# *Randy and Edie Nelson*
# *August 2025*

*Bridges To The Nations*
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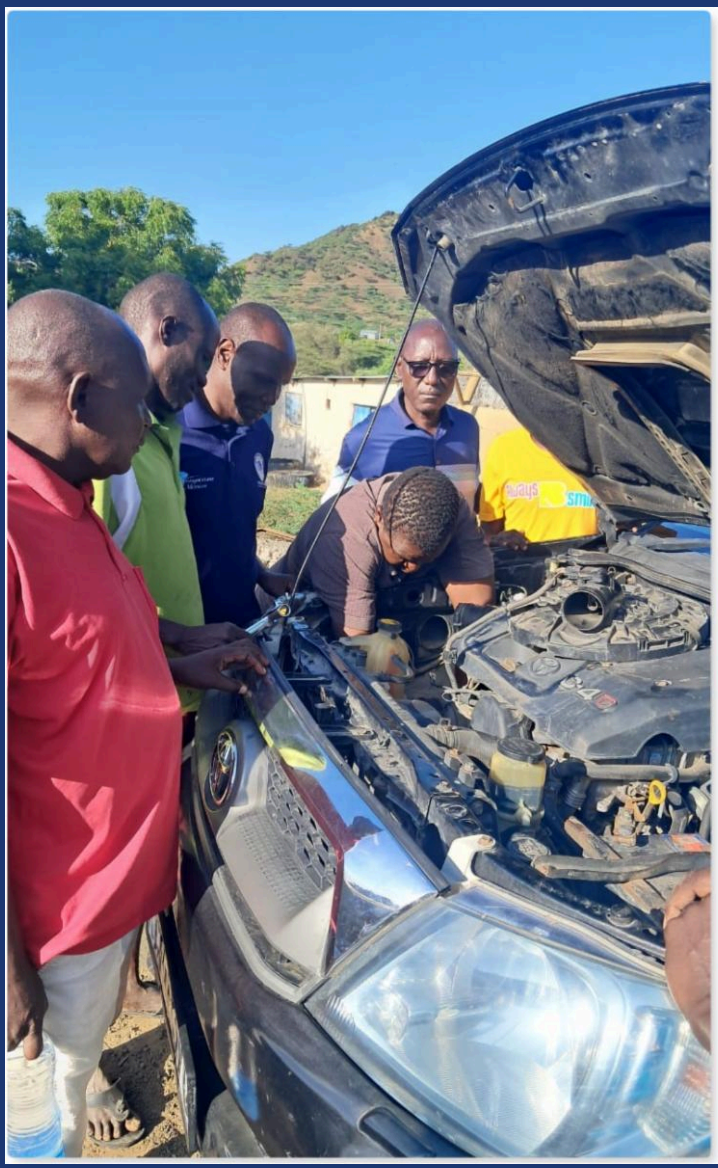
Dear Friends,

Our last newsletter highlighted some of the outreach in Pattaya and the 22 city focus ongoing in Thailand, our home base. We still travel back to Turkana, Kenya. In this newsletter, we wanted to focus on the photos and reports of the Turkana missionaries from the Frontier Mission Center in Lodwar. In June and August the missions team travelled into unreached areas on the Sudan and Ethiopia borders of Turkana. They've been meeting and building relationships with the Nyangatom tribe villages in the Omo delta of Ethiopia, and the villages of the Taposa tribe on the Sudan border. These are remote areas with poor roads, but the Nyangatom and Taposa tribes speak the same language as the Turkana, and the areas can be reached with a 4 wd vehicle. We've included a map below to give you some sense of these missionary journeys being taken by the Turkana Mission team.

In his report, Pastor Boniface described their eventful trip to Ethiopia, which began with a three day delay in the town of Lokitaung, north Turkana. In this far northern town, the alternator of the truck went out.  A motorbike “taxi” of sorts was commissioned to drive back to Lodwar town to bring a new part. It took two round trips on the motorbike-- each one-way trip was 8 hours long to bring the correct part. However, during the three-day delay, the team met with some discouraged pastors and had times of prayer and encouragement. They also showed the Jesus Film over two days and felt they built relationships,. They also sensed that the town could be a key launching point for trips further north. The delay had turned into a divine appointment.



Nyangatom:

In Boniface's words " The 3 days in Lokitaung assisted us to meet a few pastors who had decried that the town needed revival, and rededication to God. They requested us to plan for a joint conference meeting with their church community so as to conduct prayers for the town because it is alleged that the town was under a curse inherited from generations that passed on. When one gets a job, he/she invests in other parts of the county particularly, leaving Lokitaung undeveloped and poor." Finally, with a repaired vehicle, they continued and reached a Nyang atom village in Ethiopia, and had a meeting with 150 people.

Boniface wrote," Nyangatom people were so receptive to us and the message of the gospel. We spent the night in the village. We were given plenty of milk at night and in the morning. One young man was said to be able to read Turkana Bible. We therefore gave him a Bible. We made friendship with the elders in that village and exchanged contacts with them. They requested us to provide them with water containers.

We then went on to Kangaten village, which had a church, and we met the elders Ekeno and Lomilo of one church, who welcomed us, and later the Pastor Lopeyok joined. They exhibited a desire for partnership and more in-depth training in the word of God."

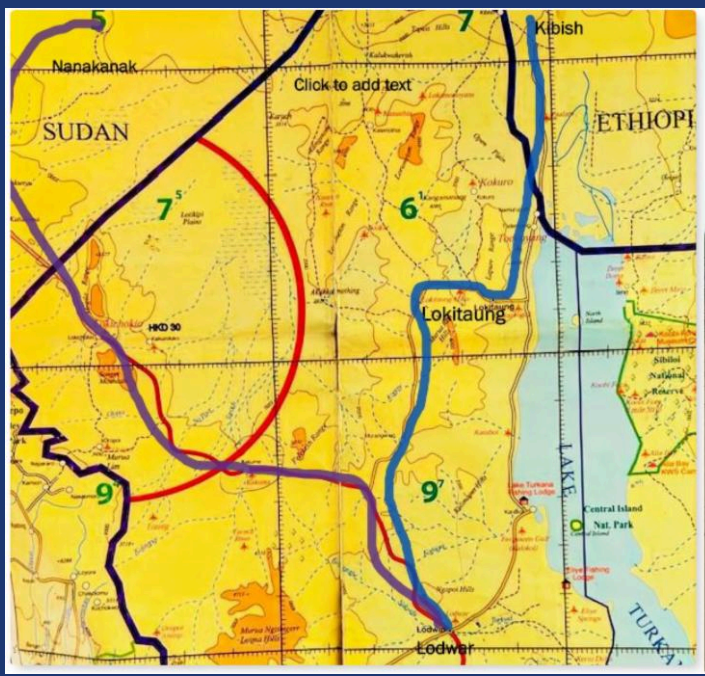
The report continues with a comprehensive overview of the challenges faced and felt needs of the communities. We've included those needs as specific prayer

requests below.

SUDAN: In the August mission trip to the Taposa in Sudan the team visited a village of 1,000 people. Reading the updates, it reminds us of **I Corinthians 16:9** where Paul wrote: "For a great and effective door has opened to me, and *there are* many adversaries."

The August mission trip in the Turkana missionaries words: “ We showed the Jesus film for three nights and held one group discussion and two open air meetings. The Jesus film and open air meetings were well attended by about 400 people each moment.

We observed that the people have a thirst for the word of God and are receptive to it.
Despite the presence of rain, they had only one water pump serving the whole village and children do not go to school. Also, they do not have a health facility. Many people travel 12 kms to seek for treatment mainly on foot or those capable could hire a motorbike.'"



## Prayer Highlights

COMMUNITY NEEDS - Ethiopia - Nyangatom Prayer requests
1.They desired a continuous Bible training and center establishment.

2.Support for agriculture through piping and irrigation from River Omo. Water is scarce in many areas
3.Discipleship training and development
4.Transport is difficult. If possible they could be given motorbikes to be able to access interior areas.
5.They need a health facility. They ask for Prayers so that God can provide for them.

COMMUNITY NEEDS - South Sudan -Taposa Villages Prayer Requests
1.Water
2.Schools
3.Clothing
4.Medical attention

Prayer for Isaac and Christine:
In addition to the Frontier Missions Team, young men like Isaac who grew up in our "home village," are travelling back to their home areas to help the nomadic communities they grew up in. Isaac who works in Nairobi, takes his weekend or holiday time to go back and help the children and elderly and bring teaching and encouragement to the churches there. Please pray for Isaac and Christine and their two children.

Currently we hope to raise funds to help these leaders going as missionaries into Ethiopia and Sudan to groups that speak their language. As outlined by the team there are practical needs - water wells, food relief, medical clinics and spiritual needs- evangelism, encouragement of struggling churches, and discipleship. If you would like to support the Turkana Frontier Mission initiative its possible to donate on our website or by mail below.

Years ago I was going as an agriculturalist to southern Sudan. That door of opportunity closed, but after Edie and I met and were married, we prayed about the next step for us. Through many unusual, God-planned circumstances, we were invited to a village in central Turkana, NW Kenya by the first and only believer in that nomadic area. It was an amazing time and we feel privileged to have been welcomed by the nomadic Turkana to live in their community for 14 years. By God's grace, seven churches grew up there.

Today there are many churches of different denominations and multiple Kenyan ministries in the central town of Lodwar and throughout Turkana district. In 2024, some of the pastors and leaders in Lodwar that I know well, came together with a vision for going to unreached areas north of Turkana, Sudan and Ethiopia.

God is so faithful !

## GIVING

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And we are reminded daily of how faithful God is, and your faithful partnership with us. We continue to see and experience the expansion of the Kingdom of God both in Kenya and in Thailand. There is no one like our God! Isaiah 46:9-10

*Randy and Edie*

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