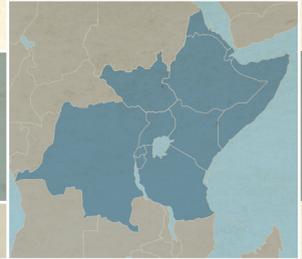




CHILDREN'S MISSION

2019 • **QUARTER 4** • EAST-CENTRAL AFRICA DIVISION



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On the Cover: John Ongaya lived on the street of a Kenyan city until he stumbled across an evangelistic meeting. Now he wants to help other street children. Page 22

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Your Offerings at Work



Three years ago, part of the Thirteenth Sabbath Offering funded children's Sabbath School classrooms, including this one, at three churches in Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo. Read a story from Kinshasa on page 8.



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Dear Sabbath School Leader,

Andrew McChesney
Editor



This quarter we feature the East-Central Africa Division, whose territory includes 11 countries: Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Somalia, South Sudan, Tanzania, and Uganda.

The Adventist Church is fast growing in this region of 393 million people. Rwanda showcased Total Member Involvement evangelism by baptizing a record 110,000 people in May 2016. Nearby countries have also seen a surge in baptisms, and division-wide membership is nearing 4 million, or about one Adventist for every 100 people.

This quarter's Thirteenth Sabbath Offering will assist seven projects in four

countries, and I visited many of the sites. In the capital of the Democratic Republic of Congo, I toured the 15-bed Kinshasa Adventist Clinic where a dedicated medical team prays and works with limited resources. God is blessing His work in this country in an amazing way. Read a story from the Democratic Republic of Congo on p. 8.

In Kenya, I visited the site of the future Kisumu Adventist Hospital, which is located on the same compound as the 4,000-member Victory Seventh-day Church. Read two stories about remarkable girls who attend the Victory church on pages 24 and 28.

Special Features

If you want to make your Sabbath School class come alive, we offer photos, videos, and other materials with every mission story. More information is provided in the sidebar with each story. For photos of tourist sites and other scenes from the featured countries, search on a free photo bank such as pixabay.com. You could show the photos to the children on your computer or mobile device while you read the mission story, or you could print the photos to decorate your Sabbath School room or church bulletin board.

A printable mission-bank image, which the children can color, can be downloaded at bit.ly/bank-coloring-page.

Contact me with suggestions and questions at mcchesneya@gc.adventist.org.

Thank you for encouraging children to be mission-minded! 🌍

Opportunities

The Thirteenth Sabbath Offering this quarter will help:

- Expand health services at Kinshasa Adventist Clinic, Democratic Republic of Congo
- Build three auditoriums at Philip Lemon Adventist University, Democratic Republic of Congo
- Construct classrooms at Goma Adventist University, Democratic Republic of Congo
- Open field headquarters, Wau, South Sudan
- Establish Juba Adventist Secondary School, South Sudan
- Construct Kisumu Adventist Hospital, Kenya
- Build four children's Sabbath School classrooms, Ethiopia



ETHIOPIA | October 5

Praising the Potty

Alazar Angaw Getahun, 7

Have you ever praised God for going to the bathroom?

Mother and Father were excited when a baby boy was born in Ethiopia's capital, Addis Ababa, on January 21. That same day, Mother and Baby came home from the hospital.

Mother hugged and nursed Baby. She and Father wondered what to name him.

That night, Baby's tummy began to grow. It grew and grew. By morning, the tummy looked like a big, round balloon.

Worried, Father drove Mother and Baby back to the hospital. The doctor couldn't find anything wrong. The boy's tummy, however, continued to grow. By evening, it was so big and round that Mother was scared to touch it. She thought it might pop. The hospital sent Baby to a bigger hospital, but its medical staff also couldn't understand why his tummy was so big.

The doctor said the only option was to operate. "Let us open his tummy and see

what is inside," she said.

Baby was rushed into surgery. Several hours later, the doctor spoke with the parents. "We looked inside and found that the baby's large and small intestines are damaged," she said. "So, we made a special hole on the right side of his body for a colostomy bag. He will not go to the bathroom like most other babies. Every time he goes to the bathroom, the waste will go into the bag."

Father and Mother were not allowed to see Baby. He was small and weak and had to be placed in a room for sick babies.

"This boy is in critical condition," the doctor told the nurses. "He probably will not get better."

Because of that, the nurses thought, "Why should we take care of the baby?"

For nine days, no one took care of Baby. Waste spilled from his bag and ran onto the wound from the tummy operation.

When the doctor saw poor Baby, she

was very unhappy. “Why haven’t you taken care of Baby?” she asked the nurses.

She ordered the nurses to clean the baby’s wound three times a day and to put honey on it. After 15 days, Baby began to get better and Mother was allowed to see him. She and Father had been praying for God to save him, and they decided to name him Alazar, which means Lazarus in the local Amharic language.

“Like Lazarus, Jesus brought him back to life from the dead!” Father said.

A month after his birth, Alazar returned home. He slowly grew strong and big. He looked like other boys except for the bag attached to his side.

When Alazar was 1 ½ years old, the doctor ran some tests and saw that his intestines looked normal. “Let’s do another operation,” she said.

Father and Mother knew that if the operation failed, Alazar would have to live with the bag always. In Ethiopia, that would be very difficult.

After the operation was over, Father and Mother visited their little boy lying on a hospital cot. The bag was gone and the hole in his side had been sewn shut.

“We will know that the operation was successful if Alazar goes to the bathroom like most other babies,” the doctor said. “We will know that the operation was successful even if he passes gas. But he has to do one or the other tonight.”

Father and Mother stayed at the hospital all night and waited. But Alazar didn’t go to the bathroom. He didn’t pass gas. Two hours passed. Three hours. By 3 a.m., Father and Mother were crying. They prayed for Alazar to go potty.

Father asked Mother to hold up the baby. As Father took a closer look at the

Story Tips

- Find Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on the map.
- Pronounce Alazar as: a-LA-zar.
- Ask the children what simple things they can thank God for. Examples can include the ability to eat and drink, to walk and run, and to see and hear.
- Watch a YouTube video of Alazar: bit.ly/Alazar-Getahun.
- Download medium-resolution photos for this story from our Facebook page: bit.ly/fb-mq. Photos are uploaded on Sundays, six days before the mission story is to be presented.
- Download high-resolution photos and more from the ADAMS databank: bit.ly/Praising-the-Potty.
- Download high-resolution photos of Thirteenth Sabbath projects from ADAMS: bit.ly/ECD-projects-2019.

baby’s bottom, something fell to the floor. Little Alazar had gone to the bathroom!

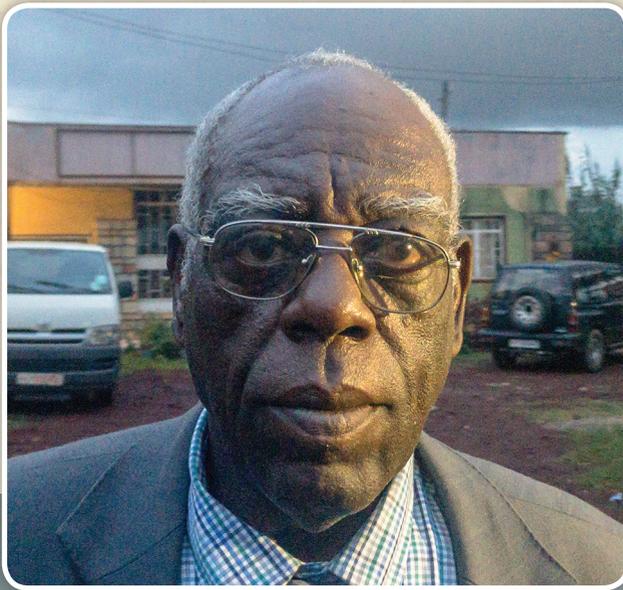
Father jumped up and down and then fell on his knees to thank God. Mother was so happy that she could say anything. She cried.

Today, Alazar is 7 years old and plays soccer and goes swimming with the other children. The only reminder of his operations are two big scars on his tummy.

“These marks show that Jesus saved my life and that I am His child,” he said. “Jesus is the one who healed me.” 🌍

While Alazar knows about Jesus, many children in Ethiopia do not. Part of this quarter’s Thirteenth Sabbath Offering will help build Sabbath School classrooms where children can learn about Jesus.

By Andrew McChesney



ETHIOPIA | October 12

Haile Magicho Sendeno, 73

Proving Uncle Wrong

Haile Magicho Sendeno was a super-smart boy. He finished sixth grade in only half a year. Then he finished seventh grade in the second half of the year. The teachers were so impressed that they gave him the final exams for the eighth grade — and he passed with straight A's. As a reward, his Christian school presented him with a special gift: a Bible.

Not many children had their own Bibles in Ethiopia, and Haile couldn't have bought one on his own. His father was a powerful man in their home village, Angacha, but the family still didn't have much money.

Haile happily turned the pages of his new Bible. He read here and there.

Then an elderly uncle came to visit.

"You know, the Seventh-day Adventist Church is the true church," Uncle said.

The words surprised Haile. He and his family went to church on Sundays. The Christian school taught that

Sunday is the Sabbath. Uncle was a Seventh-day Adventist pastor and went to church on Saturdays.

Haile decided to prove Uncle wrong. He opened his Bible and began to look for verses to prove Sunday is the Sabbath. But in Matthew, he read that Jesus was crucified on the sixth day, Friday, and was resurrected on the first day, Sunday. He saw that Jesus rested on the seventh day, Saturday. He decided to join the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

But there were no Adventist churches in his village. The nearest church was located in a village 15 miles (30 kilometers) away, and that was the church where Uncle worked as pastor.

On Sabbath morning, Haile jumped on his horse and rode to the church. The church's 15 members recognized him, and they knew that his father was a powerful man. They also knew that his father

believed that Sunday was the Sabbath and, if he was made angry, could send anyone to jail.

“Why did you come here?” said one.

“To be a member of this church,” Haile said.

“Are you joking or serious?” said another.

“I am serious,” the boy said. “I want to be a Seventh-day Adventist.”

Uncle was happy to see Haile, but he also asked why he had come. Haile opened his Bible and showed the verses about Jesus resting Sabbath in the tomb.

Father was furious when he heard that Haile had decided to become an Adventist. “He will bring a curse on us and our house,” Father said. “If he wants to join that church, he can’t live here.”

Haile was sad, but he was determined to obey God. Mother felt sorry for him and allowed him to come home after school while Father was working. Haile hid in a bed at night and left for school before Father woke up in the morning.

Haile lived like this for a year.

Finally, Father noticed that Haile was living at home. He also saw that the boy was quiet, studying well in school, and not associating with bad boys. He said Haile could be an Adventist and live at

Story Tips

- Show southern Ethiopia on the map.
- Pronounce Haile as: hi-LE.
- Watch a YouTube video of Haile: bit.ly/Haile-Sendeno.
- Download medium-resolution photos for this story from our Facebook page: bit.ly/fb-mq. Photos are uploaded on Sundays, six days before the mission story is to be presented.
- Download high-resolution photos and more from the ADAMS databank: bit.ly/Proving-Uncle-Wrong.
- Download high-resolution photos of Thirteenth Sabbath projects from ADAMS: bit.ly/ECD-projects-2019.

home. Haile was happy. He knew God was honoring him for keeping the Sabbath.

He has kept the Sabbath ever since. Through his example, his mother also became an Adventist. When he moved to Ethiopia’s capital, Addis Ababa, to teach school, he opened a church in his neighborhood. Today, 150 members and 60 children worship there on Sabbaths. 🌍

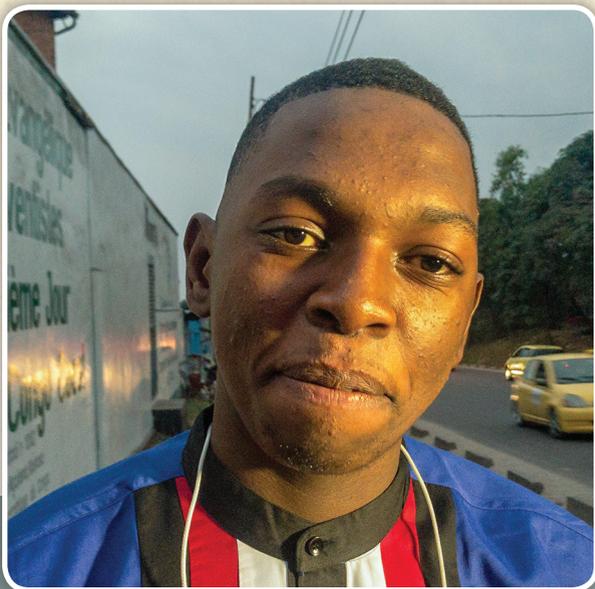
By Andrew McChesney



MISSION RECORD

What was then called the Abyssinian Mission began in 1907 as a project of the Scandinavian Union Conference. The first two missionaries sent out, P.N. Lindegren and J. Persson of Sweden, opened a mission station in Eritrea because Ethiopia itself was not open to missionaries. The first three national converts were baptized in Eritrea in March 1914.

Ethiopia is mentioned several times in the Bible; Moses’ wife was an Ethiopian woman (Numbers 12:1), and Philip baptized an important Ethiopian official (Acts 8:27-39).



DRC | October 19

Jacques Tshibanda Kabadi, 17

The Missing Socks

Eleven-year-old Jacques Tshibanda Kabadi woke suddenly at home.

He heard Mother's voice.

"Jacques, where are you?" Mother called. "It's already 10 a.m. You're going to miss your exam."

Jacques sprang out of bed. Usually, he got up on his own early in the morning, but for some reason he had overslept. He had a big geography test at school.

Pulling on his pants and shirt, Jacques rummaged around the room, looking for socks. He looked on the shelf. He got on his knees and looked under the bed. He couldn't find a matching pair of socks anywhere.

"What are you doing?" Mother said, standing at the door.

"I can't find any socks," Jacques said.

Mother looked in the cupboard. She got on her knees and looked under the bed. She also couldn't find matching socks. But

she found a white sock and a blue sock.

"Put these on," she said.

Jacques hastily pulled on the socks and stretched his toes. He didn't care that the socks didn't match. He wanted to be on time for the geography test.

He ran to school and took the test.

But he never learned whether he passed.

After school, as Jacques walked home, he needed to cross a busy street. Cars were stopped in a traffic jam on one side of the street. The other side had no cars at all. Jacques stepped into the side of the street with no cars. At that moment, a bus hit him. The bus driver was driving on the wrong side of the road because he was trying to avoid the traffic jam.

Jacques doesn't remember much of what happened next. He fell to the ground. A stranger took off his own shirt and tried to stop the bleeding. Strangers picked him up and carried him in their

arms to a nearby hospital.

Jacques' older sister heard about the accident from friends and ran home to tell Mother.

"Jacques has been hurt in an accident!" she called from outside the house.

Mother went inside the house and prayed. Then she rushed to the hospital.

Jacques stayed in the hospital for three months and had three operations.

Mother couldn't imagine that Jacques would ever walk again. Jacques couldn't imagine that he would ever walk again. But they both kept praying to God.

Amid the operations, Jacques prayed every day, "God, please heal me and help me to walk again with both legs."

Today, Jacques not only walks, but he also runs. He is 17 years old and stands much taller than his mother.

Some superstitious people said Jacques shouldn't have gone to school that day. They said he should have realized that he had to stay at home after waking up late and not finding his socks. But Adventists are not superstitious and know that there was no connection between Jacques oversleeping, losing his socks, and the accident. The Bible says, "Time and chance happen to them all" (Ecclesiastes 9:11). This means that good things and

Story Tips

- Find Jacques' hometown, Kinshasa, in the Democratic Republic of Congo, on the map.
- Discuss why some people might think the missing socks were a bad omen. Talk about superstitions that are common in your culture, perhaps knocking on wood or a black cat crossing your path. Explain that Christians don't believe in superstitions because they trust Jesus to be in control.
- Download medium-resolution photos for this story from our Facebook page: bit.ly/fb-mq. Photos are uploaded on Sundays, six days before the mission story is to be presented.
- Download high-resolution photos and more from the ADAMS databank: bit.ly/The-Missing-Socks.
- Download high-resolution photos of Thirteenth Sabbath projects from ADAMS: bit.ly/ECD-projects-2019.

bad things can happen by chance.

But Jacques knows that it isn't only by chance that he can walk and run again.

"I can walk and run, and this is proof that God answered my prayers!" he said. 🌍

By Andrew McChesney

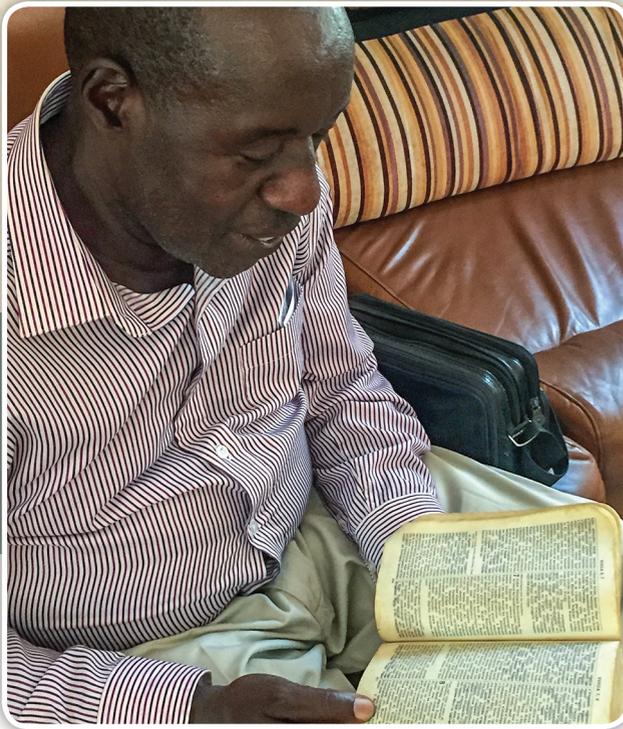


AMAZING NATURE

The great apes, such as the bonobos and the eastern lowland gorillas, can be found only in Congo.



PigStock/Photo.com
AdventistMission.org



RWANDA | October 26

Angel Firefighter

Samuel Ndagijimana, 59

Eleven-year-old Samuel Ndagijimana saw that his cousins were growing tobacco on their farm in southern Rwanda.

The cousins were earning more money selling the tobacco than Samuel made selling potatoes, peas, beans, and maize from his farm.

He decided to plant tobacco.

But Samuel didn't tell his big sister, and he planted the tobacco in a corner of the field when she wasn't at home.

Samuel lived with his 18-year-old sister in a small house on a plot of farmland. Father and Mother had divorced and started new families elsewhere.

Weeks passed after Samuel secretly planted the tobacco, and the crop began to grow. Big Sister was not pleased when she noticed the tobacco plants. "What have you done?" she asked her brother.

"I saw that our cousins were making lots of money selling tobacco," Samuel said. "I

decided to grow tobacco so we also could have money."

"Life is never good when you do what God has forbidden," she said. "Tobacco is from the devil. You can't feel full when you smoke. You can't quench your thirst when you smoke. It is from the devil."

Big Sister gathered up dry grass and scattered it over the tobacco plants. Then she struck a match, lighting the dry grass. Soon a fire was roaring through the tobacco plants. But the fire didn't stop there. A flame leaped from the tobacco plants and over to a hedge that divided the field from the small house where the brother and sister lived. In a flash, the hedge was engulfed in flames.

Samuel and Big Sister watched in shock. They didn't know what to do. Everything was happening so quickly.

Big Sister covered her eyes with her hands. The fire was so close to the house, and she couldn't bear to see the house burn down. She and Samuel would lose everything.

At that moment, Samuel saw a shining

Story Tips

- Find Rwanda on the map.
- Ask the children how God has answered their prayers in the past week.
- Watch a YouTube video of Samuel: bit.ly/Samuel-Ndagijimana.
- Download medium-resolution photos for this story from our Facebook page: bit.ly/fb-mq. Photos are uploaded on Sundays, six days before the mission story is to be presented.
- Download high-resolution photos and more from the ADAMS databank: bit.ly/Angel-Firefighter.
- Download high-resolution photos of Thirteenth Sabbath projects from ADAMS: bit.ly/ECD-projects-2019.

man in a white robe appear in the sky. The man raised his hands over the fire and lowered them. As he gestured, the fire went out in an instant. Then the man disappeared. Their home was saved.

Samuel stared in astonishment at the blackened, smoking hedge. Not hearing the crackling of the fire, Big Sister cautiously peeked out from behind her hands. For a moment, nobody said anything. Samuel and Big Sister couldn't

believe their eyes. Samuel finally spoke. "God protected us," he said. "I saw an angel."

Big Sister was overjoyed. She couldn't believe that an angel of the Lord had camped at their home to deliver them.

Samuel and Big Sister talked for the rest of the day about God's amazing protection.

That evening, they thanked God in prayer.

"Thank You for protecting us and our belongings and our house," Samuel prayed.

"Thank You that we still have a house to live in even though the fire was about to consume it," Big Sister prayed.

Nearly 50 years have passed since the fire, but Samuel still remembers the that day as if it had just happened.

"I'll never forget," he said. "This was the moment when I understood that God protects." 🌍

Part of a 2016 Thirteen Sabbath Offering helped open a medical school on the campus of the Adventist University of Central Africa in Samuel's home country. Samuel is grateful that the school trains doctors and nurses to spread the news that Jesus is coming soon.

By Andrew McChesney



AMAZING
NATURE

Rwanda is a rural country with about 90 percent of the population engaged in mainly subsistence agriculture.

Rwanda is also known as the Land of a Thousand Hills because most of the country is covered by rolling, grassy hills.



BigStockPhoto.com



TANZANIA | November 2

Abraham

100 Cows for Tithe

The Maasai tribe in Africa loves cows.

When an elderly person dies, the Maasai people see it as a part of life, and they move on. When a baby dies, they are sad but also move on.

But when a big bull dies, a Maasai man will mourn terribly. He will tell story after story about the bull's strength, its handsome features, and its leadership over the herd. The owner will lie awake all night, weeping over his loss.

A Maasai man will not give up a cow for anything. He loves his cows.

So, it came as a big surprise to Seventh-day Adventist leaders to hear that a wealthy Maasai man had decided to give 100 of his precious cows as a tithe to God.

The man, Abraham, had been baptized into the Adventist Church in northern Tanzania and felt impressed to give one tenth of his cattle as tithe. Abraham

called the local pastor to collect the cows.

"I don't want to keep what belongs to God," Abraham told the stunned pastor.

Abraham took the pastor to his field and began to count out his tithe.

"One, two, three, four, five," Abraham counted the cows in his herd. "Six, seven, eight, nine."

When he reached the tenth cow, he instructed a helper to put a tag on its ear so that cow would be set aside for tithe.

"That one is for the Lord," he said.

He counted out 100 cows.

Abraham's Maasai neighbors, who were not Adventist, thought he had gone mad.

"Why would you give away your cows?" said one.

"If you can return 100 cows as tithe, why don't you also start counting your children return the tenth child as tithe?" said another.

Abraham had 20 children because he

Story Tips

- Find Tanzania on the map.
- Ask the children what else they can give as tithe other than money. Suggest that God gives children time, so they can return time to Him by using it to pray, read the Bible, and help others.
- Watch a YouTube video of Abraham: bit.ly/Abraham-Tanzania.
- Download medium-resolution photos for this story from our Facebook page: bit.ly/fb-mq. Photos are uploaded on Sundays, six days before the mission story is to be presented.
- Download high-resolution photos and more from the ADAMS databank: bit.ly/100-Cows-for-Tithe.
- Download high-resolution photos of Thirteenth Sabbath projects from ADAMS: bit.ly/ECD-projects-2019.

had been married to four wives before his baptism. Now he had one wife, but he remained father to his 20 children. Abraham didn't argue with his neighbors.

"I know a person in the Bible who did not have 10 children," he said. "He only had one child, and he was more than willing to return that only child to God. His name was Abraham, too."

After Abraham returned the tithe of 100 cows to God, something unusual

happened to his cattle. His cows started giving birth to twins. Cows usually give birth to only one calf at a time, but all of Abraham's cows began to give birth to twins. The neighbors were shocked. Abraham had given away 100 cows, and now he had more cows than even before.

"Call your pastor," one neighbor said. "I also want to give a tithe."

"We want our cows to have twins, too," said another.

Abraham marveled over the way that God was blessing him and decided that he didn't want to return just one tithe. He wanted to give two tithes. He called the Adventist pastor.

"When I gave the 100 cows as tithe nine months ago, I wanted to see what would happen," Abraham said. "I have seen abundant blessings. Instead of bringing forth one calf, my cows have started to bring forth twins."

Abraham took the pastor to his field and counted out two tithes — two cows out of every ten.

The pastor was amazed by how God has blessed Abraham's faithfulness by making him richer and richer.

"You are never losing when you return to God," the pastor said. "The Lord is faithful. He will even multiply what little you have." 🌐

By Andrew McChesney



MISSION
RECORD

The first Seventh-day Adventist missionaries to what is now Tanzania were W. Ehlers and A.C. Enns, who were sent in 1903 by the German Union under the leadership of L.R. Conradi. Arriving in Dar es Salaam in December, they went to the Pare district in the northeast, where they established Friedenstal Station and studied the language while slowly gaining the confidence of the people.



SOUTH SUDAN | November 9

Peace Evelyn Joseph, 14

Something Happened to Daddy

Thousands of children are homeless in South Sudan. A girl named Peace Evelyn Joseph sometimes saw them on the street when Father picked her up at the airport.

Peace and her older brother, Boniface, studied at a boarding school in Uganda, far away from their home in South Sudan. The children knew that they were special. Only children from rich families could afford to study in Uganda.

Their father was rich. He worked as chief-of-staff for a governor in South Sudan. Every time Peace and Boniface came home for a two-week vacation, Father had a fancy new car. He drove them in the car from the airport.

But other than the car ride, Peace didn't see much of Father. He rose early to go to the office. After work, he drank with friends. Peace didn't worry. She had everything she wanted.

Then during one vacation, Father called the children to a serious meeting.

"I've lost my job," he said. "I can't afford to pay for your school in Uganda. You will have to stay here in Juba."

Peace burst into tears. She liked studying in Uganda. All her friends were there.

"Daddy, why?" she said.

"I don't have the money," he replied.

"Can you borrow from your friends and repay them later?" she persisted.

"My friends have refused to help," he said.

Peace cried harder. It didn't seem fair.

The family began to struggle over money. Father did odd jobs but never made enough money to feed the family. He couldn't even pay for school books at the public school where Peace and Boniface were studying. Peace and Boniface stopped going to school. Many days they went hungry. Life was hard.

One Friday evening, Father came home

instead of drinking. Mother was surprised.

Father said nothing and sat down. Mother brought some food, and he ate. Then he called Peace's little brother, 7-year-old Junior.

"Please bring me the radio," he said.

Father tuned the radio, and the first channel he heard was Salvation FM, a Seventh-day Adventist radio station. Father listened intently as someone sang, "Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus." Then a pastor preached about God's love.

When the sermon ended, Father whispered, "Why am I wasting my life when Someone loves me so much?"

He called an Adventist cousin on his cell phone. "Peter, tomorrow I am coming to the church with you," he said.

After church, Father apologized to Mother for drinking and neglecting the family. He invited her to church the next Sabbath. Soon both were baptized.

Today, Father is studying to be a medical missionary, and he helps homeless street children. Peace helps him feed and clothe the children. The first time she helped, she said something that made Father sad. "When you were drinking, Daddy, this is the suffering that we went through," she said. "We were like these children whose parents don't provide for them."

Story Tips

- Watch a YouTube video of Peace's 40-year-old father, Joseph Kenyi: bit.ly/Joseph-Kenyi.
- Download medium-resolution photos for this story from our Facebook page: bit.ly/fb-mq. Photos are uploaded on Sundays, six days before the mission story is to be presented.
- Download high-resolution photos and more from the ADAMS databank: bit.ly/Something-Happened-Juba.
- Download high-resolution photos of Thirteenth Sabbath projects from ADAMS: bit.ly/ECD-projects-2019.

Father knew it was true.

"I didn't know what I was doing," he replied. "But now Someone is directing me, and that Someone is God. Follow me, and you will be like me. You will do better things with Jesus." 🌐

Part of this quarter's Thirteenth Sabbath Offering will help Peace's school, Juba Seventh-day Adventist Secondary School, construct new classrooms. Thank you for planning a generous offering for Thirteenth Sabbath.

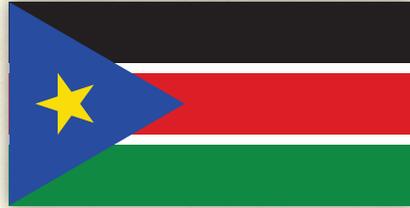
By Andrew McChesney



MISSION
RECORD

The first converts in Sudan were Munir Andrawis and his wife. After attending Middle East College in Beirut, they returned to Sudan in 1955 and began missionary work in the capital. They distributed relief clothing and promoted Bible correspondence school work.

The church has a medical center, the Munuki Seventh-day Adventist Clinic; a Bible correspondence school; and a radio station, Salvation Radio FM, in the city of Juba in South Sudan.



SOUTH SUDAN | November 16

Mareng Yol, 15

51 Brothers and Sisters

The Sabbath School leader looked embarrassed as she stood before the congregation at Juba Central Seventh-day Adventist Church in South Sudan.

She asked the boy in the second row to stand. “I want to apologize to this boy,” she said in English, as an interpreter translated her words into Arabic. “I made a mistake.”

She explained that a few minutes earlier she had scolded the boy for whispering during Sabbath School. But then she learned that the boy was interpreting the Sabbath School program for his younger brother, who didn’t understand English or Arabic. He only spoke Dinka.

“The thing I like about this young boy is that he came with his young friend and translated for him,” the Sabbath School leader said. “Thank you for sharing Jesus.”

The boy, 15-year-old Mareng Yol, has many brothers and sisters whom he wants to invite to church. He lives with 51

brothers and sisters. You see, Mareng’s wealthy father has been married 34 times, and he brought eight wives and 52 children, including Mareng, when he moved to Juba, South Sudan’s capital.

Three months after arriving, the family started looking for a school. Someone recommended Juba Seventh-day Adventist Primary School, and Mareng and three brothers were enrolled. Mareng had never heard about Jesus, and he loved reading the Bible. He and the three brothers were baptized.

It wasn’t easy for Mareng to keep the Sabbath. Once, he was sent to the house of several older brothers for the weekend. After sundown on Friday, the brothers ordered him to fetch water in buckets.

“We cannot work because it’s the Sabbath,” he said.

“What do you mean?” said one brother. “It’s still Friday until midnight.”

Story Tips

- Pronounce Mareng as: ma-RENG.
- Watch a YouTube video of Mareng and his brother Geng: bit.ly/Mareng-Yol.
- Download medium-resolution photos for this story from our Facebook page: bit.ly/fb-mq. Photos are uploaded on Sundays, six days before the mission story is to be presented.
- Download high-resolution photos and more from the ADAMS databank: bit.ly/51-Brothers-and-Sisters.
- Download high-resolution photos of Thirteenth Sabbath projects from ADAMS: bit.ly/ECD-projects-2019.

Mareng explained that the Bible teaches that the Sabbath starts at sundown Friday. His brothers mocked him and demanded the water. When he refused to work, the brothers beat him with canes for three hours.

The next day, Mareng went to church but couldn't sit down because it hurt too much. Still, he was happy to worship.

He also has been teaching his brothers and sisters about Jesus at home. He invites them to sit under a tree every day. Using a small green New Testament and a

torn pamphlet of Bible studies, he teaches them about the Ten Commandments and shares that Jesus is coming soon.

Many of his brothers and sisters have liked what they heard, and 16 have been baptized. Another six brothers and sisters are preparing for baptism. Mareng hopes that the 12-year-old brother whom he brought to church will also be baptized.

Mareng had to leave the Adventist school after the eighth grade to go to high school. The Adventist Church didn't have a high school in Juba at the time.

But now a high school has opened near the elementary school where Mareng went to eighth grade. The only problem is that too many other children also want to study at the high school. When he asked to enroll this school year, he was told that no room remained.

"I am praying to study at the Adventist school next year," he said. 🌍

Part of this quarter's Thirteenth Sabbath Offering will help the high school construct new classrooms so more children like Mareng can attend. Thank you for planning to give a generous offering on Thirteenth Sabbath.

By Andrew McChesney



AMAZING
NATURE

The diet for most people in South Sudan includes milk, peanuts, honey, fish, meat, finger millet, beans, and vegetables.

In South Sudan, wealth is measured by the number of cattle that each family owns.



BigStockPhoto.com



ECD | November 23

Musa Ali, 33

Accused of Being Christian

Musa Ali never planned to become a Christian. But when people started to call him a Christian as an insult and his family rejected him, he started to have second thoughts.

Musa was raised in a non-Christian family in East Africa. As a boy, he was forbidden from eating with Christians and even from speaking with them. Christians, he was told, were the enemy.

At the age of 10, he began rigorous studies to become a religious leader. He memorized large portions of his religion's holy book. At age 15, he was appointed a religious teacher.

Two years later, 17-year-old Musa was sent with a group of missionaries to a far-off village in the African bush. His job was to convert idol-worshipping villagers and to build a house of worship.

The work was grueling, but Musa and

his team pressed ahead. One day, while preparing a sermon, Musa came across several verses in his holy book that puzzled him. The passages spoke about Jesus and said Christians have salvation. He had always thought that salvation only belonged to him and other followers of his non-Christian world religion.

Confused, Musa turned to his fellow missionaries for advice. They simply shook their heads.

"You are our teacher," said one. "You are supposed to tell us what the holy book means."

"When we return to our hometown, you can ask the big chief," said another.

After six months, Musa and his friends had converted many villagers and constructed a large house of worship. The missionaries returned home.

The "big chief," their main local

religious leader, gathered the missionaries for a thank-you ceremony. He knew that their work had been difficult, and he wanted to give away some gifts. But first he asked the missionaries if they had any questions.

“If anyone has questions, ask me,” he said. “I know that many questions can come to mind during these types of trips.”

Musa went first, and he asked three questions. The religious leader didn’t answer any of them. Instead, he asked Musa a question.

“My friend,” he said, “are you a Christian or one of us?”

The question surprised Musa. But the leader hadn’t answered his questions, so he decided not to answer.

After moment of silence, the religious leader spoke. “My friend,” he said, “leave our house of worship.”

Musa left.

Later that day, the religious leader went to Musa’s father, who was an influential and wealthy man in town.

“Watch out,” he said. “Your son will become a Christian.”

Later, Father asked Musa about his beliefs. “Are you a Christian or one of us?” he said.

“This isn’t a matter of religion,” Musa said. “It’s a matter of knowledge. I’m studying.”

Father expressed fear that Musa might become a Christian.

“If you do,” he warned, “your life will be in danger.”

Thirty days later, the religious leader banished Musa from his work as a teacher at the house of worship. Under the rules, the religious leader was supposed to warn Musa first and, if Musa didn’t change his ways, then banish him. But Musa received

Story Tips

- Musa Ali is a pseudonym. Adventist Mission is not identifying Musa by his real name or his location to safeguard his life in a region hostile to Christianity.
- Know that Musa means Moses in Arabic.
- Read more about Musa next week.
- Download medium-resolution photos for this story from our Facebook page: bit.ly/fb-mq. Photos are uploaded on Sundays, six days before the mission story is to be presented.
- Download high-resolution photos and more from the ADAMS databank: bit.ly/Accused-of-Being-Christian.
- Download high-resolution photos of Thirteenth Sabbath projects from ADAMS: bit.ly/ECD-projects-2019.

no warning. He decided not to protest.

Musa didn’t think he was a Christian, but people began to treat him like one. His sisters and brothers ignored him. His family refused to allow him to eat with them. Musa couldn’t understand what was happening because he didn’t think that he had done anything wrong.

So, do you know what he did? He became a Christian. Musa was baptized into the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Today he works as a missionary — a Global Mission coordinator — in East Africa. He teaches his people that Christians do have salvation — and they can be saved by Jesus, too. 🌍

By Andrew McChesney



ECD | November 30

Musa Ali, 33

Saved From Hanging

Eighteen-year-old Musa Ali fled from his hometown in East Africa after his father and brothers tried to kill him.

They didn't want Musa to become a Christian, so they beat him badly.

In a new city, a Seventh-day Adventist pastor gave Musa some work and a place to stay. He suggested that Musa study theology and consider becoming a pastor.

"But I don't know English," Musa protested. "I can't learn it in one day."

"You can do it," the pastor said. "No one is born speaking English."

Musa decided to first learn about Jesus in his own language, Arabic.

As he studied, he gave his heart to Jesus and was baptized. Then he got married.

On his honeymoon, he was arrested.

Musa and his bride decided to stay at home for their honeymoon because they had no money to travel.

Just a few days after the wedding, police officers pounded on the door and hauled Musa off to the police station.

"Musa Ali, you're a Christian, right?" a senior police officer asked Musa at the police station.

Without waiting for a reply, he snarled, "You will die in three days."

"Yes, I will die, but I will be happy," Musa said.

The senior police officer thought Musa had gone mad.

"Who would be happy to die?" he asked.

He sent Musa to a prison cell.

Musa was alone for the first day. But then another prisoner was placed in his cell. The new prisoner asked Musa why he was in prison and, when he learned that Musa was a Christian, he tried to persuade Musa to reject Jesus. Musa refused to listen and instead tried to convince the prisoner

Story Tips

- Musa Ali is a pseudonym. Adventist Mission is not identifying Musa by his real name or his location to safeguard his life in a region hostile to Christianity.
- Read more about Musa last week.
- Download medium-resolution photos for this story from our Facebook page: bit.ly/fb-mq. Photos are uploaded on Sundays, six days before the mission story is to be presented.
- Download high-resolution photos and more from the ADAMS databank: bit.ly/Saved-From-Hanging.
- Download high-resolution photos of Thirteenth Sabbath projects from ADAMS: bit.ly/ECD-projects-2019.

to become a Christian. Finally, the prisoner shook his head and declared with exasperation, “You’re dangerous!”

The prisoner stood up, opened the cell door, and walked out. At that moment, Musa realized that the prisoner wasn’t actually a prisoner but an undercover police officer trying to convince him to denounce Christ.

Musa waited for the hours to pass for his hanging the next day. He wasn’t afraid. He prayed.

Now it so happens that Musa Ali is a common name in his country, and the city mayor also had a son named Musa Ali. That night, the other Musa Ali got drunk and was arrested.

In the morning, the mayor wanted to see his son. Taking a piece of paper, he wrote, “Bring Musa Ali to me.” The paper was delivered to the prison.

The police read the order and sent for the wrong Musa Ali. Remembering that the Christian Musa Ali was to die that day, they thought that the mayor wanted to see him.

Police officers dropped off a surprised Musa at the mayor’s office.

The mayor was even more surprised when Musa entered the room.

“Who are you?” he said.

“Musa Ali,” Musa said.

“But I didn’t call for you,” the mayor said. “I called for my son.”

Exasperation flashed across his face.

“Are the police waiting for you outside?” he asked.

“No, they left,” Musa said.

The mayor smiled slightly and spoke in a joking tone of voice.

“Fine, just go,” he said. “Go quickly.”

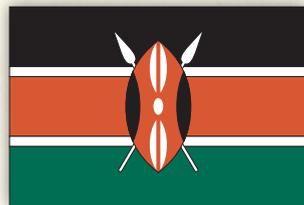
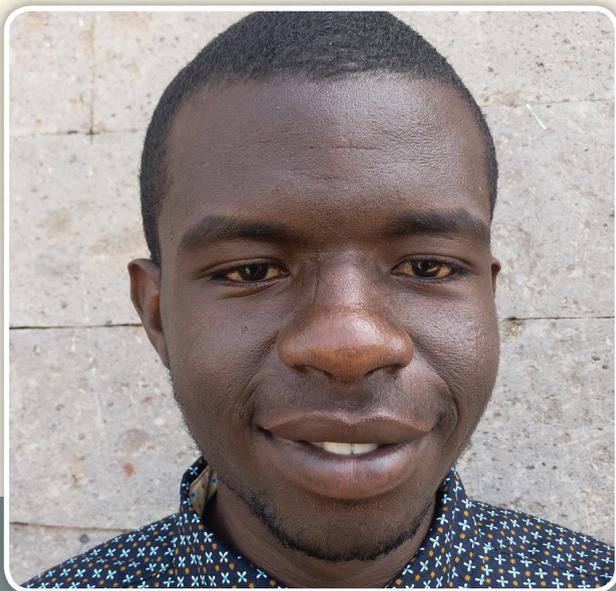
Musa didn’t wait to be told twice. He left.

A short time later, Musa arrived home and hugged his astonished wife. They quickly packed their bags and jumped on the next train out of town. They have never returned.

Musa and his wife have had many more amazing adventures as they have sought to follow God’s will. When Musa was 28 years old, the Adventist Church’s East-Central Africa Division awarded him a scholarship at an Adventist university. Last year, he graduated with a degree in theology and, to his surprise, the ability to speak English.

Today, Musa is 33 years old and works as a missionary, a local Global Mission coordinator, teaching his people that Jesus is God and is coming soon. 🌍

By Andrew McChesney



KENYA | December 7

John Ongaya, 21

Living on the Street

Always hungry, John Ongaya couldn't get good grades, so he decided to quit school in Kenya.

His parents, poor farmers, only had enough money to pay for his tuition and dormitory room at Jaramogi University. He couldn't find work, and he was scared to go home because he thought his parents would scold him for quitting school.

John stuffed his few clothes into his schoolbag, grabbed his cheap cell phone, and went to the bus stop. A kind stranger gave 200 shillings (U.S.\$2) for bus fare.

John arrived at sunset in Kisumu, the nearest big city. He didn't know anyone, and he didn't know where to go. He lay down on a small porch in front of a closed shop, but he couldn't sleep. He was hungry.

"You're a thief!" a man suddenly yelled, poking his head out of the shop door. "Go away!"

It was the shop owner, who lived in

the building.

John grabbed his schoolbag and fled.

After a while, he stopped at a shop porch occupied by two homeless boys, Rashid and Blacky. They invited him to stay the night.

In the morning, John was dreadfully hungry. The other boys didn't have any food, but they knew how to buy some. They offered to help John sell his second pair of pants and schoolbag. With the money, John bought chapati and beans from a street food seller and shared the food with the other boys.

For lunch, the boys took John to a charity that served free rice and beans to street children. In the evening, the boys showed John a hotel where a kind worker gave leftovers of fish, pies, chapati, and ugali, mixed together in a plastic bag.

John hadn't been able to find a job that day, but he promised himself that he

Story Tips

- Watch a YouTube video of John: bit.ly/John-Ongaya
- Explain that chapati is an unleavened flatbread that is popular in East Africa and the Indian subcontinent. Ugali is a thick maize porridge.
- Share that John's favorite Bible verse is John 1:12, which says, "But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name" (NKJV). Ask why John might have chosen this verse. John, who found the verse while reading the Bible during his six-month stay at the church, said, "It encourages me to come to Christ."
- Download medium-resolution photos for this story from our Facebook page: bit.ly/fb-mq. Photos are uploaded on Sundays, six days before the mission story is to be presented.
- Download high-resolution photos and more from the ADAMS databank: bit.ly/Living-on-the-Street.
- Download high-resolution photos of Thirteenth Sabbath projects from ADAMS: bit.ly/ECD-projects-2019.

would try harder in the morning.

The next day, he used his last money to buy breakfast.

In a week, John sold everything that he owned, even his cell phone, to buy food. But he still couldn't find work.

Three months passed.

One morning, John was wandering the streets and noticed a crowd sitting outside a Seventh-day Adventist church. His eyes were drawn to three street boys seated under a tree. He sauntered over to them and asked what was happening. The boys said they had been attending evangelistic

meetings every morning for a week and this was the last meeting.

John joined them to listen. His heart was warmed as he heard the preacher, a man from Ethiopia, speak about Jesus. He especially was touched when the preacher expressed love for street children.

"When you see street children, don't despise them," the man said. "They also are the children of God. It is not their wish to live on the street."

John and the three other street boys accepted the preacher's invitation to be baptized.

Church members welcomed the four boys to Kisumu Central Seventh-day Adventist Church. The boys were offered a room in the church's guesthouse and work at the church. The only requirement was to stay off the street and study when the new school year began.

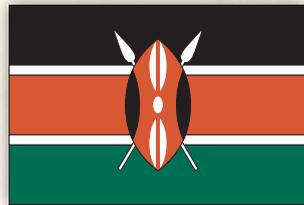
The boys found it difficult to adjust to their new life. After two weeks, one boy ran away. Three months later, another boy ran away. As the school year approached, the third boy told John that he also would leave. "I'm 18 years old, and I am too embarrassed to be in the fifth grade," he said.

John, however, happily returned to the university. His overjoyed parents resumed paying for his tuition and dorm room as before. The church paid for his food and other expenses. To John's delight, he learned that 400 students at the university were Seventh-day Adventists and they had their own campus church.

Today, John is 21 and looking forward to graduating and getting a good job.

"I want to help other street children start new lives with Jesus," he said.

By Andrew McChesney



KENYA | December 14

Magdaline Cherotich, 14

Taking Lunch to Mother

Big Sister called Magdaline Cherotich to the kitchen.

“I’ve cooked white rice and ugali,” she said. “Take the food to Mother for lunch.”

Magdaline filled a plastic container with the rice and ugali, a thick white porridge made from maize. Then she placed the container in a plastic bag and left her slum home in Kisumu, Kenya.

It took an hour to walk to Mother’s workplace. When Magdaline arrived, she saw Mother standing at the door. Mother worked as a security guard for a private security agency, and she had been sent to guard this building.

Mother smiled when she saw Magdaline and gave her a big hug. As Magdaline handed over the food, she heard singing. Curiously, she peeked behind Mother and saw people standing and singing.

“Oh!” Magdaline thought. “This is a church! I didn’t know that Mother is

guarding a church.”

Mother saw Magdaline’s surprise, and she knew that her daughter liked music.

“Why don’t you go inside and listen,” she said. “We can walk home together when the worship service ends.”

Magdaline slipped into a seat in the back row. She listened to the hymns, and she thought the sermon afterward was interesting. Later, she and Mother walked home together. She liked being with Mother. She had seven brothers and sisters, and Mother didn’t have much time to spare for her when she was at home.

The next Saturday, Big Sister called Magdaline to the kitchen again.

“I’ve cooked white rice and ugali,” she said. “Take some to Mother.”

Magdaline filled the plastic container, placed it in a plastic bag, and walked an hour to the church. Mother, standing in the door, gave her a big smile and hug.

“Why don’t you sit inside,” Mother said. “We can walk home together afterward.”

Magdaline again enjoyed the hymns and the sermon. Afterward, she and Mother walked home together. This time, Mother spoke about how much she liked the church. She had been listening to the sermons, and she told several Bible stories that she had heard. Magdaline liked hearing Mother talk about God.

After that, Magdaline took rice and ugali to Mother every Sabbath. She stayed for the sermon and walked home with Mother. She heard many Bible stories as Mother recounted her favorites. She especially liked the story of Job, who suffered terribly but never gave up. She could understand Job. She also had suffered after Father divorced Mother several years earlier. Mother had moved with her and her seven brothers and sisters to Kisumu to work.

After a while, Mother decided to give her heart to Jesus and was baptized.

Many other people also joined the church and got baptized. Soon no space remained in the church for all the people who came to worship, and the church moved to a bigger building. The pastor offered Mother a new job: to keep guarding the old church, which would be used as a meeting hall, and to help clean the new church. He also invited Mother

Story Tips

- Watch a YouTube video of Magdaline: bit.ly/Magdaline-Cherotich.
- Download medium-resolution photos for this story from our Facebook page: bit.ly/fb-mq. Photos are uploaded on Sundays, six days before the mission story is to be presented.
- Download high-resolution photos and more from the ADAMS databank: bit.ly/Taking-Lunch-to-Mother.
- Download high-resolution photos of Thirteenth Sabbath projects from ADAMS: bit.ly/ECD-projects-2019.

and her eight children to live in his old apartment in the old church.

Magdaline said God has blessed her family just like God blessed Job.

“Like Job, I will never give up,” she said. “I trust in God all the time.” 🌍

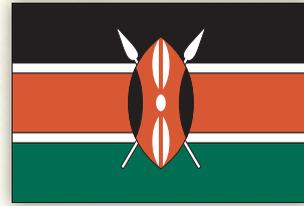
Part of this quarter’s Thirteenth Sabbath Offering will help construct an Adventist hospital on land beside Magdaline’s church, Victory Seventh-day Adventist Church, in Kisumu, Kenya. Thank you for planning to give a generous offering on Thirteenth Sabbath.

By Andrew McChesney



Kenya is well known around the world for its distance runners. The country has won nearly 100 Olympic medals for middle and distance running.





KENYA | December 21

Alvan Harold, 11

God or Ice Cream?

Ten-year-old Alvan Harold liked hearing coins jingling in his pocket as he walked home from school. Then he could stop by a shop and buy some crunchy nuts or a creamy ice cream.

One day, the Bible teacher shocked Alvan by talking about his beloved pocket money to his fifth-grade class.

“You should not spend all your pocket money on nuts and ice cream during the week but save some to give to God on Sabbath,” she said.

Alvan put money in the offering place on Sabbath. It was money that his father gave him on Sabbath morning.

Teacher spoke about that money, too.

“When you give money from your parents in church, you are only giving for your parents,” she said. “You aren’t giving your own money.”

She opened up Malachi 3:8 and read, “Will a man rob God? Yet you have robbed

Me! But you say, ‘In what way have we robbed You?’ In tithes and offerings.”

Alvan thought that Teacher was criticizing him, and he didn’t like that. But then he thought, “Maybe she is just a little bit right.”

It was Thursday, and Alvan had already spent all his pocket money for that week. He decided to save some money for God the next week. But the next week, he again spent all his money before Sabbath. This happened again the following week.

Two months passed, and Alvan was terribly disappointed with himself. He thought, “I’m trying so hard, but I’m not managing to save any money for offering.”

One day, he and his 17-year-old brother, Allan, passed an ice cream shop as they walked home. Alvan had a 20-shilling coin (U.S. 20 cents) in his pocket, and he decided to spend it on ice cream.

But Allan stopped him. “You don’t need

it,” he said. “It’s childish to walk around eating ice cream. I won’t walk around with someone eating ice cream.”

Alvan was annoyed. He wanted ice cream, but he couldn’t argue with his older brother. So he didn’t buy it.

When Sabbath arrived, he still had the 20 shillings in his pocket. He put the coin in the offering plate together with 20 shillings that his parents had given that morning. It felt good to give his own money to God. He had given up something that he really wanted for the offering money, and he suddenly realized that it wasn’t such a loss.

The next week, Alvan managed to save another 20 shillings, and he gave it as offering. He liked the feeling! He decided to give 20 shillings every Sabbath — and he has to this day.

To Alvan’s surprise, he has never run out of money again. Before, he never had enough money to last the week. But now he always has enough money to last the week. In fact, he often has more than 20 shillings left over, and he gives the extra money to Father to put into savings.

“I feel like I have more money than before, and I even give my Dad money to keep in savings for me,” he said.

Alvan, who is now 11, has never told

Story Tips

- Find Kisumu, Kenya, on the map.
- Challenge the children to give their pocket money to Jesus.
- Watch a YouTube video of Alvan: bit.ly/Alvan-Harold.
- Download medium-resolution photos for this story from our Facebook page: bit.ly/fb-mq. Photos are uploaded on Sundays, six days before the mission story is to be presented.
- Download high-resolution photos and more from the ADAMS databank: bit.ly/God-or-Ice-Cream.
- Download high-resolution photos of Thirteenth Sabbath projects from ADAMS: bit.ly/ECD-projects-2019.

his parents about his special offering. He said he doesn’t want to boast about what he is doing.

Sometimes he is tempted to buy nuts or ice cream, but he reminds himself that he must have 20 shillings for God on Sabbath.

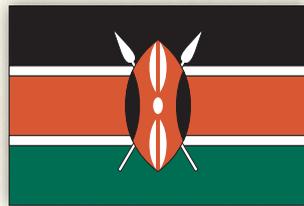
“I remind myself that God’s work is better than what I want,” he said. 🌐

By Andrew McChesney



MISSION
RECORD

The first Seventh-day Adventist missionary to Kenya was Canadian-born A.A. Carscallen, who arrived from Britain in 1906. Within 14 months, Carscallen reported that he had constructed basic mission buildings and had learned the Luo language, which had never before been written down. Later, he made a Luo translation of the Gospel of Matthew, which was accepted for publication in 1913 by the British and Foreign Bible Society of London.



13th SABBATH | December 28

Abigalle Nyatich, 14

Shy Angel

Narrator: Seven small boys caught Abigalle’s attention as she waited in line for lunch after the Sabbath sermon.

This was the first time that the shy 14-year-old girl had seen the boys at church. The oldest boy looked to be about 8 years old, and the youngest was around 4. Some of the boys wore shorts, and others wore long trousers. No matter what they wore, their clothes were dirty.

Abigalle wondered ...

Abigalle (talking to audience): What kind of parent would allow their child to come to church in dirty clothes?”

Narrator: Abigalle decided to keep an eye on the boys.

Abigalle (talking to herself): I want to help them. But how?

Narrator: As Abigalle watched curiously, the boys reached the front of the line in the Kindergarten Sabbath School classroom, a

simple wooden building with a dirt floor in Kisumu, Kenya. Several adult women piled the boys’ plates with rice, brown beans, chapati flatbread, and cabbage salad.

The boys sat together to eat in a grassy field outside the Sabbath School classroom. They didn’t talk with anyone. After eating, they left.

The next Sabbath, the seven boys came to lunch again. This time, however, they sat with the other children and made friends.

Visiting Boy 1: What is this church?

Church Boy 1: Victory Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Visiting Boy 2: What time do you come to church in the morning?

Church Boy 2: 8 a.m.

Narrator: After eating, the visitors stayed to watch Pathfinders and Adventurers

Thirteenth Sabbath Program

Before Thirteenth Sabbath:

- Send home a note to remind parents of the program and to encourage the children to bring their Thirteenth Sabbath Offering on December 28.
- Remind everyone that their mission offerings are gifts to spread God's Word around the world, and that one-fourth of our Thirteenth Sabbath Offering will go directly to help seven projects in the East-Central Africa Division. The projects are listed on page 3 and on the back cover.

march on the grassy field. A teacher invited the boys to join the march. The boys were shy and shook their heads. But when the teacher insisted, the boys smiled happily and joined the last 30 minutes of the march. Then the boys left.

Abigalle watched the boys all afternoon.

Abigalle (puzzled, to herself): I don't understand their dirty clothes. I want to help them. But how?

Narrator: The next Sabbath, the seven boys showed up in time for Sabbath School and went to the Primary class. They listened to the sermon and ate lunch. Afterward, they participated in the Adventurers club.

Abigalle: I know how I can help the boys!

Narrator: Abigalle went to the Sabbath School teacher.

Abigalle (speaking shyly to Teacher): Excuse me. This is the third Sabbath that those seven boys have come to church in dirty clothes. Maybe they need some help. Can we help them?

Teacher: That's a great idea! Thank you for telling me about them.

Story Tips

- Twelve children can participate in this skit in the roles of Narrator, Abigalle, Teacher, Church Boys 1 and 2, Visiting Boys 1 and 2, and five other visiting boys. The children don't need to memorize the script, but they should know it well enough that they don't have to read every word. The scenes can be acted out — even the Pathfinder march if the group is large enough — as the narrator reads.
- Pronounce Abigalle as: abby-GAIL.
- Show the map location of Kisumu, Kenya, on the screen when the narrator introduces to the story.
- Watch a YouTube video of Abigalle: bit.ly/Abigalle-Nyatich and show photos from the links: bit.ly/fb-mq or bit.ly/Shy-Angel.
- Encourage listeners to help someone secretly, without credit, like Abigalle.
- Download high-resolution photos of Thirteenth Sabbath projects: bit.ly/ECD-projects-2019.

Narrator: Teacher went over to the boys and asked about their homes. The boys said they lived near the church but their parents hadn't wanted them to attend. So,

they had snuck to church for lunch the first two Sabbaths. On the third Sabbath, their parents had allowed them to come.

Teacher also learned that the boys' parents didn't have much money. So, she organized a fundraiser for Adventurers' uniforms for the boys. Some church members contributed money for the blue and white cloth, and other sewed the cloth into uniforms. The boys were thrilled to receive the new clothes!

Abigalle also was happy! She was glad to see the boys making friends and learning about Jesus at church.

Seven months have passed, and the boys are still coming to church every Sabbath. But they no longer show up in dirty clothes. Their Adventurers' uniforms are always clean and neat.

Now here's something interesting. To this day, the seven boys don't know that Abigalle helped them get the Adventurers' uniforms. They don't know that she watched them. They don't even know that she exists. The boys and Abigalle have never spoken to each other. Abigalle doesn't want them to know what she did. In fact, no one knows about her

kindness except Teacher — and now you.

Abigalle: I don't know why I wanted to help them. I just had this desire in my heart. I love those seven boys. I hope and pray almost every day that they will bring their friends and parents to church and that they also will be baptized one day.

Narrator: For the past three months, we have heard stories about the wonderful things that God is doing in the lives of people living in the East-Central Africa Division. Today, our Thirteenth Sabbath Offering will assist seven projects in the East-Central Africa Division, including the construction of an Adventist hospital on the compound of Victory Seventh-day Adventist Church, where Abigalle helped those seven boys. Like Abigalle, we don't need recognition to help others. Thank you for your generous offering to help spread the good news that Jesus is coming soon. 🌍

[Offering]

By Andrew McChesney

Future Thirteenth Sabbath Projects

The Thirteenth Sabbath Offering next quarter will help the Inter-European Division to:

- Build a church with children's center in Sofia, Bulgaria
- Renovate the landmark main building at Marienhöhe Academy in Darmstadt, Germany
- Expand Sagunto Adventist College with a multipurpose building in Valencia, Spain

Play the Game

BAO -- A TRADITIONAL BOARD GAME

In Tanzania, Bao tournaments are held where hundreds of contestants take part to try and win the respected title of “Bao master.”

You can make a simple mancala board from things found around your house.

WHAT YOU NEED:

- A 12-hole egg carton
- Two small yogurt pots
- Scissors
- 48 playing pieces — marbles, beads, dried beans

WHAT YOU DO:

1. Cut off the top of the egg carton so you are left with 12 pockets.
2. Put a plastic cup at each end of the carton to store your winnings.
3. Distribute the 48 playing pieces among the 12 pockets and you are ready to play.

HOW TO PLAY

Setting Up

Before play begins, the players set up the board. Each player takes 24 stones or seeds and distributes them among the six shallow cups on their side of the board. The two larger cups at the end of each row — called mancalas — should remain empty.

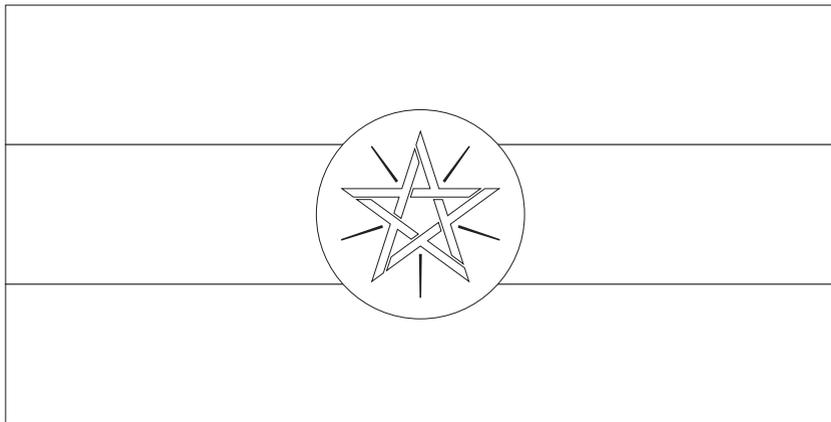
Sowing Seeds

The first player chooses one of the cups on his side of the board and takes all of the stones out of it. Starting with the next cup to the right, the first player drops one stone into each cup, including his own mancala; however, do not place a stone in the opponent’s mancala. This action leads to players dropping stones into cups on their opponent’s side of the board as well as their own. The second player then takes a turn, picking up the stones from one of the cups on their side of the board and dropping them into cups in a counter-clockwise direction.

Scoring Points

There are two ways to score points in a game of Mancala. Each stone in a player’s mancala at the end of the game represents a point. So, stones dropped into the mancala during the player’s turn are worth points. Also, if a player drops their last stone into an empty cup on his side of the board, they get to collect all the stones from the cup opposite the one they just dropped their last stone into. These stones also go in their mancala. Play ends when one row of cups is completely empty. The player with the most stones in his or her mancala wins.

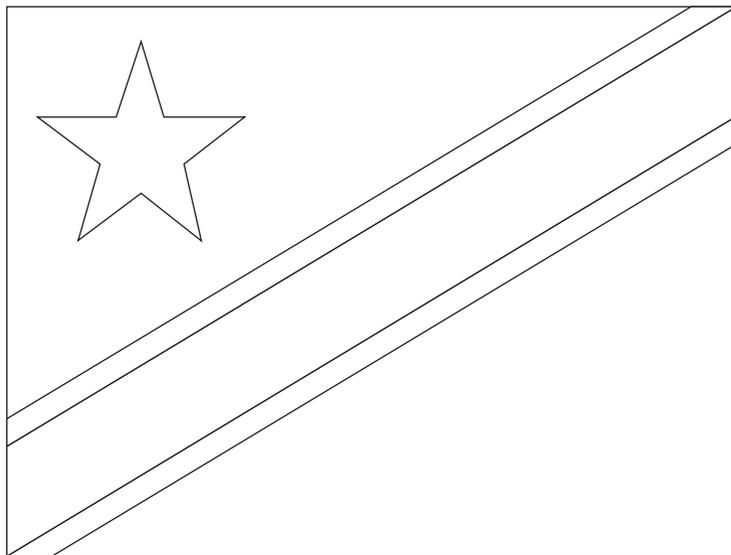
Color The Flag



ETHIOPIA

DIRECTIONS:

The top third is colored green, the middle third is yellow, and the bottom third is red. The circle in the middle is colored blue, with a yellow star.

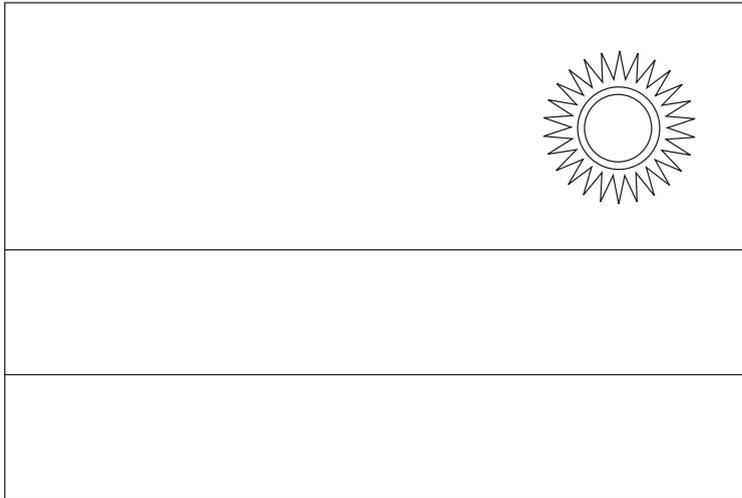


DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

DIRECTIONS:

The main part of the flag is colored blue. The wide band running diagonally from bottom left to top right is colored red and the thin stripes on either side of the red band are colored yellow. The star in the top left corner is colored yellow.

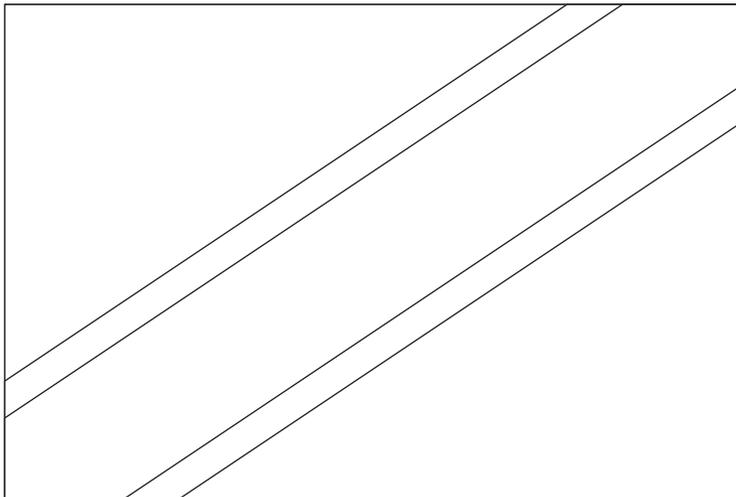
Color The Flag



RWANDA

DIRECTIONS:

The top half of the flag is colored blue, the middle stripe is yellow, and the bottom stripe is green. The sun in the top right corner is colored orange.

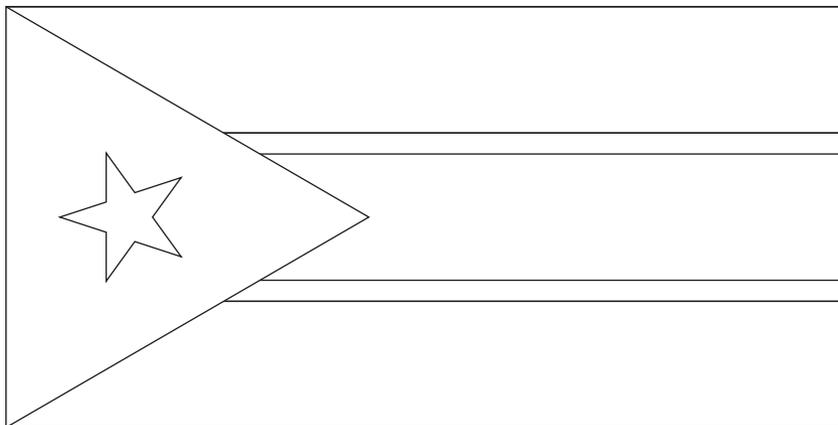


TANZANIA

DIRECTIONS:

The triangle at the top left is colored green and the triangle at the bottom right is colored blue. The diagonal stripes are colored, from top to bottom, yellow, black, and yellow.

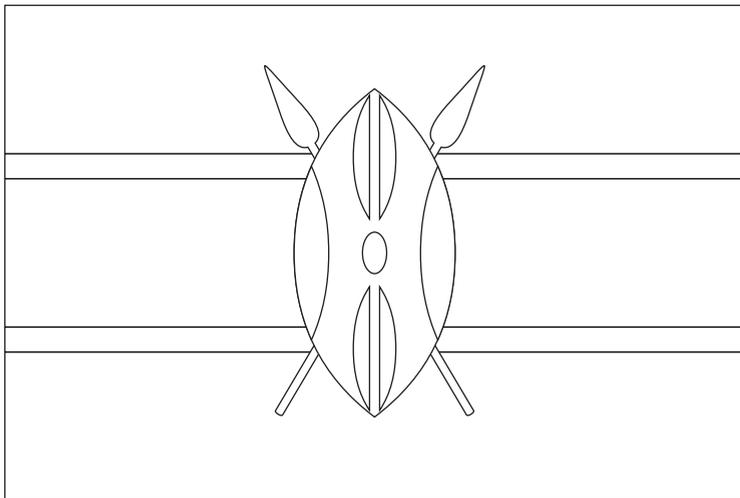
Color The Flag



SOUTH SUDAN

DIRECTIONS:

The triangle on the left is colored blue, with a yellow star. The stripes on the flag are colored, from top to bottom, black, white, red, white, and green.



KENYA

DIRECTIONS:

The top third is colored black, the middle red, and the bottom green.

The stripes separating the colors are left white. The shield in the middle is colored red with black semi-circles on the sides. The spears and the decorations in the middle of the shield are left white.

Leader's Resources

Be sure to download your free Mission Spotlight video, featuring video reports from around the East-Central Africa Division and beyond. Download or stream from the Adventist Mission website at bit.ly/missionspotlight. A printable mission bank image, which the children can color, can be downloaded at bit.ly/bank-coloring-page.

Online Information

Following are sources of information that may be helpful in preparing for the mission segment of Sabbath School. For more information on the cultures and history of the countries featured in this quarterly, visit your local library or a travel agency, or visit the websites listed below.

Ethiopia: government website	bit.ly/GovEth
Wikitravel	bit.ly/KenyaTra
Democratic Republic of Congo:	bit.ly/GovCongo
CNN Travel	bit.ly/CongoTra
Rwanda: government website	bit.ly/GovRwa
World Travel Guide	bit.ly/RwandaTra
Tanzania: government website	bit.ly/GovTan
Fodors	bit.ly/TanzTra
South Sudan: government website	bit.ly/GovSSud
Lonely Planet	bit.ly/SSudTra
Kenya: government website	bit.ly/GovKen
National Geographic	bit.ly/KenTra
Seventh-day Adventist	
East-Central Africa Division	bit.ly/ECSDA
East Kenya Union Conference	bit.ly/EKUCSDA
West Kenya Union Conference	bit.ly/WKUCSDA
Northern Tanzania Union Conference	bit.ly/NTUCSDA
Southern Tanzania Union Mission	bit.ly/STUMSDA
West Congo Union Mission	bit.ly/WCUMSDA

An offering goal device will help focus attention on world missions and increase weekly mission giving. Determine a goal for your class's weekly mission offering. Multiply it by 14, allowing a double goal for the Thirteenth Sabbath Offering.

Remind your Sabbath School members that their regular weekly mission offerings will help the missionary work of the world church and that one quarter of the Thirteenth Sabbath Offering will go directly to the projects in the East-Central Africa Division. On the twelfth Sabbath, report on mission giving during the quarter. Encourage members to double or triple their normal mission giving on Thirteenth Sabbath. Count the offering and record the amount given at the end of Sabbath School.

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Web site: AdventistMission.org

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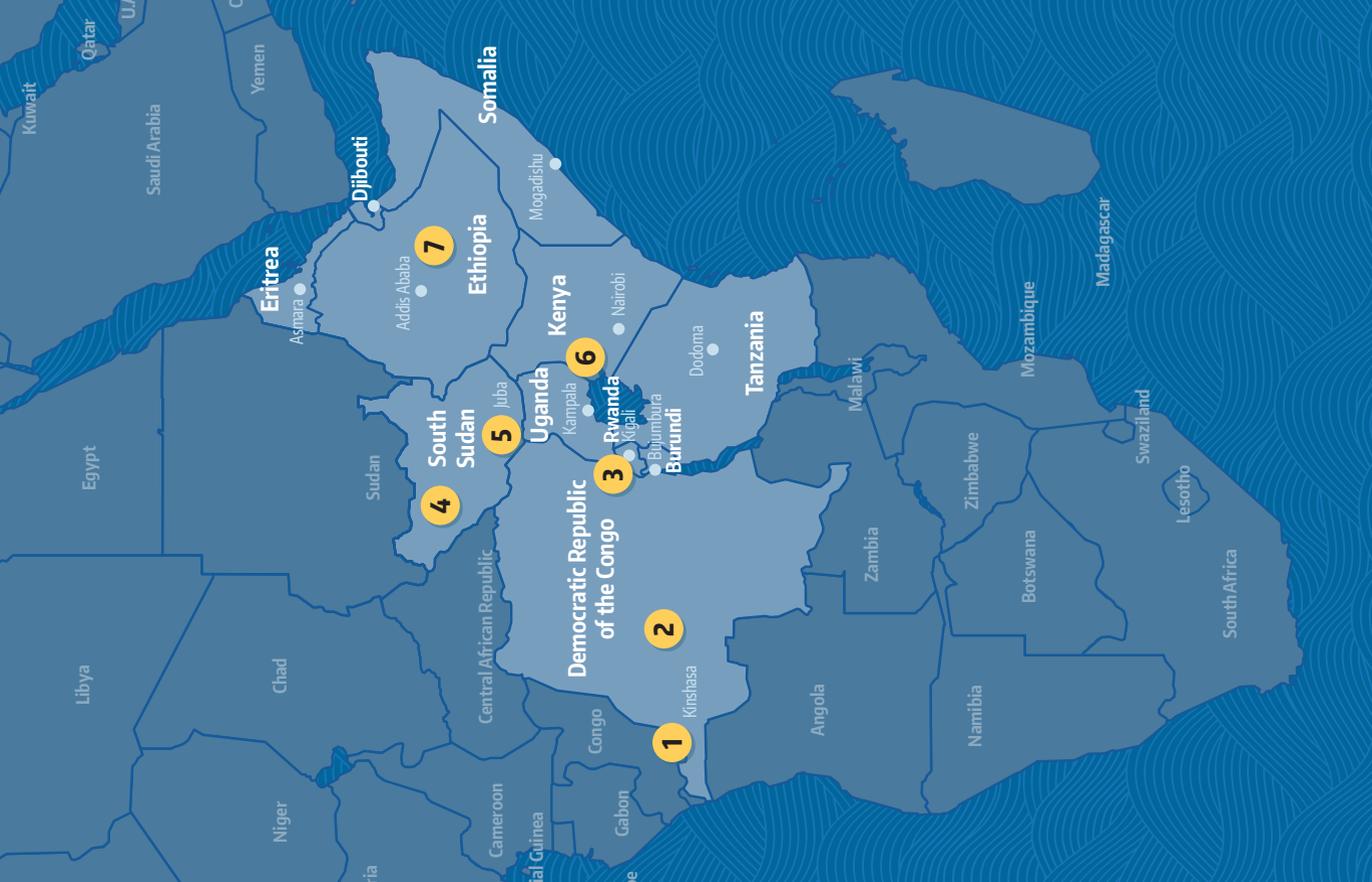
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EAST-CENTRAL AFRICA DIVISION

CONFERENCE	CHURCHES	COMPANIES	MEMBERSHIP	POPULATION
Burundi Union Mission	448	472	150,667	10,438,000
East Congo Union Mission	297	475	100,988	15,893,900
East Kenya Union Conference	3,224	1,919	549,323	44,483,480
Ethiopian Union Mission	984	414	183,627	105,914,000
North East Congo Union Mission	1,154	789	205,968	25,092,627
Northern Tanzania Union Conference	2,141	1,573	522,416	32,300,388
Rwanda Union Mission	1,844	694	863,972	12,250,000
Southern Tanzania Union Mission	937	851	161,053	25,173,612
Uganda Union Mission	1,084	2,103	380,532	42,756,000
West Congo Union Mission	617	530	303,092	40,562,473
West Kenya Union Conference	2,961	1,702	438,920	19,959,520
Attached Fields	68	204	35,703	18,516,000
Division Totals	15,759	11,726	3,896,261	393,340,000

PROJECTS

- 1 Expand health services at Kinshasa Adventist Clinic, Democratic Republic of Congo
- 2 Build three auditoriums at Philip Lemon Adventist University, Democratic Republic of Congo
- 3 Construct classrooms at Goma Adventist University, Democratic Republic of Congo
- 4 Open field headquarters, Wau, South Sudan
- 5 Establish Juba Adventist Secondary School, South Sudan
- 6 Construct Kisumu Adventist Hospital, Kenya
- 7 Build four children's Sabbath School classrooms, Ethiopia