



Christ Our Standard Ministries

Newsletter 2024 Q2, April – June

The long-awaited Camp took place on 15–27 April 2024. The main objective of this camp meeting was to explore unique points of Adventism and get firmly established in our spiritual beliefs. It has been six months since we started worshipping together in our church, and we have received many inquiries regarding our denominational affiliations. We were hoping the camp meetings would provide a fuller picture of our God of love and encourage the attendees to continue on their spiritual journey together with us.

The theme and topics were carefully selected to address the matters of interest. God blessed us with the funds to invite three very resourceful facilitators from Tanzania, who were well-versed in issues we desired to cover. We pray for the Lord's blessing upon our brothers Joel and Toni, and sister Frida, who dedicated their time to grace our meeting with their wisdom. We also appreciate our Kenyan brethren—brother Isaac Osoro and Allan Gathoni—who contributed to the success of the meetings.



Sister Frida during the closing camp meeting



Brother Isaac presenting one of the Camp meetings

The Camp meetings provided a very unique experience for all of us. First of all, we were hoping to see all of our regular church people attend, only to discover that it was not the case (we will address this a little later). Nevertheless, the meetings were aired to the surrounding neighborhood and many were listening with interest. Most of them are meat-eaters using dairy products, tea, etc. As you would imagine, our “different” eating habits have been taken note of and discussed in the community. We desired to inform them of the reasons behind our lifestyle and leave them free to come to their own conclusions, as through lack of understanding, they distanced themselves from us.

Our intention was that they connect the health message to their own well-being and start reasoning from cause to effect. We were very pleased to hear reports that those who had ears to hear were blessed with the understanding of the relationship between the food we eat and our health condition. Both those who attended the meetings and those who listened from a distance received the needed information and we hope they will search, find, and follow the teachings in their lives.



Bidding farewell to our Camp participants

As a result of the health lectures, one of the sisters got convicted that her friends and neighbors in the town of Nakuru should also get to hear the good news that she was freed from the miseries of disease. As she was learning the health message at the camp meetings, she started to make the connection between her suffering to wrong choices and habits of eating. After making some corrections, she received a simple treatment program using available healthy foods, and she reported that her body was responding well to it.

Brother Toni and Joel travelled five hours to Nakuru to meet with this sister's friends, whom she mobilized rather speedily. This trip was not budgeted for, nor fitted with their schedule, yet we saw a future field in this call and we agreed to sacrifice for it. Again, God provided the funds and the men were off to Nakuru. Since the meeting was not previously scheduled, we didn't have any expectations, yet we were humbled to hear that more than 20 people attended the 3-day seminar conducted by those two faithful brothers. It was of interest to note that most who attended were non-Adventist Sunday keepers. They couldn't have enough of the health message and I can't convey here all the stories coming from this field. Our sister keeps getting inquiries from people regarding their health issues and how to treat them. We are hoping to answer their request and organize meetings on their ground in the near future.

Soon after the camp was finished, we discovered why some of our church members were absent. I won't spend much time lamenting the troubles the devil throws at us constantly, as we know that God is on our side. We came to realize that it was the denominational affiliation that our ex-Adventist neighbors were objecting to, and they were campaigning to discourage our members from attending any of the meetings.

Subsequently, we decided to run a series of meetings teaching about the True Church and how to identify it. Our intention was to equip those who have remained, with Bible answers to any random objections they may get. We also studied tithing and then had a meeting to decide what we should do with our tithes — revenue from whence the gospel is sustained. Our members chose to appoint one of our sisters, Evelyn (pictured), to undertake evangelistic task, and the tithe would support her needs. We hope we will be able to expand Bible-work and spread the gospel as God opens more fields.



Since the church was the talk of the community, we decided to do something for the common good. Our road was extremely muddy and boggy, and practically impassable by a vehicle.



Our community road: mud everywhere, even in reasonably dry conditions.

More than one pregnant woman faced the fears of failing to reach hospital before the baby was born. One delivered in mud while being carried by other women to the road leading to the hospital. Another mother-to-be, to avoid this muddy road, was carried over the flooded creek to the other side. We decided to fix this problem, even if not up to the national standard.



Creating our own culvert

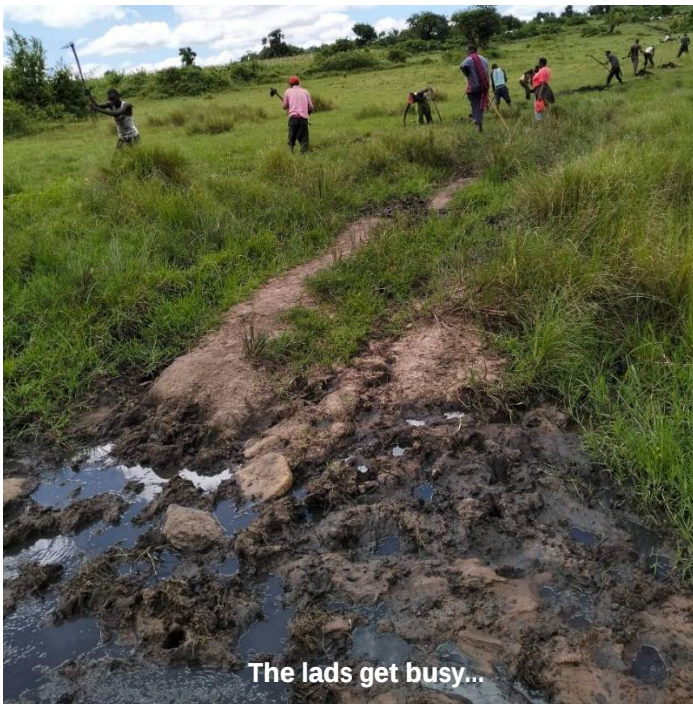


Securing firmness of the surface



Finishing off the culvert

At least we made the road passable by creating a culvert in a bed of rocks, which now allows the excess water to drain away, and provided a hard surface over it. We also took care of the much-needed drainage on the sides of the road to prevent water spillage onto the road, and the huge potholes were filled with rocks.



The lads get busy...



and the mud gives way to dry surface

We hope this will be a real blessing to all our friends and enemies alike; even those who were not friendly to us and the church. May God bless us all as we travel upwards to His Kingdom!