

June 2026

Since the visit in March the brethren have been hard at work with all kinds of ministry.

(1) They are seeking their own registration as churches with the Government. This has entailed a visit of the three of them to Nairobi, but these days much is done online. One requirement the Government has is that at least one of the officials has formal ministerial training. All three went through the TPC in Nairobi about 20 years ago.

(2) Adult Literacy continues in Wasat. There are 2 classes—'group A quick to understand and group B too slow in understanding'.



(3) Bible Light College

The church building at Kasei is on the right. The building in the centre is what they are calling Block B which is for housing the students. They hope it will be complete before the next classes in July.



This is the morning devotions during May classes. The 2nd. years studies the Doctrine of the Church (7 in attendance), and 1st. years the Doctrine of God (6). One or two are having problems with the English language, and they are considering having a simplified course for some already in church leadership. This College is vital for the maturing of the churches.

Report on visit to West Pokot, 4-11 March, 2026

The mountainous area of the north of the county of West Pokot, where TBC churches are located, has only dirt roads/tracks, and only one bridge over the Kanyareng river on entry to the area. This posed challenges for driving especially at one point when we had to cross what is normally a dry river bed. When we needed to cross it had become a raging torrent because of all night rain and we had to abandon that part of the journey (to Kasei). We were able to visit 5 places where there are churches and schools, and ministered the word of God in each.

In comparison to Kisumu, the struggles here are the following. The church members are mainly illiterate women. Being first generation Christians such have no spiritual background apart from their traditions. Cattle-raiding from neighbouring tribes was endemic (Turkana of Kenya, Karamojong of Uganda). We are told that the men used to return from a successful raid saying that now they must face the 'enemy' at home, their multiple wives. Polygamy and

drunkenness have been the order of life. On becoming Christians many of these women repented of this beer-brewing and the drunken bouts with their husbands. Not a very attractive life! Even after having been Christians for 20 years some still exude such joy when the word of God comes to them, that very word about Christ that first saved them from their sins. With the establishment of schools almost all young people are now being educated. But there are almost no jobs for them locally, except to become teachers themselves. So there is of necessity an exodus of young educated people looking for work in the towns.

One recent struggle for the brethren has been gold mining. People are flocking to an area about a day's journey north, and they are even coming from outside Kenya! You can imagine how attractive this is, supposedly quick money, for those who consider themselves poor. And some people are getting good money. But how disruptive it can be spiritually, and one only has to imagine the physical and moral conditions where there is such a 'gold-rush'.

Sunday morning service at Chepkinagh



Two particular encouragements came out of the time there.

(1) Adult literacy. On a couple of occasions I seriously challenged the illiterate, who have been Christians perhaps for 20 years, why they still cannot read. Don't you want to read the word of God? At Apur were these ladies, all dressed in white and blue who had walked down from the hill of Tarakit (behind). I recognized some from when they gave their testimony and were baptized in 2006. Yes, they wanted to learn to read. Then, amazingly, one of them was a young lady, set to go to university later in the year. She would teach them in the coming months! We have been able to purchase some primers and the work of literacy has started there and in Wasat.



(2) Bible Light College. Because of the raging river we were not able to visit Kasei. The College was not in session anyway, but Alan was not able to see the construction of facilities. We were able to meet some of the students and made short videos of the interviews. The students met for teaching the following week on the doctrine of the Holy Spirit. These are reports received. "Glory to God that has enabled us to complete our month of March session successfully. Though one second year student Jackson Narema was absent. He was attending a sick child. The learning flow was encouraging with the new white boards in place. We used one of the rooms of unfinished BLOCK B as 1st Year New classroom." (teacher) "The BLC class

was lovely as we were dealing with the Holy Spirit as a person, His character, His work, the nature of the Holy Spirit, and many more as triune Godhead.” (student)

Here are some observations of a first-time visitor. “The time spent in rural West Pokot achieved so much of what I had hoped it would: the opportunity to meet the men TRAIN (Kenya) work with, and visit the various churches and schools that we know and support so that a list of names and needs would become tangible bonds of love in Christ, and I was not disappointed, and at points struggled to keep up!

What a joy to see what the Lord has done in the hearts and lives of many in Pokot: from the simple joy of meeting the believers who had travelled down the hill to meet us in Apur to worship with us under the trees, to hearing the testimonies of those saved from a life of violent cattle-raiding, drunkenness and ancestor worship.

What is apparent is that there is so much more work that can be done: there are men completing their studies with the Bible Light College ready to be sent to other villages and towns, some with little true gospel witness, and the ever present question of how this can be funded. Keith has mentioned the issue of adult literacy—most of us can barely comprehend not being able to read our bible, and



as some of these believers become able to read, there will God-willing arise a need for bibles and other good Christian literature in the Pokot language... perhaps I am looking too far ahead but this picture is the first class of believers in Wasat with their adult literacy books.

There is also the ongoing pressure on the three leaders. These men live in remote regions, healthcare facilities are a long motorcycle ride away, they have families and school-age children to support, several churches apiece to minister to, teaching responsibilities at the Bible Light College, before even considering practical tasks like church buildings, and they need much prayer and encouragement.”