

Stephen and Angelina Cowan

Location: **Tuum, KENYA**

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

March 2026



During the past week there has been unexpected but welcome rain, heralded one morning by an unusual pink light filtering through the dawn mist.



Small green shoots quickly appeared on the ground that had been faithfully watered throughout the hot, arid season.



At the recent monthly seminar, participants helped plant more grass seed in the conservation area known locally as Shamba a Kalulu. People can now see the grass growth from their previous planting and the increased ground cover that remains even during the dry season.

In a culture where daily survival often takes priority over long-term planning, thinking strategically about the future can feel like a luxury. Change generally comes slowly and is often not visible until circumstances - favourable or otherwise - act as a catalyst.

One such catalytic event is taking place at the northern end of Mt Nyiro. A large solar farm is planned for land that includes one of the villages whose residents attend the seminar, and the village will need to be relocated. Discussion of potential questions to ask the solar company representatives made a seminar session highly interactive and informative. A video was shown of a similar development in another desert region where sheep grazed beneath the raised solar panels, benefiting from the additional grass and shade. By considering thoughtful questions, we hope to encourage meaningful dialogue and partnership between the community and the solar company, creating lasting benefits rather than short-term handouts. We are grateful to Moses, a Samburu pastor from the Maralal area, who often travels to Tuum to take part in fellowship and teaching. He brings depth of language and cultural understanding, and within his own family life demonstrates a Biblical perspective rooted in present reality and eternal hope. It is also encouraging to see many participants returning to their villages with seedlings from the tree nursery.



Prayer Points:

- Please pray for the primary school teaching programme that SAA is involved in each week. Over half the pupils in the upper primary classes choose to attend the Christian teaching. Some young people who have completed discipleship training courses have committed themselves to serving in this work.
- Continue to pray for the ongoing development of the iTeach literacy and information transfer app.
- Give thanks for daily interactions with the community and outside visitors, and pray that integrity and Christ's love would shine through.