# GOSPEL FIRE NEWS











Trusting God at every step: Josh's pilot training



Welcoming the Leutzsch family - God's ways are higher than ours

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# Mission up close: God's work becomes tangible for the YWAM team from India

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#### Dear friends,

We are living in extraordinary times! Never before has a movement grown with such momentum to win people for Christ – comparable only to the days of our Lord Jesus Christ and the Apostle Paul. The growth over the last 30 years has been astonishing! While in the global North the impact may seem less visible, in the global South unimaginable things are happening daily:

Thousands are giving their lives to Jesus, being baptised, and new churches are springing up everywhere. We are witnessing multiplication like never before – yet at the same time persecution and opposition are also on the rise. The enemy does not sleep and seeks to discredit the work through mockery and hatred.

But God is building His Church! All over the world people are being reached with the life-changing message of the Gospel. Different ministries are active in spreading the light of Christ. Here in Eldoret, Kenya, we have the privilege of walking alongside many young people, equipping them to share the Gospel. This year alone, countless young internationals have gone out – into schools, markets, pedestrian streets – through drama, testimonies and personal conversations. Many even joined our team at recent evangelistic campaigns.

Not long ago we hosted a large gospel festival in our city together with SOS Adventure (Johannes Amritzer) – and everyone took part! Thousands responded to the call of salvation and many experienced healing. Our city was wonderfully impacted and the local churches worked together in unity. What truly matters is not just the immediate excitement, but the lasting transformation of lives.

Alongside the big conferences and churches seating over 1,000, God is also focusing on the so-called "unreached and unengaged" regions. Beyond the loud music and huge sound systems,

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God pours out His blessing!

Young and old alike - all of Kalokol came to

the great gospel outreach.



A cloud of dust marked the joy as everyone joined in praise



Even under the blazing sun, countless children turned up for the programme

wo months before the main outreach event we sent a team ahead to visit and mobilise the local churches and plan everything together with them. To our surprise we discovered that the town had shrunk significantly as the lake's water level had risen dramatically. Many fishermen had left because fish stocks had fallen sharply. But this did not hold us back - on the contrary: the expectation of what God would do was great.

Accommodation, however, proved a real challenge. For our 30-strong team there were hardly any places to stay. When we tried to book the only guesthouse, the owner - who had seemed so friendly at first - suddenly tripled the price. Was it the sight of so many foreign visitors that sparked such sudden greed? We do not know. But we had to change plans immediately, packed up everything and in the middle of the night drove an hour back to find an alternative place to stay. For us it was a clear sign: God had something great prepared for Kalokol.

The next morning, after a few phone calls, a wonderful door opened. A nearby Catholic station, whose sisters had just moved out, welcomed us kindly. The Catholic priest received us warmly. Some of out German visitors had to roll up thier sleves to clean and declogg the toilets and

drains, and some basic plumbing and once we had water organised for the large tank, the place soon became a real home for us.

Because of the intense heat and the limited number of rooms, most of us slept in tents. Our cook was able to use the so-called kitchen to prepare us good African meals. We thanked God that our needs were taken care of.

The outreach drew people from far and near. Each evening more arrived - hungry for God's Word. We were especially touched to see how many children gathered for the kids' programme in the blazing afternoon heat. Such a spirit of joy was poured out that people danced before the living God,



Even out on the streets, we were singing with the children. A total of 41 people were baptised in Lake Turkana!





Fervent prayer - God is almighty and does great things.

#### Foreword continued

untouched people groups in remote and often neglected areas are being reached with simple, biblical discipleship methods. A quiet, supernatural revival is taking place - a firework of the Holy Spirit, using ordinary people to do extraordinary things - with signs, wonders and healings.

In 2018 the Lord led us to begin work in Eastern Equatoria, South Sudan, together with Kenyan partners. Unlike the big gospel events, this was about intentionally reaching individuals in unreached communities and making them disciples. Mark and Lorna Keter, Julius and Pasquilla Magu, and Mary Nachii were the first to begin, with the goal of planting 100 churches in five years. The work has grown steadily, with every disciple of Jesus making

three to five more. We even built a small station in Naliel. Today the Toposa have been reached, and the movement has spread into the still-unreached areas of the Nuba Mountains, into Chad, the Rhino refugee camp in Uganda, and even further north. In the near future disciples of Jesus will be moving into countries such as Libya.

Disciples of Jesus can flourish even underground – only the Lord of the harvest knows where His servants are at work across the world. It is a great joy to be part of this divine work!

Warm greetings to you all, Peter Franz



The Word of God is sharper than a double-edged sword!



The children delighted in the visitors from other nations

and even those standing at the edge were drawn in. A wonderful atmosphere of freedom, love and God's presence could be felt.

The size of the crowd amazed us. It seemed as if the whole town had gathered in the field, for not a single person could be seen back in the village. God moved powerfully – through signs, healings and restoration.

# Testimonies of God's Work - Healing and New Beginnings

During the outreach in Kalokol we witnessed God working visibly:

Mama Alice suffered with severe lung pain

and shortness of breath. After prayer she could breathe freely again and felt strengthened.

Elijah was led to the meeting as if by an unseen hand. On the final night he gave his life to Jesus, saying: "I feel so different – so free. I have found deep peace."

Mama Margaret had endured stomach ulcers for 10 years. Since the outreach she has been pain-free and no longer needs medication.

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Mama Paulina had a greatly enlarged thyroid and always wore a scarf to hide it. Now it has gone down – she can swallow normally again. Ten years ago she was healed once before by God – and now once more!

#### Set Free by God's Power – the testimony of a young man

At one of our recent outreaches, a young man came forward and shared his remarkable story. After swimming in the lake one afternoon, he returned to find 1,500 shillings and a ring lying next to his clothes. Without thinking much of it, he took both items home. But from that very day, his life changed dramatically. He began to experience deep confusion and strange oppression, describing it as if an invisible hand were "choking" him. At times he would lose control, only to suddenly find himself in places without knowing how he got there. Even more troubling, the ring seemed to have a hold on him—it could not be removed, no matter how hard he tried. What first appeared to be a simple discovery quickly became a source of torment.

During the outreach, our team prayed with him and, with a pair of pliers, the ring was finally cut off his finger. In that very moment he felt a heavy burden lift. Peace came over him, and he knew something had changed.

Just two days later, he returned to one of our workers with a bright smile. His testimony was simple yet powerful: "I feel light. I can sleep well again and think clearly. Now I know: God loves me."



YWAM and SIM team on mission together

## Outreach highlights - as told by the Leutzsch family

The Gospel Celebration in Kalokol is now a few days behind us, yet we still look back with deep gratitude on our very first outreach as a family. The large team (GFI, YWAM and others) complemented one another so well. Everyone played their part in ensuring that the many events throughout the week led people to Jesus. To witness healings and miracles first-hand – that was a true highlight! One of our Ugandan guest speakers prophesied over the depleted waters of Lake Turkana that a new abundance of fish would come, and he called the fishermen to take up their work again. It was a real act of faith!

We hope and pray that the outreach in Kalokol has lit a fire in the region – one that will not die out, but spread to many more people in the surrounding semi-desert villages, so that the Christians there may continue to be a living witness for our Lord.



Freedom at last - after the ring came off

# Mission close-up: seeing God at work Serving together with the Indian YWAM team in Kenya





The YWAM team on mission in the Turkana region

Street outreach in the slums of Eldoret

#### **Report from Melina**

From April to June we had the joy of welcoming a YWAM team from New Delhi to Eldoret. Twelve young people, six weeks full of energy, cultural diversity and passionate service for Jesus!

We visited slums, schools, churches, police stations and a children's rescue centre. Through preaching, singing, dancing – and simply by sharing our lives – we were able to bring the Good News of Jesus to many. Especially those struggling with alcohol and drugs found new strength – some even returned to Christ.

In the final two weeks we travelled north to Turkana – to the Kakuma refugee camp and to Kalokol. There we showed the Jesus Film, shared testimonies and preached wherever people gathered. One of the most moving moments was meeting 20 Afghan men in the refugee camp. Some quietly confessed faith in Jesus, fearful of persecution – their courage touched us deeply.

#### Alex (musician and missionary) from the team:

"With YWAM I had the privilege of serving in Langas, Kenya's second largest slum. We visited orphanages, schools, rescue centres and street families – and even the women's prison opened its doors to us. Many found Christ. God's grace flowed freely – it was an unforgettable time."

#### Team leader from India:

"We returned home changed – thankful for God's work and the unity with our Kenyan brothers and sisters. The encounter with the Afghan men in the refugee camp was especially powerful – no heart is beyond the reach of God's love."

#### Margaret (director of a children's rescue centre):

"The team deeply touched our children – through prayer, God's Word and songs. Some invited Jesus into their lives. Our whole centre experienced spiritual renewal."



During the outreach in Turkana, people came forward for prayer



Known by God since childhood



The love of Jesus inspires and unites!



Everyone needs a touch from God

From mountain top to supermarket: Trusting God in every step

The Rex family in Florida for Josh's pilot training

ehovah Jireh — Once again we want to testify that God is our Provider! For years He has faithfully provided for our grandparents, who gave their lives to building churches and reaching distant people for Christ. He also strengthened our parents in their worldwide mission work — year after year, through every challenge, He proved Himself faithful.

For our own family it has been no different. Each year brings new challenges that call for fresh faith and daily trust in the Lord. And yet, time and again, He shows His goodness and provision in ways that never cease to amaze us. Looking back, we can only say with confidence: the same God who was faithful yesterday continues to be faithful today. His care does not run dry.

One recent miracle we'd love to share — a story we pray will encourage you in your own walk with the Lord — is about our next step as a family in the area of aviation ministry.

As many of you know, years ago Peter's uncle Gottlieb sold his farm to enable his brother Martin (Peter's father) to purchase an aircraft and gain his pilot's licence — a powerful tool for reaching remote people with the Gospel, discipleship and humanitarian help. Over the years both Martin and Peter have used that plane to serve God's Kingdom.

Now the controls are being passed on to me, Josh. We felt God's clear call for me to begin my pilot training in order to continue this ministry. At first the costs and logistics seemed overwhelming: training, travel and living expenses were estimated at over \$45,000 — far more than we could imagine. We prayed, trusted God, and once again He showed that He is able. It has been humbling to realise that when God calls, He also equips, and no obstacle is too large for Him to move out of the way.

While on mission in northern Kenya, a visiting friend of our family heard about our plans and offered us free accommodation in Florida, where they own a holiday home — an incredible gift! It turned out to be much more than that. They met us at the airport, drove us hours to their house, provided two vehicles (one for Jessie and the children, and one for me to travel to the school), and gave us a fully equipped home with a swimming pool — a delight for the kids in the Florida heat! During this time our twins and Jireh even learnt to swim.

Soon after, a large donation came in, covering the cost of flights, school fees and many other major expenses. Remarkably, none of these funds ever passed through our hands — every payment went directly to the airline or the flight school. But then came our first shopping trip. Jessie and I were shocked at the prices for eggs, milk and bread. For a moment we froze — how could we afford this? Did we make a mistake?

It may sound almost funny now, but in that moment doubt crept in. We had just heard a sermon about Elijah under the broom tree, wrestling with doubts and questions for God, even after seeing His mighty power on Mount Carmel — and there we were, feeling the same way.

But of course: if we could trust God for flights, school and accommodation, then surely also for bread and milk! And here we are, two and a half months later — still here, still provided for, still amazed at God's care! Every day we are learning anew that God delights in caring for His children, not just in the big things but in



the smallest details of daily life.

During this time Jessie has been homeschooling the children. Now we are almost finished and preparing to travel to the UK, where my brother's wedding is taking place.

Thank you so much for all your prayers. Truly, God is the Provider for us all!

lessie and losh Rex with the kids

### **Prayer Requests**

Thank you so much for your prayers!

#### Please pray for our family:

Jessie is currently homeschooling the children – a joy, but also a challenge, especially while balancing all the other responsibilities. Later this year, when we travel to Germany, Valour – and possibly Kayda and Hezekiah too – will attend a German school for a time. Please pray that they adapt well to the new language and environment.

#### Please keep praying with us for:

- God's grace and focus to complete as much of the pilot training as possible.
- Open doors and resources to finish everything in good time
- Strength and wisdom to use the aircraft effectively and safely for God's Kingdom
- The children, as they adjust to homeschooling now and later attend school in Germany
- God's continued provision for our family and ministry

We continue to trust in Jehovah Jireh — the Lord will provide! Can we rely on Him? Absolutely — every single day afresh! With love and blessing — Josh, Jessie & the children

#### In Memory of Hellen Kuria

With heavy hearts we share that our long-standing colleague and dear friend, Hellen Kuria, went home to be with her Lord on 30 June.

Since 2005 Hellen had been a vital part of our team in Eldoret. With great dedication she oversaw many administrative processes – often working quietly in the background, yet always indispensable. Many of you knew her personally or through our reports.

We grieve her passing, yet we thank God for her life and service. She has left behind a deep and lasting legacy.

Please keep her family in your prayers.



#### God's ways are higher than our ways

After Hellen's passing we faced major restructuring. Yet God's timing is perfect: the Leutzsch family from Uganda was sent to us at just the right moment. Jonathan is gifted in administration and is now giving valuable support.

The Leutzsch family are Jonathan and Theresa with their three sons, Noah, Philipp and Samuel. For the past three years they have served in a larger ministry in Uganda before joining us. For now, they plan to work with us for about a year. They are excited to support Peter & Becki and the whole GFI team. At the great outreach in Kalokol they were already involved – see report on page 3.



The Leutzsch Family

#### **Good News from the Truck**

The wheels keep turning! Our new lorry is now in production and is expected to be shipped in September. We are so excited for its arrival!

Our old lorry is also being fitted with a new gearbox and will continue to be used for special assignments.

Thank you for your faithful support in prayer and finances - you are the ones who make this mobile ministry possible!

# **Upcoming Dates**

Kenya & South Sudan

5-16 September: Service in Mission, Kenya

10-14 September: Evangelism in northern Kenya, Turkana region

Germany: Ministry - Peter & Becki 5 Oct: Filder Good News, Bernhausen

12 Oct: Freie Christengemeinde, **Bramsche** 

26 Oct: VINEA Church, Esslingen

23 Nov: Church of God, Allmersbach 30 Nov: God in Life, Neckar-Enz

16 Nov: FCG, Neuenkirchen

LOOKING **FORWARD TO SEEING** 7 Dec: Freie Christliche Geme YOU!

7wickau

14 Dec: Christus Gemeinde, Cloppen-

21 Dec: VIA, Emmingen 28 Dec: VIA, Horb

4 Jan 2026: VIA, Böblingen 11 Jan 2026: VIA, Sachsenheim

The Rex Family in Germany: From September until early January we will be based in Freudenstadt/Ursental. If you would like to meet us: joshua.rex@gfi-ministries.org

#### **GOSPEL FIRE INTERNATIONAL**



Deutschland Gospel Fire International e.V, Rathausplatz 2, 70794 Filderstadt

(Sielmingen) Tel: +49 (0)173 3053299 germany@gfi-ministries.org



Schweiz - Verein GFI Schweiz, 3465 Dürrenroth BE Tel. +41 (0)62 964 11 01 switzerland@gfi-ministries.org



U.K - Gospel Fire International, Exeter, EX2 7DW Tel: +44 (0) 7535883479, info@gfi-ministries.org



Kenya - Gospel Fire International, P.O. Box 759, 30100 Eldoret, Tel: +254 (0) 20-2410900, info@gfi-ministries.org



Australia - GFI Australia, c/o Rod Winter, 5 Zephyr CourtSurrey Downs, South Australia 5126 Tel: +61 (0) 8 825 17112, australia@gfi-ministries.org



USA - CITA Ministries, P.O.Box 953696, Lake Mary Florida 32795 www.citalife.com



Canada - ICMS Box 24 Stn. A Abbotsford, BC V2T 6Z4 canada.gfi-ministries.org

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