



Prayer Letter December 2020



#### A SPECIAL VISIT

Pastor Pelegrino from Tanzania was able to visit us here in Nairobi for an entire week. It was so good to see this dear brother! We worked together in Tanzania for 14 years and had the joy of planting 10 churches together. When we first met him in 2004, he was just a young single guy who had not been a believer for very long. My wife and I looked at him as if he were our son. We not only taught him the Bible formally, but we also had many opportunities to walk with him through the practical aspects of life. When Pelegrino started praying for a wife to serve with, my wife spent countless hours giving him biblical counsel in regard to what to look for in a godly wife and how to live with her in wisdom. After God brought him a wonderful helpmeet, we walked with this dear couple as they began their marriage and family. God has since blessed them with two beautiful daughters. They just celebrated their 10th anniversary. Pelegrino is now 42 years old and is an experienced pastor and leader. He is a gifted Bible teacher and preacher, and he is dedicated to mentoring and training young Tanzanian preachers. He and Pastor John Naftary oversee the ministry of the Lake Victoria Baptist College. The college is a crucial aspect in training the next generation of pastors, leaders, and church planters. Pelegrino is also a leader amongst the other Tanzanian pastors and churches. He heads up regular meetings of pastors and leaders from the churches in the Mwanza region. The purpose of these meetings is to pray with one another, share burdens and blessings, and to strategize on how to go about planting new churches in needy villages. Please pray for Pastor Pelegrino, his wife Happiness, and their two daughters, Sharon and Maureen. Please continue to pray for the churches in Mwanza and the advancement of the Gospel in this region.



#### A SPECIAL PRAYER REQUEST

Please also pray for Pastor John Mbugua and his family. We worked with John in Kenya for a couple of years before we moved to Tanzania in 2005. A few years later, John and his wife Milka were led to work in an orphanage in the village of Kitongo, just outside of Mwanza. We also helped John to plant a church in. John and Milka were not able to have biological children so they are fostering 13 children at the orphanage. They have had many of these children for over 10 years. These children look at John and Milka as their parents. They live in their home and call them "Mom" and "Dad." Since they are Kenyans, they must have work permits, and it is possible that they could be forced to return to Kenya. Since they have just fostered their children, they would have to leave them behind. This would be devastating for all of them. It would also mean that the church in Kitongo would lose their pastor. Please pray that the Tanzanian government would grant them permits to remain in Tanzania.