

Paul & Mary Birt  
Founding Directors

Melody Lavin  
International Director

P. O. Box 219  
Fairview, PA 16415

P. O. Box 393, 2800 Keele St.  
Toronto, Ontario M3M 2G0

www.vlmi.org

### This issue

Word for the World 1

Christmas for the boys 1

Provincial Prize 2

Special Need 2

### What's happening:

- Check out the updated VLMI website: vlmi.org
- Email Melody at vlmi@vlmi.org if you'd like your newsletter via email
- You can surprise Paul and Mary with a Christmas email. All emails will be *forwarded* to the Birts at Christmas. Use: Christmas@vlmi.org

## VLMI Word for the World Continues in Kenya

For four years we have prayed for a Bible Training Centre in Nairobi, Kenya that would reach out to the continent of Africa. Today as I write to you, I am sitting at my desk in a beautiful office for the four of us who are leadership in the new school called **Africa Leadership Bible Institute**.

Our work in Nairobi is to develop the new school, train the teachers, and see that the school has a great start and looks toward a fine future.

Bishop Allan Kiuna, wants an international school drawing students from all over Africa.

The school started on September 5. Truly our prayers have been answered. This is part of our destiny for which God has been preparing us.

The Lord had placed a desire in the heart of Bishop Allan to develop a Bible

School that would influence all of Africa before the Lord spoke to him about starting a church. It is exciting to be doing the assignment that God has given us for a school for Africa. The Lord looks at the continent as one nation as it used to be with just tribes of people.

Other bishops that we have tried to work with in Nairobi wanted the school only for their churches. They did not have the vision for the continent.

Charlie and Irene Mkangi, a young couple, are working with us, and when we return to the States they will be in charge of the school.

What an exciting time. The 60 Bible school students are appreciative of the school. We are so happy to be serving God in this way. ◀

## Christmas is Coming for the Boys in Kenya

The boys at the VLM Home for Children in Bungoma, Kenya eagerly look forward to Christmas when they receive new shoes and clothes, other items, and a special Christmas dinner.

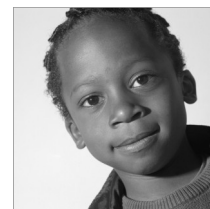
Would you like to be a part of making their Christmas special?

It has been a difficult year for the country of Kenya, which has suffered from flooding, drought and famine. The boys have experienced some hardships due to the doubling in price of some

essential foods. There also is rationing of sugar and a few other items. ▶

We would like to make Christmas special for them. If you would like to be involved, please complete the tear-away section on the other side of this page.

Thank you in advance for blessing the boys. ◀



# Farming Club Takes a Provincial Prize

— Chris Khaemba

The VLM primary school has a *Farming Club* that is making a name for itself. The club has been in competition with other schools, groups, and institutions.

All participants are assessed on their farming, food preservation, adding of food value in such items as arrow root, bananas, potatoes, soy beans, etc.

Our club won first place in the Bungoma District. Then the provincial assessment team awarded them first place in the Western Province. (There are 8 provinces in Kenya.)

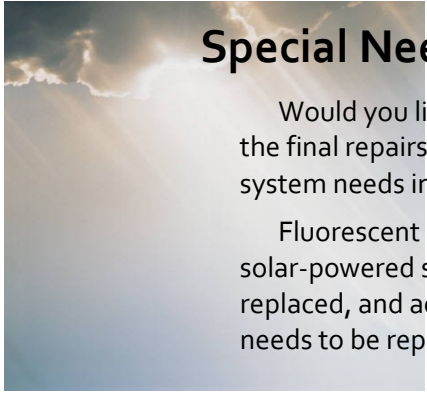
The province and district leaders have been assisting our club in preparing for a visit from the national assessment team. If our club wins the national award, then the club will be invited to the Nairobi Farm Show to exhibit what they have grown.

When the national assessment team visits our primary school, not only will they be inspecting the work of the club, but they also will be interviewing the students at the school. The national assessment team wants to use that day as a field day where many people of the area,

neighboring schools, and groups can attend and learn from our club.

We believe that your prayers have enabled us to win to this point, and will support us as we move forward.

Eight of our orphan boys are members of the school *Farming Club*. They are: Wisely, Moses, Robert, Morphis, Emmanuel A., Rodgers Ngoni, Bravin, and Kelvin. ◀



## Special Need

Would you like to assist us with the final repairs that our solar power system needs in Bungoma, Kenya?

Fluorescent lights for our 12-volt solar-powered system need to be replaced, and additional equipment needs to be replaced or refurbished.

The solar batteries have been purchased thanks to a generous donation.

The total cost to complete the project is \$2,700. Every gift is greatly appreciated. ◀



### Contact Card

Please use my contribution toward the solar power project. My gift is \$\_\_\_\_\_.

I would like to give a gift toward Christmas for the boys at the Home. My gift is \$\_\_\_\_\_.

Please use my contribution of \$\_\_\_\_\_ as needed.

My name \_\_\_\_\_

My address \_\_\_\_\_

Please cut and send this section to:

VLMI, P. O. Box 219, Fairview, PA 16415 or VLMI, P. O. Box 393, 2800 Keele St., Toronto, Ontario M3M 2Go