

To international president Dr. Princess Rogers Pegues, Senior Bishop Lawrence L. Reddick III, to patron Bishop James B. Walker, to my Bishop Charles James King Jr., who is also the Chairman of the college of Bishops, to host Bishop Henry M Williamson and First Lady Dr. Doris Williamson, to college of Bishops, their wives and widows, council officers, immediate past president, Dr. Elnora P. Hamb, past president Dr. Judith E Grant, President Emeritus, Dr. Sylvia M. Faulk, Executive Board Members, General Officers, Judicial council, connectional officers, Clergy, missionaries, Laity and guests.

I greet you in the name of our Lord and savior, Jesus Christ. I thank God for preserving our lives and allowing us to see this New Year 2018. We thank God for what he has already done and what He has purposed to do in our lives. I give thanks to God for allowing me to serve His children in the eleventh Episcopal district under the able leadership of Bishop Charles James King Jr; it's such a privilege and an honor.

This last year has been a very tough year for us as missionaries in Kenya given the economic crisis our county has been experiencing, due to the bad political status. But we are grateful thus far the Lord has brought us, and God has to be served in good and bad times, in season and out of season Even as the Holy scriptures say (2 Timothy 4:2).

We have 3 income generating projects in Kenya at the moment, namely

1. The bead work Project
2. The tailoring project
3. The chicken rarering project.

These three projects have enabled us to feed the children in the 2 schools to some extent. The rest of the children's needs have been contributed to by well wishers. In December last year we had a praise and worship extravaganza to raise funds for paying school fees for our children joining high schools, Government schools in Kenya both primary and secondary education pay minimal fees, but they cannot accommodate all students, they only select from the students who have done extremely well to take the available places in government schools that's why some of the students in our schools could not get chances there. After the worship extravaganza a pastor who is also a well wisher offered to sponsor one of the students who performed well and could not get placement in a government school, she is now in school and she will be sponsored by this pastor to university level. We give God all glory.

Apart from feeding the children, the proceeds from these 3 projects have been a blessing to some of our missionaries by subsidizing their budgets at home.

All the attires I have been wearing at this board meeting have been custom made by our missionaries in the tailoring project. And am sure they are smart.

By the special grace of God we have another project in Siaya County. This project is run by our missionaries in Siaya county- Kenya, which is in the rural area in Nyanza District, under the leadership of Presiding Elder Zacheus Otieno Owang and his wife Mrs. Florence Amani Otieno, who is a missionary and my assistant in that region. This is a nonprofit making project. It is the water purifying project. This

region has a very high percentage of water borne diseases and this project has gone a long way in helping the children, men and women of that area hence improving their health conditions.

At a personal level and by the grace of God, I have paid school fees for several students in university and high schools. This I have done for some years now.

AGENDA FOR WOMEN MISSIONARY COUNCIL 2018

Plans are underway to launch women missionary council in Mombasa County, at the coast of Kenya under the leadership of Presiding Elder. Bernard Khatechi and also launch in Naivasha County in Rift Valley under the leadership of Presiding Elder Peter Lobenyo.

The women I work with have many challenges i.e., poverty, little education, inadequate life skills and if given training opportunities, I believe they'll be strong and enabled economically, which will improve their positions in the family and society because they will start to earn money. These words ring just as true in Rwanda, Kenya, Tanzania, DR Congo and Burundi. From the little research I have carried out our missionaries from these countries agree on one thing, the value of an improved income and independent decision making, thus experiencing a new found sense of freedom.

Our ultimate goal in Kenya region is:-

- a) To ensure our sons and daughters, get a good and quality education.
- b) The less fortunate in society i.e. the disabled and children with special needs around us are assisted.
- c) The orphaned girl child has sufficient sanitary towels to ensure they don't miss school.
- d) To protect the girl child from old traditions of FGM (female genital Mutilation) and early marriages.

The women missionary council in the United States is a true and living testimony of what united women can be able to achieve, when they are empowered, because over the years they have spent millions of dollars in investing in educating children and young adults, and being a blessing to needy people through their giving. It is my earnest prayer that our missionary society in Africa region will be able to do as much for our children and youth.

Thank you and May God bless Women Missionary Council.

Mrs. Elizabeth Ogola Omondi
Missionary President
Eleventh Episcopal district (CME)
Kenya region.