



The Stampers

P.O. Box 191
Springfield MO, 65801
bobstamper@bbfi.org

P.O. 744
Thika 01000
Kenya

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Dear Friends,

For the past two years the rains in some parts of Kenya have been very small and inadequate to grow crops or even enough to produce grazing for the animals. Northeastern Kenya has been hit hard but it is also affecting other parts of the country - even in Thika where we live. Therefore much of the livestock are starting to die. We see many herds being brought into Thika and surrounding areas in search of grass. These once healthy looking animals are now skin and bones walking around. A cow, which a short time ago would have sold for a "good price", is now being sold for almost nothing. They say it is better to get a little than to lose it all.

We just learned in December that Titus, the young man that was serving his internship in the Thika church (as required by the Bible College in order to get his degree), was scheming to become pastor of the Thika Church. He contacted a group in the USA asking them to send one of their missionaries to help him. His plan was to take the church from us and gain control of it. He had written and passed out letters and also a 38-page booklet accusing us of many things. He was trying to ruin our testimony in the church and community. All of this resulted in him being told by several church members, "You have only known the Stampers for two years, we have known them for over 25 years. We know your accusations are not true." As he persisted he was told by several members to leave their home and that he was not welcome to return. This did no real damage as the members stood with us in sorting out this problem.

In 2005 we had an average weekly attendance of 424 in the five churches or missions we are working with. There were 155 in Sunday School and 269 for the preaching service. We had a high of 404 for a preaching service. There were 36 salvations, 31 baptisms and 283 decisions made. There is a missionary from Kenya, the Muli Family, working in Tanzania, partly supported by the Thika church through their Faith Promise Offering.

Please pray for Pastor Tom and his wife, Lillian. They have been married for several years and still have no children. His family has been trying to get him to take another wife. (In their culture it is acceptable to have more than one wife.) Tom keeps telling them no. Finally Lillian became pregnant. Recently their child was delivered by Caesarean section but it was still born.

Please continue to remember us in your prayers. Thank you for your love.

Your co-laborers in Kenya,

Bob and Betty Stamper