



### ———— THE BRIGHT FIELD ————



I have seen the sun break through  
to illuminate a small field  
for a while, and gone my way  
and forgotten it.

But that was the pearl of great price,  
the one field that had treasure in it.  
I realise now that I must give all that I have to possess it.

Life is not hurrying  
on to a receding future, nor hankering after  
an imagined past.

It is the turning aside like Moses  
to the miracle of the lit bush,  
to a brightness that seemed as transitory as your youth once,  
but is the eternity that awaits you.

**The Bright Field, R. S. Thomas**

### ———— PRAYER REQUESTED ————

For our Brothers and the people of West Africa who are in the midst of the Ebola outbreak.





## PLT MEETS IN STELLENBOSCH

The Africa Province Leadership Team (PLT) met in Stellenbosch this last week. Here are the photos from our correspondent – Michael Podbury – Secretary to the PLT.



From L-R Brothers Noel Bradshaw, Alfred Banda, Tony Shanahan, Michael de Klerk and Clement Sindazi



Pictured are the PLT members, Archbishop Stephen Brislin of Cape Town and members of Green Point Community





## LEADERSHIP APPOINTMENTS AT BROTHER BEAUSANG

Following Simon Kaswahili's recent appointment as Headmaster of Edmund Rice Sinon in 2015, Anne Ogallo has been appointed as the new Deputy Principal at Brother Beausang.



Priest congratulating Anne Ogallo

Anne has been the Head Teacher of the secondary school since 2013 and has been on the staff of the school since 2007. Anne has held a number of key positions at the school and has worked closely with Simon in her current role over the past twelve months.

who has been on study leave the past year undertaking his Masters at the University of Nairobi. Henry was in fact Anne's predecessor as Head Teacher prior to taking on full time study.

Anne's position will be taken by Henry Kiminyi

The new appointments were announced at last week's school Mass and Anne, Henry and Simon were given a special blessing as preparation for their new roles in 2015.

**Peter Shanahan**

## ERMEA CONFERENCE UNDERWAY



The second conference of Edmund Rice Ministries East Africa (ERMEA) is currently underway at Mary Ward Centre in Nairobi. Twenty-four ministries leaders from across the District have gathered for this important conference, which reviews the way we are in ministry. Last year 2013, the ERMEA concluded the process of

formulating the **"Pillars and Features"** of Edmund Rice Ministries in East Africa. In this year's gathering, the conference will review what





was achieved with regard to the pillars and features, and discuss what implications will the following have on our ministries:

- *Our Way into the Future* (OWITF)
- Congregation Chapter,
- African Chapter
- Edmund Rice Beyond Borders

The conference will also enable the participants to share best practices amongst themselves. With Russell Peters at the helm, there is no shortage of energy.

**George Massay**

### **FOLLOW-UP IN SCHOOLS**



On Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> September we visited schools where our sponsored children are attending for the follow-up. In every school the smiling faces of our students, showing that they are happy where they are studying, welcomed us. Our intention for the visit was to pay school fees and find out whether the environment for the children who are sponsored is conducive, especially in terms of the child protection policy. We discovered that some administrators don't understand that psychological torture is a form of abuse. They think that sexual and physical abuse as the only forms of abuse. We used the opportunity to educate them on the effects that psychological abuse can have on the children. We also discovered about the county government demanding





more levies from the parents. This is really a challenge for the poor parents and on our program. All in all, we enjoyed our visit and we are hoping that there will be changes as a result of our visits.

**Silverio Wafula**

### **BEHAVIOUR CHANGE WORKSHOP AT MADONNA TEACHERS TRAINING COLLEGE**

Education For Life ran a three-day workshop at the Madonna Teachers' Training College from September 24 – 26th. The workshop seemed to have touched the teacher trainees as expressed in their final speeches. Most of these trainees, who are in their early twenties, face many social challenges, as most of them have just finished secondary education and joined tertiary training with the hope of getting employment afterwards. The trainees become victims of peer influence and other risky behavior, such as drug and substance abuse and multiple sexual partners. The participatory approach of the workshop offered the trainees an atmosphere of sharing openly to identify issues that affect them.



It was evident that there is a gap in our education system where more emphasis is put on the academic achievement of the individuals rather than on a holistic growth. More worrying is the fact that these are the future teachers to whom parents will entrust their children. We hope to continue partnering with the college and make a difference. The recommendations were very encouraging: many appreciated and acknowledged the significance of the three days.

**Angeline Obutu**

### **FIRE BURNS HOUSES**

One of our parents, Mama Beryl, was hit by a tragedy yesterday evening when her house was burned completely by an outbreak of fire that started in their compound. All her belongings were completely destroyed by the fire. When the fire started, she was in the house with her children seated preparing for a meal that they were taking for





supper. One of her children, George, saw the fire burning from the wall side of their bed and alerted the mother. That is when she grabbed all her children and ran out of the house to rescue her children from the fire. She called for help from the neighbors who were around. The fire is thought to have started from one of her nearest neighbors Her house was the second in line to catch fire so she was unable to run in and save anything.

Mama Beryl, the mother of nine, is one of the parents of Mary Rice who has three children at the Centre who are differently-abled. She has encountered different challenges since she is the one to whom all her children look to for all their basic needs. After the incident they were just left with the clothes on their body and did not even have any footwear with them.



The incident left 20 families homeless, including mama Beryl. They did not save any thing as the fire was big and spread very quickly to other nearest houses.

**Jasmine Jerussa**

### **REMAINING BIRTHDAYS IN SEPTEMBER**

SEPTEMBER 29 NICODEMUS OKUKU (Eldoret)

### **CALENDAR**

Sept. 28 – Oct. 1	ERMEA gathering, Mary Ward Centre
Oct. 10 – 12	Annually Professed Weekend
Oct. 30 – 31	Formation Committee Meeting - Nairobi
Oct. 31 – Nov. 1	Community Leaders Meeting (Friday supper and Saturday)
Nov. 29	First Profession (Tamale)
Dec. 6	Reception and missioning for newly professed (Nairobi)
Dec. 12 - 15	District Assembly
Dec. 16-18	DLT review and planning days

Many thanks

George Massay

