



# EKKLESIA BIBLE COLLEGE

A Network of Pentecostal Education

News Letter - September 2020

2020 August 25-27 Kibera

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Gavril Costea
- Iulian Costea
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## EDITORIAL

The imposed pandemic Covid-19 restrictions have impacted but have not stopped Ekklesia Kibera project. The most affected ones were the students confronting both pandemic and poverty. For this reason in April we made a call to help them with some food when we resume classes and go back next time.

The Lord touched your hearts and you brothers helped us have the necessary funds. Now we were just looking to go over. Kenya borders opened only in August the 1st and as we were getting ready to go, I tested covid positive. But brother Simion Timbuc and his wife Rodica went on and did a good job.

Brother Simi taught a class even if we had to follow the social distancing regulations. All our 100 students showed up (in 2 groups of 50). Then they received the food items prepared in advance. This was both a joy and a surprise of great help for them. Each one received basic groceries in value of about \$50 (cca. 47 kg in 2 large bags) and \$10 cash. We prepared for 110 people as we assisted the families of the seven brothers from our Kibera Ekklesia Pastoral Board. More details in the next pages.

We thank you for being a part in this blessed boon! The Lord knows the hearts and the needs of everyone of us. And as we cover the needs of others, He will also cover our needs. Let us pray to be able to repeat this charity together!

*Gabi Costea on behalf of the Board of Directors*



# KIBERA STUDENTS FOOD PROJECT

HELPING THE FAMILIES OF OUR STUDENTS IN KIBERA NAIROBI



Each student received



Maize flower	14 Kg
Wheat flower	6 kg
Rice	5 Kg
Sugar	5 Kg
Beans	5 Kg
Cooking oil	10 litri
Salt	2 Kg
Tea	250 g
Cash	\$10



**E**kklesia's priority is to train pastors and ministers. We invest the word of God in people. Yet we keep in mind about their daily needs, particularly in those days when they attend school. We offer tea and snack and the lunch cash value. Occasionally we help them with basic groceries as the Lord just helped us to do through your help this time!

Our church base rents facilities in a walled and gated location about 10 minutes walk away from Kibera slum. So, we could organize the distribution safely. We unloaded the truck inside then placed the good in solid large local shopping bags.

We give thanks to **pastor Richard Kimani** and his church team for assisting us to distribute the student's aid!

We also thank **pastor Moses Wangila** for negotiating with the vendor and taking care of the logistics! Great job!

VĂ MULȚUMIM!

Domnul să vă binecuvinteze!

[www.ekkesiabc.com](http://www.ekkesiabc.com)

PROFIL: **VITALIS OKWATCH OKELLOH**



**V**italis is one one of our best students in Kibera. He is full of joy and zeal, the most vocal one when we pray or sing worshipping the Lord. The first one ready for any good action. He is modestly dressed and neat! At a closer look you see that probably his clothes may be from second hand stores.

He lives in Kibera. I want to visit him one day. And not only him. But I need to be very careful how I touch the topic as it is not easy for our students to invite us where they live. And I think I know why. In their dignity they may not want us to see the poverty they struggle with everyday.

When he talks to you his face is a big smile.  
When he is alone, his smile is fading behind shadows of worry.

He is the first to give you thanks.  
Not the only one! Just the first one! As usually!

My name is **Vitalis Okwach Okelloh**.

I am a student of the Eklesia Bible College Kibera Campus Nairobi Kenya. I am here by taking my sincere thanks, humility, gratitude and honor to convey my regards and appreciation for the blessings of the goodies and monetary donation which we received during this hard period of time of the Corona pandemic!!!!

Almighty God bless Gabi, the board of directors of the college, the local board in Kenya, and all the churches in the United States of America that saw it worthy to lend their hands to help all students!!!

God Almighty bless you all!  
God bless America! God bless Kenya! Amen! Amen! Amen !

My name is **Onesmus Mwangi**.

I am one of the students at Ekklesia in Kibera and I would like to express great appreciation for the generosity you showed by supporting us with food.

As they say: No appreciation is enough for great kindness. But here I still want to thank you all for your kindness which has provided me and my family with hope and courage to live a better life during this hard time of Covid 19. Being a father of 4 children it has not been easy to feed them after my source of income was cut because of the pandemic.

Once again, I thank you all for your generosity and will always appreciate you for the support you gave me and my family.

May the almighty God richly bless you!



**O**nesmus is Moses Wangila's assistant pastor. He is an uber driver on rented cars. He doesn't earn much. He takes me from the airport and drives me wherever I need to in Nairobi. First time he was late almost 2 hours. Not his fault; the traffic was blocked for an official convoy, but he hesitated to let me know. Of course we had a very professional talk... Now he is 15 minutes early and he calls me in advance if needed. I appreciate him and I usually tip him good. He has four children. Two are death mute. He works hard to feed his family and he lives in a poor neighborhood.

# PROIECTUL KIBERA - LA ZI

**K**ibera project is running almost in full throttle. We started the seminars in September 2019.

So far we have completed 5 of the 20 planned seminars:

- Introduction in OT 1 (Gabi Costea)
- Introduction in OT 2 (Gabi Costea)
- Theology of OT (Marcel Măcelaru)
- Introduction in NT (Dan Sabou)
- Spiritual Formation (Simion Timbuc)

By the grace of God we hope to teach three more seminars before December 2020:

- Systematic Theology 1 - Theism (Gabi Costea)
- Systematic Theology 2 - Anthropology-Christology
- Biblical Exegesis & Hermeneutics (Romeo Pelle)

So, by the end of 2020 we shall be having a total of 8 courses out from the 12 normally scheduled.

## We need your help!

**We started with 60 students. Now we have 100.** Normally for the education program (100 students) we need **\$9,500 monthly**. In 2020 we received in average about 50-55% from what we need.

**To recuperate the seven pandemic months we need to reach and even to exceed the monthly necessary of \$9,500. With God's help we shall overcome!!!**

Keeping in mind that in these times of pandemic crisis our students need some food assistance as well, we pray that the Lord will touch your hearts to continue to participate in this charity!

You may support Ekklesia educational project, or you may assist the student's families with basic groceries. We will direct your donations as you wish!

Please write your checks to Ekklesia Bible Ministry.

**EKKLESIA BIBLE MINISTRY**  
PO Box 389  
BUFORD, GA 30519

PayPal: [donate@ekklesiabc.com](mailto:donate@ekklesiabc.com)

You may also donate on line at:

[www.ekklesiabc.com](http://www.ekklesiabc.com)

The Katwesigye Family



**A**MOS KATWESIGYE has graduated Ekklesia and he is a pastor in Rubanda, Uganda. He is married and has 3 children (see picture above).

- A month ago he stopped building his house as he had run out of money.
- I talked to some brothers and we sent him through Ekklesia some cash for food first.
- Then some more cash for the roof, a door and two windows so that he can move in soon.
- Many people in Uganda wish such a house: 2 rooms, brick walls, tin roof! Most of them have 1 room mud house with thatched roof.
- Amos thanks Ekklesia in the Lord's Name.
- By himself alone he would have probably needed more that five years to complete his house as seen in the picture below.

A months ago



A week ago





## MOSES WANGILA

- You should know brother Moses.
- He visited us in 2018.
- I first met him in Kigali, Rwanda.
- He introduced me to the brethren in Nairobi and Mombasa.
- His life story is impressive: born in a poor family, he survived on the streets while taking care of six of his siblings. There he met the Lord.
- Then he went to a Bible School and also graduated the University. He taught to several seminars including East Africa School of Theology in Nairobi where he trained many that are now successful pastors.
- As for him, he had to start over several times in life. Three years ago he opened a slum church in Nairobi. He lives nearby.
- He somehow reflects my life and my ministry story. His passion is to invest the Word of God in people. He also travels a lot.
- Moses has three children and he makes many sacrifices to pay their school and university fees.
- Moses is a great asset for Ekklesia.
- He already thought New Testament classes in Kabale and Mombasa.
- **We thank God for him!**

*(Edited by Gabi Costea)*

# A THANK YOU LETTER

*By Moses Wangila Matumbai*

- The story is told of a huge forest being consumed by a fire. All the animals in the forest came out and helplessly watched the forest burning.
- They all felt very overwhelmed and very powerless, except this little hummingbird that it was saying: ***'I'm going to do something about the fire!'*** So, here it flew to the nearest stream and took a drop of water.
- It put it on the fire, and went up and down, up and down, up and down, as fast as it could.
- In the meantime, all the other animals, much bigger animals like the elephant with a big trunk that could bring much more water, they were standing there helpless. And they were saying to the hummingbird, *'What do you think you can do? You are too little. This fire is too big. Your wings are too little and your beak is so small that you can only bring a small drop of water at a time.'*
- But as they continued to discourage it, it turned to them without wasting any time and it told them, ***'I am doing the best I can.'***
- ***Over 1 million people live in Kibera slum in extreme poverty,*** earning less than \$1.00 per day.
- Unemployment rates are high. Persons living with HIV in the slum are many, as are AIDS cases. Cases of assault and rape are common.
- There are few schools, and most people cannot afford education for their children. Clean water is scarce. Diseases caused by poor hygiene are prevalent. A great majority living in the Kibera slum lack access to basic services, including electricity, running water, and medical care. COVID 19 has worsened the situation.
- A vast population have no savings; they are worried about the next meal as no one knows when the Corona virus restriction measures will end. These restrictions keep them from making a living.
- Whenever the residents of Kibera spot a food distribution, they try to force their way through for their chance to get supplies to keep their families fed for another day. In the process of the scramble both women and children are injured. *It is food we were coming for since we are dying of hunger,* they say....
- It's against this backdrop that I take the opportunity on behalf of the Ekklesia Bible College Kibera, students and Leadership Board in Kibera, to thank you for your generous contribution toward the food aid.
- You have brought smiles to many families in Kibera.
- Thank you for being an important part of Ekklesia mission in Africa!
- **Kibera loves you, Kibera prays for you !**