

Children of the King Project – Samburu, Kenya

A Fairplay Seventh-day Adventist Church Mission

July 2026 Newsletter

Dear Children of the King friends and supporters,

Over the past few months, we've shared exciting milestones with you—the gift of donated land, growing enrollment, answered prayers, and God's faithful provision through so many generous hearts. Together we've watched this little bush school continue to grow in ways we never imagined possible.

As we prepared this month's newsletter, our thoughts kept returning to ***something much earlier***.

The Prayer God Is Still Answering

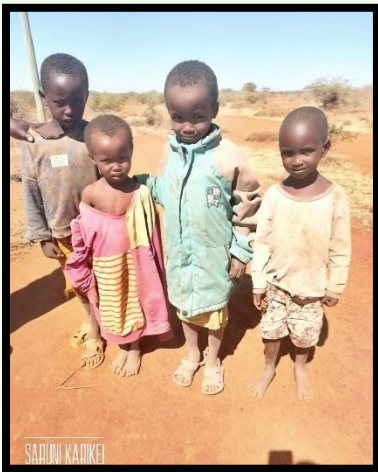
Long before there were school uniforms or daily meals... before God moved the hearts of community leaders to donate land... before more than fifty precious children filled the schoolyard with laughter and hope, ***there was one quiet moment witnessed by God alone***.

It happened beneath an acacia tree in the Samburu bush. This is where the Children of the King story truly began.

Once-feared warriors of northern Kenya, Matthew and Saruni Lekarikei gave their lives to Jesus in 2022. As God led them forward, they moved from being teachers to Seventh-day Adventist pastors. They rejoiced as fellow warriors surrendered their lives to Christ—but another burden was quietly growing in their hearts—***the children***.



It all started with a humble prayer in the forest



Children with bright eyes and eager minds—yet almost no opportunity to learn, dream, or to hope. ***They could not look away***.

Some had never attended school. Many rarely knew where their next meal would come from. Others had been abandoned or were struggling to survive because of broken homes and deep poverty.

So Matthew and Saruni began with what God had already placed in their hands. They shared food from their own table and taught simple lessons, ***always keeping Jesus at the center***.

As word spread, more children came each morning for porridge. With every new face, the burden on Saruni's heart grew heavier. He longed to help them all—but he knew he couldn't.

One day, alone in the bush, Saruni knelt beneath an acacia tree and prayed a simple prayer—“*Lord...please help us care for these children.*”

There was no organization standing behind him. No fundraising campaign. No wealthy sponsor. Only a former warrior who believed the God who had changed his own life could also change the lives of these children. What Saruni could not yet see was that God had **already begun preparing the answer**.

"It shall come to pass that before they call, I will answer; and while they are still speaking, I will hear." Isaiah 65:24

From Prayer to Provision

Thanks to the generosity of faithful friends like you, we have watched God answer that prayer, month after month, in ways we never could have imagined. Your gifts have provided nourishing meals, school supplies, clothing, transportation, and the resources needed to help this little school continue growing.

And this month, God opened another exciting door.



The Samburu Survey Office completed the official land survey for the Children of the King property, bringing us one important step closer to securing a permanent home for the school.

Soon afterward came another exciting answer to prayer. The hydrogeological study confirmed an ***excellent source of water beneath the donated land***. With that encouraging report now complete, thanks to your generous donations, we were able to ***give the go-ahead to begin drilling the well!***

In the arid lands of Samburu, clean water is one of life's greatest blessings. This well will provide safe water not only for the children at Children of the King, but also for families throughout the surrounding community. ***As they experience Christ's love expressed through simple acts of compassion, we are confident that many hearts will be drawn to the One who called us to serve.***



A water tower similar to the one planned for Children of the King

Another Heart Moved by God

One of the biggest obstacles facing Children of the King has been establishing the ministry as a registered Public Benefit Organization (PBO) in Kenya. The legal process—and the required government filing fees—were beyond what the young ministry could afford. ***Then another unexpected blessing arrived.***

After hearing the story of Children of the King, a Kenyan attorney was so touched that he ***volunteered to complete the entire legal registration process free of charge***. He even offered to pay the government filing fees himself!

What seemed like another large hurdle became a reminder that when God begins a work, He also prepares the people needed to accomplish it. ***"Our heavenly Father has a thousand ways to provide for us, of which we know nothing."*** —*Desire of Ages*, p. 330

COTK Spotlight Story: 'A Child of the King'

At just three years old, Napanu Lenkolos had already learned what hardship looked like. Day after day, she arrived at Children of the King wearing the same little dress. Concerned for her, Matthew and Saruni visited her home, where they discovered that her mother was courageously raising her children alone while battling HIV/AIDS. Many days, even life's basic necessities were uncertain.

Yet every morning, Napanu came back. She wasn't drawn only by the warm porridge or the daily meal. She had found something even greater—a place where she was loved, valued, and cared for. At Children of the King, she discovered that **she mattered**.





Before long, Napanu's joyful stories about school reached her older sister, Naningo. Wanting to experience that same love and kindness, she came too.

Today, two sisters walk through the school gates together each morning—a quiet reminder that when Jesus touches one life, His love reaches an entire family. ***Thank you for helping children like Napanu discover not only food for today, but hope for tomorrow.***

Learning to Care for God's Creation

During our visit to northern Kenya this past year, we were reminded that many children simply have

never had the opportunity to learn some of the everyday habits many of us take for granted. At Children of the King, those lessons are becoming part of their education. Recently, the students enthusiastically worked together to clean the school grounds, learning that caring for God's creation is another way of honoring its Creator.



The Miracle Camel 🐪



Every now and then, God gives us a reason to smile.

One morning, a tiny camel wandered into the Children of the King schoolyard and immediately became the center of attention. For a little while, lessons paused as laughter filled the air and every child wanted to meet their unexpected visitor. That's why we've come to call it our "miracle camel."

The real miracle wasn't the camel itself. It was seeing children who once spent their days searching for food, tending livestock, or facing difficult circumstances simply enjoying the wonder of being children. Sometimes God's sweetest blessings arrive in the most unexpected ways.

July Birthday Blessings 🎂

Growing up at Children of the King means more than learning to read and write. It also means belonging to a family that celebrates life's special moments together.

This month we're wishing a very happy birthday to **Loikena, Lashangai, Lenny, Leboo, and Lydia**. Thank you for helping make this little school a place where every child is reminded that they are ***seen, loved, and treasured by God.*** 🎉

Please Continue Praying ❤️

The Children of the King story began with one former warrior kneeling beneath an acacia tree, asking God to help care for a handful of children. ***Today, God is still answering that prayer.***

As we prepare to drill the well, please continue praying with us. Pray for God's protection over Matthew, Saruni, the school cook and volunteers, and each precious child. Pray that the well, pump, and water tower will come together smoothly, bringing clean water to the school and surrounding community. Most of all, pray that every child and family touched by this ministry will come to know Jesus personally, as God continues opening doors and providing exactly what is needed.

What once seemed impossible is becoming a reality—not because of our plans, but because God continues to answer prayers, move hearts, and provide at just the right time.

Join Us in What God Is Doing

Every answered prayer in the Children of the King journey tells the same story: **God is building something beautiful in Samburu.** Children of the King is more than a school. It is a place where children are discovering they are deeply loved by God, families are finding hope, and an entire community is witnessing the love of Christ in practical ways.

By meeting practical needs with Christlike compassion, hearts are being opened to the Savior. That has always been the heartbeat of this ministry—and by God's grace, it always will be. Thank you for praying with us, believing in these children, and for becoming part of the story God is writing in northern Kenya.

God is always working ahead of us. We simply have the joy of following where He leads.

Ways you can give: Scan the QR code or go to Adventist Giving at <https://adventistgiving.org/donate/ANGMGG> to support the Children of the King General Fund or Building Fund.

Fairplay SDA Church
802 CASTELLO AVE, FAIRPLAY, CO 80440-5093

OFFERING OF THE WEEK Supporting the needs of your local church

GO TO LOCAL CHURCH BUDGET

Jump to Category

LOCAL OFFERINGS

Combined Budget \$0.00

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Local community service \$0.00

Home evangelism \$0.00

Building fund/maintenance \$0.00

ADD CATEGORIES

Current Total: \$0.00

CONTINUE TO DONATE

MORE LOCAL OFFERINGS

Search Categories

☒ Children of the King General Fund

☒ Children of the King Building Fund

☐ Capital expenses

☐ Children's Ministry

☐ Local Women's Ministry

☐ Member assistance fund

2 CATEGORIES SELECTED

BACK TO DONATION

or send a check to:

Fairplay Seventh-day Adventist Church

Attn: Children of the King Project

PO Box 695

Fairplay, CO 80440

With gratitude,

Children of the King Project Team

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Our Mission: The *Children of the King Project* exists to provide Christ-centered education, daily care, and spiritual training for vulnerable children in Samburu, Kenya, helping raise a new generation to know, serve, and follow Jesus.