

Stephen and Angelina Cowan

Location: **Tuum, KENYA**

Mission: **Church-based community development and outreach**



GLOBAL DISCIPLES
Go Deep Go Wide

Dec 25/Jan 26



As we enter the hottest season, the once-fresh green grass turns brown and dry. Cutting and baling hay continues to be encouraged and is increasingly recognised and accepted as an essential food source that helps animals survive the driest months, when the land reaches its most arid state. The teachings shared at the monthly seminars often take on deeper significance when daily life becomes more challenging. With fewer options available, wise decision-making and careful management of existing resources become even more important.

December is a month filled with cultural ceremonies, many of which require animals to be slaughtered or given away. All too soon, January arrives, bringing with it the need to pay school fees—crucial for children to begin or continue their education. The consequences of December's choices are often painfully clear at this time. Even in this semi-arid region, God has provided many valuable resources. With better stewardship of these resources and more local employment opportunities, the church can continue moving toward greater self-sustainability. Local honey is still being sent to a distributor in Nairobi. Harvesters in outlying districts often ask SAA to collect their honey even when immediate payment is not possible. Their trust is humbling.

During 2025, approximately eight tonnes of honey have been sent to Nairobi, with an additional tonne sold locally. A new bull calf has been purchased from a farm near Nairobi and, in time, will help improve the genetic quality of local livestock. The current bull, Kalulu—well-liked by herders across the wider Tuum area—will be moved to another village. The building team has grown more cohesive and skilled in constructing houses from soil-stabilised blocks that they manufacture themselves. The local soil has proven ideal in both texture and composition for this technique.



Many workers in the SAA programme have chosen to invest their earnings in building more permanent homes for their families. The team's reputation continues to grow, and several requests from the wider community are under consideration.



A team of SAA youth has just returned from a four-day outreach to Kalewsa, Namolog, and Seren. The initiative and organisation were very much their own. Samuel, the PCEA evangelist at Seren, and Elvis, one of our Focus staff, joined them. It was a tough few days but, in God's timing, perhaps the beginning of a new fellowship in a very isolated area.

Prayer Points:

- Please pray for preparations for the December youth and children's camps: that all vehicles will be in good working order to safely transport the hundreds of participants, and that the team from Park Road Fellowship Nairobi will have insight and inspiration as they plan and lead the sessions
- Give thanks as well for Purity—a regular supporter from Thika—who will soon arrive to provide one-to-one tuition and Bible study for interested students.