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New Frontiers Await...

Chris & Anne Amulo

Many of us who came around the Navigators in the 70s and 80s remember the Navigators as those who did Bible studies and discipleship with students in high schools and universities. That we still do and are passionate about. We do believe that reaching people with the gospel when they are young lays a good foundation for them becoming disciple makers themselves in future. A majority of these young people, outside their homes, are to be found in institutions of learning and churches. Hence our obvious focus to these institutions.

But our calling: To advance the Gospel of Jesus and His Kingdom into the Nations, goes beyond institutions. We are passionate about having workers for the Kingdom next door to everywhere. This means that where there are people, we want to be next door to them, sharing the good news of Jesus and his Kingdom. Raising spiritual generations of labourers/workers who will pass on the message of the gospel to those near and around them.

In Mark 16:15, Jesus commands his disciples to go into the whole world and preach the gospel to all creation. Those of us who have put our trust in Jesus are thus commanded to preach the good news to all creation. Wherever we are, we each have an opportunity to share Jesus Christ with those He brings us in contact with. We are not going in alone.

Jesus said He will be with us till the end of the world (Matthew 28:20). In John 17:20, the priestly prayer of Jesus, we see him praying for us: those who will believe the message of the disciples. His presence and prayer are always with us.

Institutions of learning and churches are easy places to find captive audiences for the Gospel. They are primed to hear the good news. But that is not where the majority of our people are to be found. And that is why in recent years we have been talking about taking the Gospel to "New Frontiers". By this term, at least at Navigators Kenya, we mean going to where the majority of the unreached and underreached are to be found in this country. These places are the rural areas, the urban poor, the peoples of other faiths and those who "claim to have no faith". We are excited to see how God is leading many of our young people into these "new frontiers".

As we enter this Christmas season, and the institutions that we are accustomed to - schools, colleges, workplaces and churches - close down, God is opening other doors for us to be his witnesses in our families and relational networks. Christmas is the season when many travel to be with family and friends and even to meet strangers on the road and holiday. May we use these opportunities to bring the Gospel of Jesus and His Kingdom to those around us.

Have a merry Christmas and a Happy New Year as you advance the Gospel.





Missions Conference 2022

New Frontiers

J. Miano Weche

“**A**nd in the morning, a great while before day, he rose and went out to a lonely place, **and there he prayed.** And Simon and those who were with him pursued him, and they found him and said to him, **“Every one is searching for you.”** And he said to them, **“Let us go on to the next towns, that I may preach there also; for that is why I came out.”** And he went throughout all Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and casting out demons.” (Mark 1:35-39)

Our emphasis on new frontiers—as with all other emphases of ours—is a direction birthed in prayerful seeking. Therefore, we have this confidence that if we have heard right, the Lord is with us and for us, going ahead of us and with us, as we join him as co-workers for the advance of the Gospel. All that is now required is a long and faithful obedience in that direction; to borrow old biblical language, we move with the pillar of fire and cloud.

Let's also note that going into new frontiers is not abandoning already existing ministry. Jesus didn't abandon anyone; in fact, he promises an enduring and living presence among his people. Going into new frontiers is, to borrow prophetic language, enlarging the place of our tent, stretching our tent curtains wide, not holding back; lengthening our cords, strengthening our stakes, because God promises that we will spread out to the right and to the left; that our descendants will dispossess nations and settle in their desolate cities.

Going into new frontiers is broadening our hearts to include “nations” previously excluded from our missional aspirations, effort, and presence. When Jesus entered the new frontier of the earth, he set in motion a plan to reach Gentiles previously excluded from the commonwealth of Israel, strangers to the covenants of promise, people with no hope and without God in the world. *Dilatasti cor meum...* you have enlarged my heart,

prays the Psalmist. We echo that prayer for larger, roomier, hospitable hearts and live it out inside out.

Even though God's glory covers the earth, and there is no place where God is not, many are still excluded, strangers, without hope and without God in the world. Some are right in front of us and under our noses, some are next door, others are over there, others far away. Many believe differently, and many more look and smell different. God wants them, and so should we. God is Here and Now, Here and There... and invites our missional presence in the world, here and now, here and there.

Jesus enters into the world to become the Chief Neighbor that dwells among the lost he desires to reach and serve for His Father's glory. He invites us to join him in his neighborliness of reaching and serving. Love your neighbor as yourself, he says. Who is my neighbor, we ask. “The neighbor is someone we regularly meet, a fellow participant in social encounters. The word thus designates interaction, not just proximity. At the same time, however, the neighbor is clearly not a member of our household” (Neiman & Rogers).

New neighbors await us in new frontiers. They wait to be loved with the same love we have for ourselves, the love which Christ has poured into our hearts. We love because he first loved us. We love new neighbors, as we emulate the redemptive neighborliness of Christ, into the household of God. The stranger becomes a brother. Those who are far are brought near. The tent is enlarged, curtains stretched wide...next door to everywhere.

What is this everywhere we dream about? Everywhere is everywhere. But there are places which are yet, nowhere, at least for us. New communities, new subcultures, new contexts...“*Let us go on to the next towns, that I may preach there also; for that is why I came out.*”

The next town of the marketplace. The next town of the Northern Frontier District. The next town of the rural and urban majority. The next town of the prison. The next town of the garage, the farm, the slum, the...next town. Where is God sending you?

“Lo, I will be with you always, to the close of the age,” Jesus promises.



Navigators Church Ministry Team

Growing Intentional Disciple-making Cultures

Andrew Sibairo

The Navigators Kenya Church Ministries had the honor of serving Navs Field Ministry Partners (FMPs), Labourers and students from across our ministry entities during the National Training Program (NTP) from 22nd - 30th Aug, 2022 focusing on the Theme of **Growing Intentional Disciple-making Cultures**.

Our theme was driven by the Promise in Isaiah 54:2-3
 2 *"Enlarge the place of your tent,
 stretch your tent curtains wide,
 do not hold back;
 lengthen your cords,
 strengthen your stakes.*
 3 *For you will spread out to the right and to the left;
 your descendants will dispossess nations
 and settle in their desolate cities."*

The call to enlarge the place of your tent gives the image that there will be an expanding (stretching and spreading) of the ministry into New Frontiers: the cause

of this expansion is a refocus on disciple making, the effect of which is expansion of the work in breadth and health, spearheaded by missional communities of authentic Disciple-makers in the contexts that the Lord has called us in.

As we move into the new frontiers of ministry, it was refreshing to hear again the call to make disciples who make disciples; workers for the Kingdom Next Door to Everywhere.

From the interactions, it was clear that we are being called upon to growingly cultivate a missional mindset in our teams and Bible study groups. We need to have the goal of labourers emerging from our ministries and to have that goal inform our way of life and ministry.

Cultivating a Disciple-making culture will greatly impact how we relate in our families and relational networks. We are called to live among and love our lost family members, neighbors, churchmates and workmates for the sake of the gospel.

What will it take to cultivate this culture?

- It is built around authentic relationships.
- It calls for investing deeply and lovingly in people with resources, time, and energies.
- It has to be done purposefully.
- It is characterized by people being sent to the lost.
- There is a leadership core that is sold out to this and relevantly equipped to serve fruitfully. Developing and sharpening the tools we use to engage scripture deeply is one of the exciting practicals of this equipping. The need to correctly understand and apply scripture (2 Timothy 2:15) is a key mark of these leaders and laborers.



As NCM Kenya, we look forward to being engaged in the process of growing intentional disciple making cultures in the diverse contexts that God has planted us in. The centrality of **prayer**, the **gospel message** of the kingdom addressing the real issues in these frontiers, and raising **a community of workers aptly equipped** to serve relevantly in these contexts, co-laboring with other entities, areas, churches and church leaders.

The most exciting thing is that Our Lord is inviting us to co-labor with him to accomplish his work. Matthew 9:35-38. *Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness. When he saw*

the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field."

Please pray that we will Grow Intentional Disciple Making Cultures. Pray that God would establish His purposes for disciple making movements through our Navigators Church Ministries.

We see a vital movement of the gospel, fueled by prevailing prayer, flowing freely through relational networks and out into the nations. Workers for the Kingdom are next door to everywhere!





OPEN DOORS IN

MAKUENI

Justus & Annrose Makau.

Workers for the Kingdom Next Door to Everywhere. This is what motivates us as we serve.

Over the years, the Navigators Kenya have prayed and trusted God to see new frontiers and areas of ministry in the Lower Eastern region. The Machakos area ministry identified, visited and started praying for specific areas in the region where they strongly felt the Lord was at work and was calling us to trust Him for open doors of ministry.

Makueni county is among the areas The Navigators Kenya have been trusting God to have a ministry presence. On Saturday, 16th July, 2022, we (The Makaus) moved from Machakos, where we have been serving to Wote, Makueni county to pioneer a Navigators Ministry. What an answer to prayer! We thank God for the successful move.

Please pray for open doors and hearts for the advancement of the gospel as we join the Lord in what He is doing in Makueni.

On 21st October, we attended Missions Conference 2022. The theme of the conference was **Building Bridges into New frontiers**. From the plenary sessions, workshops, group sessions, team and personal reflections, we have two takeaways from the conference.

One is that God created us for a divine purpose and that is to spend time with Him for eternity. We learned in John 17 that Jesus Christ was united with the father and for us believers we should be united with Christ and other believers.

Two, we should do missions out of love. Apostle Paul modeled this to us through 1 Corinthians 13. If you put "Christ" in 1 Corinthians 13, verses 4-7 instead of "love" and you have a description of Him; He is patient, kind, not jealous, does not brag, is not arrogant, does not act unbecomingly, does not seek His own gain, is not provoked easily, does not take into account a wrong suffered, does not rejoice in unrighteousness; but rejoices with the truth. He always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. If we want to love one another, we must focus on His love for us and walk in His Spirit who produces His love in us (Gal. 5:22).

We have received an opportunity to serve at Wote Technical Training Institute and have a group of students we are discipling. We are helping them to grow in their walk with God; to understand the Gospel clearly, have a consistent Bible reading culture, memorizing scripture and a consistent prayer life. Pray with us that the love of Christ will compel us as we Disciple them. 1 Corinthians 5:14.



Please pray with us on these promises as we serve in Makueni:

1. **A reproducing ministry.**

And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach others. 2Timothy 2:2

2. **For the nations.**

Ask me, and I will make the nations your inheritance, the ends of the earth your possession. Psalm 2:8.

3. **For a fruitful ministry.**

I will surely bless you and make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as the sand on the seashore. Your descendants will take possession of the cities of their enemies. Genesis 22:17.

4. **To obey the great commission.**

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." Matthew 28:19 – 20.



Enterprise Development Initiative

The Navigators (EPTF) Kenya Trust

Since 2021, EPTF has been implementing the Enterprise Development Initiative (EDI) in Mombasa, Nairobi, Eldoret and Moiben. EDI is a project aimed at empowering local communities with entrepreneurship skills so that they can either start new businesses or enhance the growth of their current enterprises as a way of developing sustainable sources of income.

Jane is a participant in Eldoret. She has run a grocery business for over 10 years at Naibery – Plateau Junction. She is a pioneer business lady and the Chairperson of the welfare group comprising all business women at this location. Many of these women started selling grocery at Naibery- Plateau Junction long after Jane Kibet had set up shop, “Nurse Grocery”.

Before the enterprise development training, Jane's monthly sales were between Ksh 16000 to 20,000. A great percentage of her income would go into settling loans taken for business operations. She would take most of her loans from Shylocks – exploitative individuals giving loans at exorbitant interest rates.

At the EDI trainings some of the key takeaways for Jane were the need to develop a savings culture, good money management skills, book keeping and separation of business and personal use monies. She directs her business money to a mobile wallet, specifically designed for business people and manages her business expenditures from this wallet.

Jane's monthly income from the business grew to above Ksh 20,000. She makes a profit of between Ksh 11,000 to

Ksh 15,000. She attributes this partly to the training she received.

Jane says that through mentorship she has grown to understand different customer needs and how to focus beyond money and also go the extra mile to show her customers that they are valued. She remembers an instance where she deliberately chose to interact with a customer who most of her colleagues shunned because she came across as unfriendly and harsh. To date, the lady remains a loyal customer and buys grocery worth Ksh 2,000 weekly.

Through the trainings and mentoring, the welfare group started table banking that serves as a source for quick loans at friendly interest rates for the members to boost their businesses.

Workshops on social inclusion and human rights awareness have empowered Jane and other participants to understand their rights and mandates as right holders and know how to effectively engage duty bearers such as county officials.

Please pray for many other participants like Jane.

Enterprise Development Initiative (EDI) is funded by Swedish Mission Council through Children Mission Sweden.





A Brief History on Pioneering the Machakos Work

The Mutongas

As we look back at the Machakos work, we are very thankful for what God has done through the years.

We left our teaching jobs in 1994, where Mutonga was a secondary School headmaster and Sarah was a classroom teacher and school girl's counselor.

We started our ministry as GIPs (Gift Income Personnel) based in Machakos town. We had two children Kavee 4 years then and Syokau 2. Muthoni was born in Machakos in 1995.

The Promises the Lord gave us were:-

- Gal. 4:23 - To be given children of promise.
- Isaiah 54:2 - Strengthening the stakes for growth.
- Col. 2:6,7 - Getting rooted in God's word and his purposes.
- Isaiah 43:3,4 - Men and women to be given to us in exchange for our lives.
- 2 Tim. 2:2 - Faithful Men - reproducing ministry to the 3rd generation.
- Isaiah 62:1 - To pray to God tenaciously without giving him relief.

We came on staff when Mutua and Stephanie Mahiani, our mentors and then country leaders were transitioning as missionaries to French Speaking Côte d'Ivoire and so we were left in the hands of Dennis and Irene Tongoi, the incoming country leaders, who transitioned us to ministry, giving guidance and meaningful accountability.

Initially we had started work travelling to encourage teachers in Machakos, Embu, Kitui and Makueni to shepherd their students, where we also went praying and asking God to give us those places as our inheritance Ps 2:8.

Later in 1998, we stopped the travelling ministry and started intentional local 3E ministry in Machakos town, opening work at Machakos Boys School, Kwanthanze Secondary School, Machakos Technical (Current Machakos University) and travelling to Kitui to meet the Kitemes at Mutitu and Kitui Schools.

We also recruited a team of two staff trainees, Dr. Chris Amulo, a Vet, and Ruth Kavata Sila, a high school teacher. These were joined by others who formed the Ministering team, including Andrew Sibairo, Rose Wanjiru, Jane Gichane, Susan Mutiso (currently Susan Ngatia) among others.

As part of developing the ministry trainees, we felt led to also require them to start training younger prospective staff after two years, to encourage early passing on of the vision and skills. Due to our being CIPs (Conventional Income Personnel) in ministry development and experience and now with a GIP responsibility, and training in a full time basis, we took 3 years to cover the DMLT manual and Chris was able to train two STEM trainees, Kitheka and Wambua while Kavata trained Nduume.

The inception of Chris and Kavata was a game changer. As we trained them, they became the link with the young people in schools and the Ex-candidates fellowship, whom they helped recruit and bring to our house for Sunday afternoon meetings. Our home was nicknamed **The Corridor** where all in the ministry could pass by any time.

When we came (transitioned to GIP roles) we experienced acceptance difficulties as people did not understand how we could leave our well paid jobs to come to serve as missionaries, many had only seen white missionaries.

We were suspected of having a hidden agenda but God helped us to hang on.

As the ministry went through teething challenges, the Lord led us to set apart a day in the week when we would fast and pray as a team. We did this for years at the Katunga Forest every Wednesday and during the rainy season we would do it in the office. We also began a monthly Machakos Navigators prayer guide named **The Eastern Watch** that covered the Eastern Province of Kenya and also had few national and international prayer requests. This helped grow the

work in concerted prayer based on Gods promises and also creating a world vision mindset.

Thankfully, after the people around us began seeing changed lives among some of the towns notable members of our fellowship, confidence and interest in what we were doing started to build and parents started coming to our meetings when we invited them and allowing their children to come to us.

As we look at what God has done through the Machakos work, we see humbling outcomes due to Gods answer to prayer in many fronts.

Dr. Chris and Dr. Anne Amulo served in the national students work and now are Directors of the Kenya Navigators Kenya since 2016. Chris is also a Line leader for the Maturing and Partnering countries in Africa.



Pioneering Team

**Rear: Mutonga Adams, Susan Weru, Jane Gichane, Dr Chris Amulo.
Front: Sarah Mutonga and Ruth Kavita Sila.**

In the year 1995, we developed an initial 10 year plan that was to end in 2005, eight years later it was fulfilled beyond our expectations and we were out of our jobs, for at this time, Chris had long finished his training and gained much experience, been married to Dr. Anne Clare Mwendwa and was capable to lead the Machakos Area Ministry. We had to transition from Machakos to give him space to lead. We went to Tanzania where we served for 17 years based in Morogoro.

Andrew and Faith Sibairo are leading the National Church Ministry. Cornelius and Ruth Muatha served in Mombasa and are now serving in Embu and are also coordinating the National Prayer Ministry. Boniface and Kate Ndambuki went to pioneer Navigators work in Kitui County in 2018.

Justus and Annrose Makau went to pioneer ministry in Makueni County in June 2022. Victor and Jael Kilwake are serving in Nairobi in Faith and City Ministry as Jael also works in the national office. Victor who served at Daystar University disciplined Robert Mrawa, a Tanzanian national, who is now the current Country director of Navigators Tanzania. Pascal, Dorcas and advocate Mutiso Makau are serving in the Navigators EPTF board. Sarah Kiarie - Muia is part of the Navs Board of directors. Also Muema Charles served in the national Finance

committee of the Navigators Board. Nthenya is in the Africa Navs Along sider prayer team.

As we look at this we are filled with worship to God for inviting us to see what he has done and declare with the Psalmist in Ps 115:1 ... **"Not to us, Lord, not to us but to your name be the glory, because of your love and faithfulness. Amen."**