as the singing began, however, we forgot we were uncomfortable. Instead, **we were enthralled with the energy and enthusiasm of these Friends** who had walked miles earlier in the day and had waited here to greet us, visitors from FUM in America. After each of us shared extensive greetings, John Moru looked my way saying these people were requesting that the general secretary close with a prayer for rain and for a church building.



We worshiped with Chwele Friends one Sunday morning. FUM presiding clerk Kelly Kellum and I officially welcomed Chwele Yearly Meeting into FUM membership since we were unable to attend their annual sessions last August. The Friends School served everyone a big meal in spite of it being exam week. One man brought his first two cabbages of the harvest to Meeting for Worship so Kelly could ask for a blessing upon his whole seasonal crop.

Oh, how we wish we could find a way for you to witness the richness of Spirit among so many Kenyans! We were repeatedly reminded that thousands of African Friends demonstrate strong faith in God because God has responded to their prayers through the people of FUM many times before. The word is out. **Friends United Meeting represents hope** for people who need rain, a church, and blessings on their crops. Yes, and maybe even a school for their educational needs, a hospital for their health needs, or a trained pastor to teach and preach to their spiritual needs. They long to hear the words of Jesus and learn of God's love and promises.

"I tell you the truth, whatever you did for the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me."
(Matthew 25:40) The faith and hope we witnessed came about because of people like John Moru, John Muhanji, Eden Grace, Ann Riggs, Ben and Jody Richmond, Patrick Nugent and Mary Kay Rehard, Judy Davis, Lisa Stewart, John Lomuria, Rich and Sandy Davis, Retha McCutcheon, Johan Maurer, Colin South, and on and on. And they were able to do their work because of your faith expressed through your financial and prayer support.

But we have much yet to do. Donations from individuals to the work of FUM are down from where we expected them to be to start off 2010. Please consider how you are being called to support this ministry. It takes ALL of us. Thank you for contributing from your abundance to help those who have less.
Thank you for participating in the ministries of FUM.

Sincerely,



Sylvia Graves
General Secretary



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Donations are tax-deductible. Secure online donations and monthly electronic giving can be made at www.fum.org.

Tune in to the ministries of FUM — the channel that energizes and equips Friends through the power of the Holy Spirit to respond to Christ's call to take the Good News to all nations!



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