

RBM Newsletter

My Appeal, My Prayer

*“ O God of all creation, bless this our land and nation,
Justice be our shield and defender:
May we dwell in unity,
Peace and liberty,
Plenty be found within our borders.”*

These are powerful words. They are words of our national anthem. I agree with this composition. If there was a time this country needed prayers, it is now. We need to forget about ourselves, our religious affiliation and make a passionate appeal to our God. Pray that He will have mercy upon us. Anybody who cares, can tell that our country seems to be going down the ladder day after day be it politically, economically or otherwise. A few months ago, we were struggling with the so called tribal clashes. This left many dead and many more were left homeless. Thank God that the situation was contained, though many people are still homeless to date. As though that was not enough trouble, in the past few weeks we have been into an acute shortage of the most essential commodities, petroleum and maize. Needless to say, maize is a staple food in this land.

This land will know abundance, justice will prevail because the faithful judge – Jesus is on the throne. For several decades, it has pleased God to preserve Kenya right in the midst of turmoil. We know neighboring nations that are ever warring. Some nations know bloodshed, year come, year go. Yet God has preserved our cause. Not because we are better than them. What we know is that God has accorded this nation a special slot in His grand purpose. Yes! It may sound fanatical but I believe it. It may sound quite illogical, owing to the current state of suspense and uncertainty. But, far be it from us, that we be intimidated by what we see in the natural. Something out of the ordinary is in the making – in the spiritual realm.

But, let us be balanced here. If we were to judge things from a natural view point, then there could be every reason to worry. But for the saints, we cannot afford to throw our hands and give up like people without hope. We may not be parliamentarians. We may not be holding influential positions in leadership slots but, we are the ambassadors of Christ. When God wants to speak to the world, He does it through us. There is something we can do. If you believe and I believe and we together pray, great things will happen in this land.

Saints, let us now venture by faith and accomplish in the spiritual what we cannot achieve in the physical – and YES WE CAN!

BISHOP MBATIA CONSECRATED



Philip Mbatia was ordained and consecrated as the Bishop of Regions Beyond Ministry, a Para-church Christian organization. The ceremony was conducted at the RBM Retreat Centre and presided over by Bible Way Restoration Ministries head, Bishop A. Kinogah assisted by other Bishops. The ordination was the culmination of a long gracious journey that begun many years ago. In his acceptance speech, the Bishop said, “This is recognition of what God is doing in my life through my life and by my life and what He intends to do in my life and ministry that will affect the nations of the world.”

As a teacher in training at KTTC, and after graduation Philip traversed this country with the Gospel. The world was open for the gospel, the unconverted were waiting for a preacher, Philip was going to be the preacher.

In 1981 at an RBM retreat held at Pan Africa Christian College Philip was appointed chairman of the highest organizing body of RBM - the Steering Committee which later became the Executive Board. He still plays the same role as the National Director.

Because of the ever increasing demands of ministry and the changing face of missions he joined Pan Africa Christian College where he studied Bible and Theology. He is constantly studying as he continues to teach at RBM Bible College where he is the Principal. Allow me to give you in a nutshell the work and ministry experience of Philip:

Ministry Profile

- ☞ **December 1990 to date:** Teaching Bible & Theology; RBM Bible College, where he is the Principal.
- ☞ **November 2005** Main speaker, Pastors & Leaders conference, Johannesburg, South Africa.
- ☞ **August 2004** International Mission Association Conference, Dar es Salaam, TZ
- ☞ **August 2004** participated in the International Missions Association in Dar es salaam, TZ
- ☞ **November 2004** Main speaker, Pastors & Leaders conference, Johannesburg, South Africa
- ☞ **August 2000** Main Speaker, Leaders Conference, Dar es salaam, Tanzania.
- ☞ **January – March 2002:** Teaching Bible & Evangelism; Rosedale Bible College, OH, USA
- ☞ **December – February 1995:** Teaching Bible & Cross-cultural communication; Rosedale Bible College, OH, USA
- ☞ **August 1997** - Main speaker, Pastors & Leaders Conference, Kigoma, Tanzania
- ☞ **December – February 1993** Teaching Bible & Cross-cultural communication; Rosedale Bible College, OH, USA
- ☞ **April 1995** - Speaker at Missions Conference, Hallatan Market Habourough, UK
- ☞ **February 1993** - Speaker at an International Missions Conference, Columbus, Ohio, USA
- ☞ **July 1986:** Participated in International Conference for Itinerant Evangelists, Amsterdam, Netherlands

The list would be a long one if we were to add his speaking engagements in churches, Colleges, universities, high schools, conferences and his church planting activities. We all attest to the fact that he has led this ministry well. Look at the progress made at the centre under his leadership – this speaks of purpose, vision, persistence, motivation and above all integrity.



RBM MERU BRANCH

Our Last part of the year was full of activities for our Meru office. The Counseling Seminars by Dr. Rev. Simon Nderitu and Bishop Philip Mbatia were successful.

The Meru team was engaged in various Conferences during the December holidays.

Among them: -

- ☞ The Methodist Youth Conference at Ruiga.
- ☞ P.C.E.A. Youth Conference at Chogoria.
- ☞ K.S.C.F. Conference at Gikumene and Maua.
- ☞ Missions to various Churches and Schools.

The Meru Alumni will be holding a meeting on 25th February 2009.

For more information, please get in touch with our Coordinator: Elias Kirimi on 0733-545138.

We Appreciate you

We Appreciate your contribution to this work. To all our partners, we say a big thank you for your support throughout last year. We do appreciate every form of support from you, our dear partners. Some financial and others in kind.

Your courtesy visits to our office to give us a moral support; a visit to the centre for prayer or personal retreat or any form of encouragement is very welcome. Every financial donation is receipted and a "thank you" note given.

Your contributions enable us to minister to Christian students in many High schools, Universities and Colleges in Kenya, through trainings, speaking engagements, one-to-one discipleship and organizing leadership conferences.

We are currently concentrating our efforts on empowering the Teens spiritually. We are hosting a Teens Conference every year. It is our passionate appeal to all our partners to Adopt the "Youth Aflame Conference" by sponsoring it every year.

Let us join hands and transform this nation through mentoring students. They will graduate to actualize the vision of Regions Beyond Ministry as they take positions in this country and change its future for God. Your financial support makes a difference when pooled with that of other caring people.

**Join us for Prayers on
Tuesdays, 5.30p.m.-6.30p.m**

MISSION HORIZONS

Missions are the heartbeat of this ministry and we believe the heartbeat of God. In obedience to Jesus' command of Matt.28:19, "Go Ye..."

We undertook a number of missions to various schools, Colleges and Churches. Among them, Njoro High School in Nakuru, Thika Technical, Kamahuha Girls, Murang'a High School, Medical School (KMTTC), Kambui Girls, Kihumbui-ini Secondary, Ichagaki Secondary, Githunguri Girls, St. Michael's Girls, Chania Boys, St. Luke ACK Thika, PCEA Church, Maua, Meru and many more churches in this nation.

By the grace of God. RBM in partnership with Breakthrough International Church, Nairobi, hosted a very successful Teens Conference. About seventy (70) young people attended. The climax of this camp saw about seven young people surrender to Christ. What more shall we say? Space fails me to mention Couple's Seminars, Church Retreats facilitated by our missionaries.

Our missionaries in the USA, Rev. Boniface and Dorcas have very encouraging report of God's doing in the mission field. We are believing God that the year 2009 will be better.

We want to be more pro-active, and move to the Regions Beyond. We request you to partner with us both in your prayers as well as financial support. For the upcoming events, please see a partial list.

OUR MISSIONS



JANUARY

- 14th Thika Technical - Bible Study
- 21st Thika Technical - Bible Study
- 28th Thika Technical - Bible Study

FEBRUARY

- 8th Mbugiti Sec. Sunday Service
- 6th-8th Gituru Sec. - Challenge Weekend
- 15th Mutira A.C.K.
- 15th Full Gospel Church - Sunday Service
- 15th Karima Girls - Rally
- 22nd Gakarara Sec. - Rally
- 27th-1st Njoro Boys - Challenge Wkend
- 27th - 1st Leaders Retreat
- 25th-1st Maua Gospel Celebration Church eminars

MARCH

- 1-6th Miracle Valley Seminars
- 6th couples Retreat
- 8th AIC Thika Service
- 22nd Mbugiti Sec. Service
- 21st Leaders Seminars
- 22nd Murang'a High School - Service

RBM RETREAT CENTRE

*An excellent facility in a serene
and quiet environment.*

- ⊕ For prayer,
- ⊕ Conferences
- ⊕ Camps
- ⊕ Personal and Group Retreats

Make your reservations now



tank was also constructed for these toilets.

◆ Perimeter Wall

There is a perimeter wall from the main gate –all the way to the single –rooms. This wall has improved on the privacy of the centre. Those using the hall can enjoy their meetings without external interference. The wall has given the centre a sense of security.

◆ Water Tanks

Two more tanks were bought. This was in an effort of improving on the water system at the centre. A smaller tank was also installed to improve the water system in the men's toilets.

◆ Blankets

In response to your suggestions, the centre has fifty (50) new, large and warmer blankets. We need more blankets, these are all we could manage. With the availability of funds, we will buy more.

Many small things that required funds were done. However, many more that need be done have not been done due to lack of funds.

18 GRADUATE



There was pomp and color at the RBM Bible College graduation ceremony held on the twentieth December 2008 at the Retreat Centre. Eleven students graduated with the Bachelors of Arts Degree in Bible and Theology while seven students graduated with a Diploma in General Biblical Studies. Speaking during the graduation, the Guest Speaker Dr. Sammy Gitari reminded the graduates to actualize their vision. He retaliated that having a vision is not enough. The plan to capture that vision is of necessity. Taking his sermon from 2 Kings 7, the four men with leprosy did not just have a vision. Rather, they went ahead to put that vision into practice towards their desired goal. The graduates were reminded to put into good use all what they have learned otherwise the certificates would merely be papers.

Regions Beyond Ministry offers both the Undergraduate & Diploma programs.

The undergraduate program intake is in progress.

If you want to study with us, apply now.

This is a Great Opportunity; do not let it go.

LOOK WHAT THE LORD HAS DONE

Reflecting back into last year, we have a lot to Thank God for. Besides, our usual programs and Bible trainings, the Lord has enabled us to accomplish a few things, especially at the retreat centre. To mention a few:

◆ Men's Toilets

By the grace of God, a new modern wash-room facility for men has been constructed. This facility houses six toilets- cum bathrooms and a urinal area. A septic

RBM BIBLE COLLEGE

April 2009 Diploma Program

Venue: RBM Retreat Centre

Dates: 5th-19th April 2009

Some Courses to be offered.

- | | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| ▲ Book of Hebrews | ▲ Homiletics |
| ▲ English | ▲ Soteriology |
| ▲ World Missions | ▲ Gospel of John |
| ▲ Bible Survey | ▲ Youth Ministry |