

# Successful Family Discipleship Conference Held

We thank God for the successful Family Discipleship Conference (FDC) which was held from 3rd to the 6th of May 2023 at CITAM Valley Road.

The theme of the convention was, "The Choice," guided by the verse, "This day I call the heavens and the earth as witnesses against you that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Now choose life, so that you and your children may live." (Deuteronomy 30:19).

The theme was prompted by a prevailing set of occurrences in the family, in marriages, in our high schools and even in church which needed to be confronted by making the right choices with the authority and accountability of the Word of God.

The conference had impactful plenary sessions and interactive workshops from anointed speakers and a powerful music ministry from acclaimed artists.

It was encouraging to record 1.7 M youth across the globe who were reached through the social media platforms. It was quite inspiring to see many youth who came to the Lord during the conference.

Speakers included Bishop Calisto Odede, Pastors Mildred & Kingsley Okwonkwo, Dr. Stanley Mukolwe, Rev. Jesse Mwai, Moffat Kago, Rev. Phidel Baraza, Mrs. Ann Mbugua, Dr. Wahome Ngare among others.



If you remain in my word, you will truly be my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free  
- John 8:31-32 -



## Annual Delegates Conference (ADC) Held

We had a successful 2023 Annual Delegates Conference (ADC) on 29th April 2023 at CITAM Valley Road's Dennis White Hall. The meeting led by the **Presiding Bishop, Rev. Calisto Odede**, who is the Chairman of the Deacon Board and Council of Elders, made key resolutions in adopting the Chairman's

Report, and the 2022 Financial Statements. The ADC ratified the new elders, elected 4 new Deacons (to replace those whose terms had expired), and appointed the External Auditors. ADC is the supreme decision making organ of CITAM. The following four (4) deacons were elected:

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**James Harrison Masinde – CITAM (1st term)**

**Dr. Margaret Wainaina Wafula – CITAM (1st term)**

**Prof. Joseph Muliaro Wafula – CITAM Parklands (1st term)**

**George Morara Ondonga - CITAM (1st term)**

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The following Deacon Board members had completed their 2nd term and were not eligible for re-election:

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**George Asoyo – CITAM Kisumu**

**Christine Ojera- CITAM Nakuru**

**Catherine Wahome – CITAM Valley Road**

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**Deacon Esther Chengo (Embakasi)** who was eligible for a second term had withdrawn her candidature and offered not to continue serving. This slot was therefore available.

The delegates were notified that **Bishop Karita Mbagara**, Deputy Bishop was retiring in September 2023 and he would be replaced by **Rev. Justus Mugambi**.





# New members of the Elders Council

Emily Chengo from CITAM Karen and Agnes Omollo from CITAM Thika Town were elected by the Fellowship of Elders to join the Council of Elders to replace Elder Theresia Biu and Elder Don Odera whose terms came to end during the last Annual Delegates Conference. James Maina from CITAM Woodley is the new Secretary to the Council of Elders after Elder Don Odera retired. The rest of elders in the Council are:

1. Bonifas Musembi- CITAM Parklands
2. Agnes Mungai- CITAM Eldoret
3. Joash Aloo- CITAM Kisumu
4. Lawrence Oseje- CITAM Ngong

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Without wise leadership, a nation falls; there is safety in having many advisers. Without good direction, people lose their way; the more wise counsel you follow, the better your chances. Without guidance, people fall, but with many counselors there is deliverance.

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Proverbs 11:14

# UPDATES FROM ASSEMBLIES



## CITAM Buru Buru Break the Ground

It was a historic moment on Wednesday, 14th June 2023 when CITAM Buru Buru embarked on an ambitious project – the construction of a magnificent sanctuary that will accommodate up to 4,000 worshippers.

It was remarkable demonstration of his dedication for CITAM Buru buru to have a new sanctuary when Rev. Calisto Odede, the Presiding Bishop climbed aboard the excavator to perform the maiden digging for the new sanctuary. Indeed, it was a momentous time of great joy and celebration to God for His faithfulness.

With each scoop of earth, Bishop Odede symbolically laid the foundation for the new sanctuary, a place where God's people will meet to worship Him and will be an inspiration for generations to come. The bishop laid the foundation stone, a significant moment

in the construction of this magnificent sanctuary. It is a symbol of the strong spiritual base upon which this sanctuary will stand, representing the collective faith and unity of the CITAM Buru Buru and CITAM as a whole.

The special occasion was also attended by members of the Deacon Board's building committee, Rev. Ken Isige (Director for Administration), Rev. Charles Obara (Southern Region Overseer), Rev. Jesse Mwai (Senior Pastor CITAM Buru Buru, his pastoral team, some Head Office Managers, CITAM Schools Buru Buru Head Teacher Madam Hellen Obwar, some members of CITAM Buru Buru, the contractor and the technical consultants.

The project is expected to be completed in 12 months.

We thank God for our members for their faithful and generous

giving to make the commencement project possible.





# Special Service for Disciplined Forces at CITAM Thika Road



CITAM Thika Road held a special service on 28th May 2023 for the disciplined forces and their families. Besides officers from various units, the service was attended by Hon. Patrick Mariru, Principal Secretary Ministry of Defense who is also a member of the assembly for the last 14 years. Ann Ng'etich, (represented the Principal Administrative Secretary, Ministry of Interior and National Coordination), and Major General David Tarus of KDF (Deputy Army Commander). Present also was Mr. Kamau Maina (Deputy County Commissioner - Kasarani.), and some senior police officers from

the Inspector General of Police. Officers present were from the Kenya Police Service, Critical Infrastructure Protection Unit (formerly Administration Police), Kenya Prisons, Kenya Defence Forces, and National Youth service. The Senior Pastor, Rev. Paul Njoroge said that the service was held to honour the officers for their selfless service to this nation. "They courageously risk their lives to safeguard the lives of other Kenyans," Rev. Njoroge said to applaud and acknowledge the good work of the disciplined forces. He underscored why the assembly decided to hold the

service because of two main reasons:

1. To appreciate the sacrifices, they make for our nation.
  2. To pray for God's cover as they dispense their services.
- Preaching in the service, Bishop Emeritus Rev. David Oginde challenged the officers to emulate the Centurion in Luke 7:1-10 who loved the society but needed by the same society. Nevertheless He:
- 1. Loved his nation.**
  - 2. Loved God**
  - 3. Loved others.**
  - 4. Respected others. The officers and their families were prayed for and sent with God's blessings.**



## Wedding Galore at CITAM Ngong

On 15th May 2023, CITAM Ngong celebrated the solemnization of 15 couples in a joint ceremony. The Family Care and Enrichment Ministry took couples who had been staying together after doing traditional or civil weddings or come-we-

stay marriages through six sessions of the solemnization classes that culminated in the Joint Solemnization ceremony. After the church ceremony, the couples proceeded to a colorful joint wedding reception hosted by the church.

## CITAM Meru 5th Anniversary



CITAM Meru celebrated their 5th anniversary on Sunday, 23rd April 2023. Rev. Calisto Odede the Presiding Bishop was present accompanied by Members of the Deacon Board and Council of Elders. The assembly also hosted a breakfast for Meru Leadership & Economic Development Forum. One of the pillars of CITAM, in the new strategic plan, is

social transformation.



**"Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ."  
Colossians 3:23**





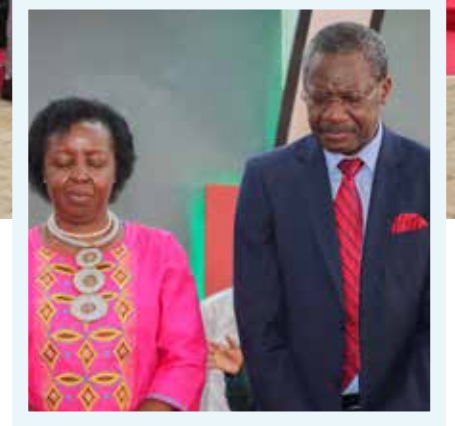
# Bishop Visit CITAM Eldoret

Rev. Calisto Odede, our Presiding Bishop, his wife Elizabeth, and Council of Elders went to CITAM Eldoret for ministry during their mid-year revival week from 14th to 18th June 2023. "We had an impactful ministry by Bishop and his wife, Rev. Elphas Bwire Senior Pastor CITAM Eldoret was

elated to say. "We feel refreshed and revived. This was a great time recalibrate in His Presence." Bishop spoke in revival meetings and with men while Elizabeth, had a good fellowship with women.

CITAM Eldoret Leadership appreciated the Presiding

Bishop who spoke to men about Samson's Kryptonite and our Sunday service about Evicting Demonic Squatters. The same was extended to the members of the Council of Elders who accompanied the Bishop.



**But you, keep your head in all situations, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, discharge all the duties of your ministry**

**- 2 Timothy 4:5 -**

## Updates on New Church Plants

In line with our strategic plan, CITAM continues to grow and most remarkably with the planting of the following 6 assemblies in 2022.

1. CITAM Machakos
2. CITAM Syokimau
3. CITAM Ruiru
4. CITAM Embu

5. CITAM Kakamega
6. CITAM Kericho

Out of the six Churches, CITAM Kakamega, Syokimau and Machakos have been successful in getting properties for long term lease of 5 years. The rest are still meeting in short-term rented spaces as they search for suitable facilities.



## Security Health and Safety Training

A training on Security Health and Safety was carried out for security workers in our assemblies. The training was held on Saturday, 24th June 2023, from 8:00am at CITAM Parklands. . The training included the following:

1. Factors Contributing to Criminality.
2. Church Security and Safety Concerns.
3. Church Security and Safety Practices.
4. Best Practices in making your Church Safe.
5. Areas of Extensive Training in the Church and why
6. Terrorism and Counter Terrorism.
7. Active Shooter Training.
8. Tips on Residential Security and Personal Security.
9. First Aid life skills and
10. Firefighting and evacuation.



## Joint Counsellors Retreat

There was a successful joint CITAM counsellors retreat on 10th June 2023 at CITAM Woodley.

The retreat whose theme was, "Trauma Healing" had attendance of 215 Counsellors from 20 Assemblies across Kenya.

Every year CITAM holds a joint retreat for the church's Counselling ministry. Ministry members take time to bond with one another and learn and share, on one specific topic together.

**"In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."**

**— Matthew 5:16, NIV**



# MISSIONS



## Social Transformation **through Farming**



A team visited the Rev Masika's Christian Impact Mission (CIM) farming models demonstration in Yatta. Useful lessons were picked on how to do farming in an arid region of Northern Kenya.

The Missions' Staff team also visited Tharaka Nithi where the CIM model has been put into practice and reaping rewards for

the communities and individuals who have embraced it.

The team was then challenged to individually and as teams from the various mission stations to seek to see how they can impact their communities with the knowledge they had gained to bring about transformation as well as in developing strategies that would make mission stations self-supporting, self-sustaining and self-propagating. We continue to trust God to give us direction on how much more the success of Yatta and Tharaka Nithi can rightly inspire us to replicate the same in Missions stations and the surrounding environs.

In **Olturot**, they had already started harvesting some of vegetables from sample gardens with more planting of crops ongoing. Through the sample gardens, several women in the

community have been trained. Collection of good farming soil from Nkololoi has started and use of animal manure to enrich the soil. The mission station has set in motion plans to partner with NGOs that have similar interests. We continue to trust God to explore more in agricultural sector.

**Gororukesa** managed to do different types of crops which included maize, beans, watermelons, sukuma wiki



**Gororukesa**



(Kales), and Irish potatoes. Plans were underway to take 10 champions for training in Yatta. The mission station has plans to drill a borehole for church between July -September in partnership with Compassion International. In addition, there are plans to install greenhouses in their newly acquired land for preparation and profitable farming.

Archer's Post began a small demonstration garden at the Mission Station. They have planted

spinach, Sukuma Wiki (kales), Cabbage, Onions, pumpkin, water melon, chillies, Bell Peppers, Jute, cow peas, Coriander, Maize and beans among others in order to determine what best suit the climate. In addition, they have planted pawpaws, Neem tree and mango seedlings. The vegetables have fed the missionaries and some members of the community for the past eight months. Eight of the neem seedlings have been replanted along the stations fence to boost tree coverage. More than

ten households have received seeds to replicate the same in the homesteads.



Gororukesa



## Kargi

We have done also and managed to conduct our first quarter apologetic seminar on 11th-12th March with 450-

500 junior youths for two days. By God's grace has established satellite churches, at Dakhane and Ririma.

## Romania

Rev. Elias Mwaura Githuka (Head of Missions) and Rev. Dr. Lawrence Oseje (a member of the Council of Elders) visited CITAM Romania. "Their visit to our country was a great blessing for the churches in

Timisoara and CITAM Bucharest," Pastor Pica Mengher was glad to say. Pastor Pica is our lead pastor at CITAM Romania. He had a successful induction when he visited Kenya in March.



## Olturot

The mission station had an outreach ministry to Nyiro Boys High School where 11 boys gave their lives to Christ during the Sunday service. This was also a follow up of the teens' spiritual well-being in high school.

Two crusades were held in two villages. Approximately 400 people heard the gospel during our crusade. We thank God for the addition in church attendance after the crusades.

Ministry to the shepherds' (Fora ministry) happened during the Easter holiday where 15 families were reached to,

and the gospel was shared with them. They all accepted the call to salvation. We praise God that the new Church construction is almost complete. "We have had contributions for construction as a church from the month of January," Pastor Terry said. "Despite the drought that hit the community for three years, we have so far raised approximately Ksh100,000 with members donating money, animals, and their labour.) In addition, the Pastor's house is almost complete.



## Gororukesa

The mission's 32 Sunday school teachers and church leaders were trained by Child Evangelism Fellowship in partnership with Food for the Hungry, Kenya. Child Evangelism Fellowship equipped every teacher with effective tools and approaches in winning children to Christ and more so discipling them to know Christ. The mission held impactful medical camps at Gororukesa church where 719 patients were treated. The teams that engaged during the medical camp includes medics, Ex-Cans and pastors from CITAM Nyeri,

Media Team from Hope TV/FM, and two missionaries. Through the Jesus film and person to person witnessing, 232 gave their lives to Christ and out of this number, 46 were Muslims. Considering the health and hygiene problem in the area, the mission station had a Water and Sanitation Health (WASH) training for some members of the community within their reach. They used practical approach using available resources and used containers to enhance the training.



## Archer's Post

We hosted the Archer's Post Young Ministers Interdenominational Fellowship Worship Experience. The group comprises of music ministers from various churches in the area mainly made of College-going students. The event had over 200 people in attendance. The group holds its fellowship at our church twice weekly.

We hosted a group of CITAM Meru Ex-Cans to a week of exposure to

Missions as part of the culmination of the Bridge Program that has been taking place at the assemblies. The group was exposed to ministry in our context through talks, Manyatta visits, evangelism and interaction with the community to get a glimpse of its way of life. The Ex-Cans also took part in our Sunday Service. This is the second year running that CITAM Meru has sent the Ex-Cans on an exposure visit to Archer's Post.

## Loiyangalani

We praise God for the completion of the mission station's new church hall that had started to be built in December 2022.

The young people (teens) have been engaged in football not just as a game, but as part of outreach to their kind (Sports evangelism and discipleship).

This began in March 2023 and is held on Saturdays after Bible club.

One physically challenged pupil who is in class six received a wheelchair from a CITAM member. We praise God for this kind gesture and for putting a smile on the face of this boy.



## Evangelism Truck



Looking at the impact of the evangelism truck, the truck was not acquired in vain. From January to end of April 254,619 people reached and 3,160 of them got saved.

From 7th to 10th April the truck headed to Thika Road hosted by CITAM Thika Road for a 3 days' evangelism outreach. 626 people got saved out of the 26,500 people reached.

After that the truck wheeled on 15th April to Githogoro slums and surrounding areas for a peace sensitization outreach. The mission

had been organized in partnership with Githogoro pastors' fellowship and the area chiefs. We thank God for great ministry because 8,750 were reached and 132 of them got saved.

From 27 to 30th April the truck was in Nyeri town for a missions' outreach organized by CITAM Nyeri. It was very impactful, and people came to the knowledge of God. 268 people got saved and 17,900 people reached.

May God continue using the Truck and the team for his glory.

## CITAM Timor Leste (East Timor)

For many years, CITAM Timor Leste has been seeking a suitable place for the growth and expansion of the ministry. We are happy to report that by God's grace we have already acquired a lease land in Dili. With designated support from

the government, they are in the process of purchasing land for the income generating projects for the church. Though it has been a rigorous process, we thank God for this provision.



## Heaven's Gates and Hell's Flames (HGHF)

We praise God the successful and impactful ministry of the Heaven's Gates and Hell's Flames (HGHF) ministry. Since the beginning of the year, the team has done 39 shows where 27,251 people were reached and 13,707 of them got saved.

"The HGHF Season 6 team is full of

energy, willing to learn and easy to work with making it very easy for the HGHF Crew to minister with them," Richard Lipesa, Pastor-in-charge of HGHF, was glad to note. "We pray that all Crew and Cast will be Christ-centred in all our approach to Ministry for the glory of God."

**"In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."**

**— Matthew 5:16, NIV**



# Discipleship: Youth

We had successful completion of the Ex-Candidates program across the assemblies. To mark this key transition into Cross Roaders ministry, the assemblies held luncheons and parties to mark this significant milestone.

In CITAM Karen, the 71 graduates were hosted for a luncheon where the parents were invited. Prior to this they had conducted a CSR activity locally and did a mission in Kilifi County in partnership with CITAM Embakasi and CITAM Mombasa.

As we unleash this amazing team of young men and women to college life. Our prayer is that the impact of this program and the discipleship they have undergone through in the teens church shall continue to be witnessed in the next course of life.



## New Start for Hope TV and FM



Saturday, 17th June 2023 marked the onset of a new dawn for Hope TV and FM when they rolled out their new programming. The commissioning ceremony was held at CITAM Valley Road's Dennis White hall. The Deputy Bishop Rev Karita Mbagara graced the occasion. The media board led by its chairman, Deacon Michael Wamache was

present and expressed confidence in the new programming.

Bishop Karita urged the journalists to be extra sensitive when delivering news especially bad news. We will be credible, truthful, and factual in adding value to people's lives by being sensitive to their plight. We will also share the good news. News and infor-

mation to create hope in them to be inspired to be better people.

Remarkable is the introduction of Dira ya Hope Tv, the Swahili 7pm news. "We are upbeat with the new start of the station," Mr Dismus Mankanda-Head of Hope Media said.

Communications Authority's Mr. Peter Ikumilu (Ag. Assistant Director) was present to represent the CA's CEO Mr Ezra Chiloba. The Chief Guest was Rogers Odima, Chair of CEOs Association.



# Reflection by Rogers Wambua

One evening as I was walking from Egerton University's Njoro Campus' main gate towards the hostels, I met a group of fellow students carrying twigs as they marched and chanted against a certain top government official. Before I knew what was happening, one of them thrust a twig into my hand while the rest commandeered me to turn and join them. "Why were the students rioting," I asked one of the rioters. "Tribal clashes have flared up in the neighbouring Mau farms and people are being evicted," he said.

At the gate, we found a line of buses, cars, lorries, and pick-ups carrying the evicts and their luggage. The students, besides using the kiosks to block the road, lit huge fires on it. The infuriated mob took charge and directed the vehicles into the university. The police tried to prevent that move but

were overwhelmed by the surging numbers of the rioting students.

Hundreds of the evicts were taken to the university's main mess (dining hall) where they were allowed to spend the night.

The

students mobilized for them to get tea and bread. One could tell they felt they were in a safe place.

As I remembered about this incident many years later, I thought of the cities of refuge in Joshua 20:1-9. These were cities designated as places of safety for those fleeing from "relatives seeking revenge" in the case of an accidental killing (v. 3 nlt). They offered peace and protection.

People today still seek places of refuge, although for a variety of reasons. But as needed as these sanctuaries are, supplying shelter and food, they cannot completely meet the needs of refugees and fugitives. That rest is found only in God. Those who walk with God find true shelter and the safest protection in Him. When ancient Israel was sent into exile, the Lord said, **"I have been a sanctuary [safe haven] for them in the countries where they have gone" (Ezek. 11:16).**

With the psalmist, we can say confidently to the Lord, **"You are my hiding place; you will protect me from trouble and surround me with songs of deliverance" (32:7)**

Jesus is a rock to which we can flee and that no matter where we are or in what circumstances we find ourselves, He is there with us. Even in the darkest of nights, Jesus is our strong tower. Nothing can shake those who are secure in God's hands. The name of the Lord is a fortified tower; the righteous run to it and are safe

**(Proverbs 18:10).**

