

Stephen and Angelina Cowan

Location: **Tuum, KENYA**

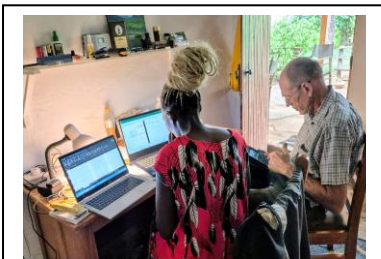
Mission: **Church-based community development and outreach**

May 2026



The ebb and flow of life in the SAA compound was in full spring tide mode. Staffed by a team of four committed Christians from Nairobi and two SAA *FOCUS* volunteers, the junior camp reached a crest of energy and activity. Without losing the joy and the fun, the leaders brought order and direction to five days of teaching, interaction, and sport for more than 300 children.

Not only were these leaders skilled in engaging with the campers, their professional expertise in IT and report writing were also of great value to Stephen as he prepared a Misesan Cara proposal to support future financial sustainability. Interestingly, despite many economic constraints, individual congregations and individual supporters throughout Ireland contribute well over 60% of the resources needed to keep all ministries operating.



Stephen and Purity working on the Misesan Cara proposal.

With the Kenyan economy continuing to present challenges, some leaders were required to return promptly to work commitments at the end of junior camp. Those who remained were then joined by an additional group of leaders from Nairobi, thus ensuring that the senior camp programme remained fully facilitated.

Senior Camp Report: 'Hope Transformed 'by Freddie, a Nairobi team member:

"During our 5-day senior youth camp in Tuum, Samburu County, we engaged about 192 teenagers in a life-changing encounter with the Word of God.

*Anchored in **Romans 12:2**, the camp focused on "Renewed Minds, Transformed Lives," specifically addressing the need to break away from old habits and traditions including retrogressive cultural patterns like **Female Genital Mutilation (F.G.M.)** The impact was profound. We witnessed a visible shift in how these young people interacted with one another in a Godly manner, moving away from harmful societal norms. By the end of the camp, we celebrated **55 new believers** who gave their lives to Christ. Our focus now turns to **intentional follow-up**. Success in this remote region requires more than a one-time event; it demands consistent relationship-building. We are looking forward to implementing a strategy of **periodic check-in calls** to walk alongside these young boys and girls. A powerful example of this is a young man we have had contact with, who has been part of these camp programmes since childhood and who is now thriving in university—a testament to the power of staying connected. These brief, meaningful conversations ensure that, though "the arrow" might be small, it continues to point in the right direction. These conversations don't need to be lengthy, but they must be intentional. By keeping tabs on their spiritual and personal progress, we ensure that the seeds planted in Tuum are nurtured against the pull of old patterns. We celebrate these stories of hope, moving forward with the conviction that consistent mentorship builds lasting transformation. We are not just facilitators; we are partners in their journey toward a transformed future."*

Following a high tide comes the inevitable ebb. After ten action-packed days, as vehicles departed the PCEA compound taking participants and leaders to their various destinations, the buzz of camp gave way to silence, good memories, and a massive clean-up!

Prayer Points:

- Give thanks for the many teams and individuals within SAA who maintain vehicles, transport campers, clean and prepare the accommodation, cook meals, and organise often-complicated logistics that enable camps to impact hundreds of children and young people three times a year. These ten days of focused activity do not happen in isolation - every role, seen and unseen, is essential.
- Praise God for the many young lives transformed, pray for wisdom and patience as the teams follow up and continue building on relationships formed.
- Give thanks for faithful financial and prayerful support over many years.