# COMI Gene + Melba Morden Turkana, Kenya



### Greetings, fellow prayer warriors!

On my recent trip to Kenya I saw that the drought in all of East Africa continues. Herds are diminished and, for some families, completely gone. **They do need rain and would appreciate your prayers.** 

#### Good news

But the pastors in Turkana were optimistic. They told me farmers have been witnessing in church about their profits and everyone now understands that if the people in the church work at their farms, they will make a profit and everyone can have food. They promised that if any farmers are being lazy and not working, they will put other families on their farms. They thanked us for the farms and for all the training they get from Haron and the Farm Team. Please pray all will work as unto the Lord in all they do.

The team from Greentree Christian Church helped dig a new well, clear a new farm, and were immersed in the Turkana culture. Their only request was that we work them harder next time they come. All team members said the trip had changed their hearts.

The first mango orchard will be planted in May. Please pray that all the mangos not only survive, but flourish and we can see a very good first crop in 2020.

**Left Photo:** Digging out a stump for a future farm field.

Right Photo: Paulina is proud of her farm plot.

#### Chicken and eggs

I met with pastors from 14 clusters. The pastors requested help to raise chickens and eggs as a business to provide funds for high school student scholarships. The CMF team is working together with the pastors to develop a business plan. A local Turkana man, Michael Ekwanga, has graduated with an economics, finance and business degree and is helping write and put together an operational plan. Please pray this would become a reality and source of scholarships for years to come.



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## Microfinance program

A Turkana team is going to Malawi in June to meet with CMF missionary Ryan Hayes to learn about the successful savings and loan program the farmers in Malawi are using. The team will assess how the program could be set up in Turkana. The goal is to provide the Turkana with the means to finance future wells, farms, transportation and other related businesses. Please pray that God guides all their efforts, as everyone agrees success depends on God working in people's hearts to live righteously with integrity and thankfulness to God.



Turkana workers install a water pump for a new well in Eudo.

#### New water system

I met with leaders in Maasai to plan a water system for the town of Ewaso Ngiro. The people currently pay 20 cents for five gallons of dirty water. Revenue from clean water sales should be over \$20,000 per year. The well should be drilled in July and we hope to have the water system installed in Ewaso Ngiro by the end of the year. The system will use automatic payment through the mPesa phone system, eliminating paperwork and clerks to collect funds. Profits will be used for future development among Maasai churches. Please pray the system will provide clean water, be an instrument for discipling in sound Biblical principles of business and provide funds for future development.

## Family news

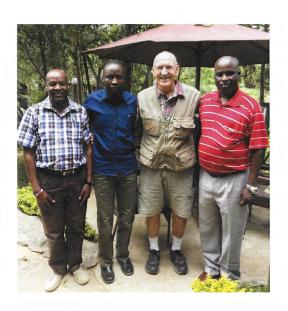
Abraham will take his first SAT on May 6. His grades are good, but he has trouble taking tests. **Please pray he is clear-minded and relaxed on test day.** 

Our family will be in Kenya with a team from Pasco Christian Church July 6–26. Please pray for a safe and successful trip that encourages the Turkana and the team.

Thank you all for your continual prayers and support.

Lene & Mella

Gene, Melba and Abraham



Gene with members of the Maasai water team: Keshe, Kenson and Sankok.