



Fall 2013

# TENWEK TODAY

*A publication by Friends of Tenwek*

## Tenwek School of Nursing Poised for Growth



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*The School of Nursing, which is accredited by the Nursing Council of Kenya, has been given permission to expand to 40 students per year.*

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Tenwek's School of Nursing provides an exceptional nursing education to 80 enrolled students annually. The program, which requires three and one-half years of study to complete, grants diplomas that qualify students for service as midwives, general nurses, or community health nurses. With Tenwek's five-year Master Plan envisioning the addition of 200 beds, the need for qualified and committed nurses has never been greater. The growth of the hospital will necessarily demand a growth in the number of nursing professionals qualified to serve.

Currently each year, 20 new students are accepted to the program to replace the graduating students. The School of Nursing, which is accredited by the Nursing Council of Kenya, has been given permission to expand to 40 students per year. Training is delivered by 12 faculty members in a cyclical pattern: students attend classroom training for 13 weeks and then participate in a clinical rotation to practice what they have learned.

The current nursing school facilities include two classrooms; a laboratory with medical equipment and models for training; a library with medical volumes and three laptop computers available for online research; and

a modest housing unit with a kitchen and small common area for socializing. The 80 students share use of seven other laptop computers and the library is planning to add several more for research purposes.

Nursing school leaders hope to increase enrollment gradually by rotating in two groups of 20 students at different times in the year to reach the enrollment approved by the Nursing Council of Kenya. In the interim, they plan to increase enrollment to 30 students. The tuition cost for one student for the full program, including room and board, is \$5,937 in U.S. dollars. With some accepted students unable to meet that full expense, the school has established a revolving fund, sustained by donors, to assist students. There are no plans to increase tuition, but an existing budget deficit must be addressed.

The hospital has developed comprehensive plans for an addition to the nursing school that would include additional hostels, several new classrooms, and a larger kitchen/dining area to accommodate the expected growth in the program. FOT intends to spearhead fundraising for this project, as well as provide funding to meet tuition needs. More details will be announced soon.

# Featured Stories

## Tenwek Memories Last a Lifetime

Dr. Brynne Standaert

I first visited Tenwek 19 years ago with my husband, Dr. Rick Standaert. Residents in pediatrics and general surgery at the time, we had the good fortune of meeting and working with then medical student David Hoover – now Dr. David Hoover, pediatric surgeon and chairman of Friends of Tenwek!

My, where has the time gone? And isn't it amazing how God brings us back together again?

Our few months at Tenwek back in 1994 had a deep impact on our lives. Rick and I always have wanted to return to Tenwek

and share that experience with our children, Claire and Richard. This summer we made that dream a reality through the help of Samaritan's Purse, World Medical Mission, and Friends of Tenwek's David Hoover.

When we arrived, so much was the same, yet so much was different! We were so happy to see the iconic We Treat, Jesus Heals sign was still standing. It is the symbol of a truly amazing place and we pray it never comes down. The wards we spent endless hours in treating the sick so many years ago were still there, plus more buildings have sprung up all around them! The unique smells were just as I remembered. The scenery is still beautiful, as well as the hearts and smiles of the people.

I was pleasantly surprised to not see a single case of malaria, for when we were there before, so



Richard and Claire Standaert

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*Rick and I always have wanted to return to Tenwek and share that experience with our children, Claire and Richard.*

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Drs. Rick and Brynne Standaert, 1994



The Standaert family, 2013

many lives sadly were ended from that disease. I know education, bed nets, prayer, and determination made a huge difference in the community. What a blessing! Seeing a surgery residency program at Tenwek – as well as Kenyan medical stu-

dents and interns rotating through the many departments of Tenwek – is an amazing testimony of the great dedication of all the Tenwek long and short-term missionaries.

My children, Claire and Richard, really appreciated their time at Tenwek this summer. They experienced how others live and came away with a better understanding and appreciation for the gifts God gives them. Helping out on the wards and with the Tenwek community health program, they counted and packaged iron pills for pregnant Kenyan mothers, and went on numerous outings to far away communities weighing babies for well-baby visits and enjoying the children.



Richard and Claire weighing babies

They also organized, collected, and transported three huge suitcases of shoes and backpacks from the states for orphans, many of whose parents had died of HIV infection. You should have seen the smiles on all the children's faces when the gifts were delivered!

I am so thankful we were able to return to Tenwek this summer as a family. There is so much more I could relate, so many heart moving stories to tell. I just encourage you to take the leap of faith and serve at Tenwek, making your own memories to last a lifetime.

*Dr. Brynne Standaert is a pediatrician from Las Vegas, Nevada.*



Claire with children

## FOT Recognized as Non-Profit Charity by U.S. IRS; Announces *Sustaining Friends* Campaign

**Friends of Tenwek has been granted 501(c)(3) status as a charitable organization by the Internal Revenue Service!** This means FOT is able to directly solicit and receive donations that are deemed tax-deductible from our supporters. We are deeply grateful to World Gospel Mission for the assistance they provided in collecting gifts during the time we waited for this approval.

With this hurdle cleared, we are more focused than ever on building the Friends of Tenwek community. FOT is dedicated to developing relationships and resources that will help Tenwek Hospital fulfill its mission. Our goal is to establish a dedicated "alumni association" of physicians who have served at Tenwek Hospital and want to be informed about, involved with, and financially supportive of what's happening at Tenwek today.

To fulfill these goals, we explored various ways of creating a reliable revenue stream that will help us both build FOT connections and provide critical support for special projects at Tenwek. Numerous supporters have indicated the desire to make regular, monthly gifts to sustain our work.

With this in mind, we are introducing the *Sustaining Friends* program – an opportunity for Tenwek supporters to make regular monthly gifts at a specified level that is appropriate to the stage of your medical career. For your convenience, we have arranged for the monthly gifts to be charged to a credit card of your choice.



The Sustaining Friends levels of support are:

- **Medical Student** - \$10 per month
- **Medical Resident** - \$25 per month
- **Attending MD** - \$100 / \$150 / \$200 per month

We are working with an online donor service to process all one-time and recurring gifts and pledges. To make your gift online, please visit the FOT website at: [www.friendsoftenwek.org/about-fot/ways-to-help/](http://www.friendsoftenwek.org/about-fot/ways-to-help/)

## Dr. David Longstreth

I visited Tenwek in October/November 2012 during the two-week Cardiac Surgery team visit. It was so humbling to be part of a team that gave so much of their time, resources, and gifts to build up the Tenwek Hospital and help so many in need. I hope I can return someday. It is a very special place where I know miracles happen daily — big ones and little ones (if there is such a thing).

One evening we gathered and shared testimonies. The stories of God's hand in everyone's lives from medical students, to doctors, to those willing to hand out soccer balls to children shows that we each have a part to play in God's kingdom. And it is all for His glory, so there's no need to worry about anything but being obedient to His guidance and leaving the results in His hands!

I saw the beauty of how God used each person's gifts in blessing others, and it brought to mind Psalm 90:17 "May the favor of The Lord our God rest on us; establish the work of our hands for us – yes, establish the work of our hands."

*Dr. Longstreth specializes in biomedical technology at Vanderbilt Medical Center.*

# Featured Stories

## Over 6,000 Attend Children's Rally in Kericho

On August 10, 2013, the Africa Gospel Church (AGC) in affiliation with Tenwek Community Health and Development (TCHD), hosted a Children's Rally in Kericho, Kenya, based on the success of an earlier rally held in Bomet. The purpose of the event was to come alongside local churches to value, encourage, and support children's ministry and to promote a holistic ministry that helps churches see both the physical and spiritual needs of its people.

Based on pre-registration, area church leaders expected nearly 5,100 children to attend the Rally. However, the final number of children present totaled 6,321 and represented 300 churches. Jonathan Bii, director of TCHD, was thrilled at the attendance. "Thank God!" he exclaimed. "Despite schools being closed, we still had a lot of support from schools as well as churches."

Preparations for the Kericho Rally took three months of planning as well as more time invested in prayer and fundraising. AGC and TCHD worked in partnership with Carmel Baptist Church (North Carolina, US). In addition to the support of local churches, AGC was represented by the Assistant Bishop, Rev. David



Maritim, and National Children's Director Hellen Rutto.

The Rally featured singing and dancing from local youth groups, a puppet show, and, most importantly, the message of Jesus Christ. At the end of the teaching, over 1,000 children stood to respond to the invitation to accept Christ into their lives. Their hearts were softened to the call of the Spirit in their lives; praise God for that!



Prior to the Rally, 64 local church leaders received nine days of intensive training in order to counsel children through the decision of accepting Christ. The children

making decisions for Christ received counseling from these trained leaders. Each child's name and church was recorded for referral to home churches for continued follow-up. Because Christ not only wants us to become part of His family but desires us to know Him more, AGC is committed to disciple these children in order to encourage them to continue their walk with Him.

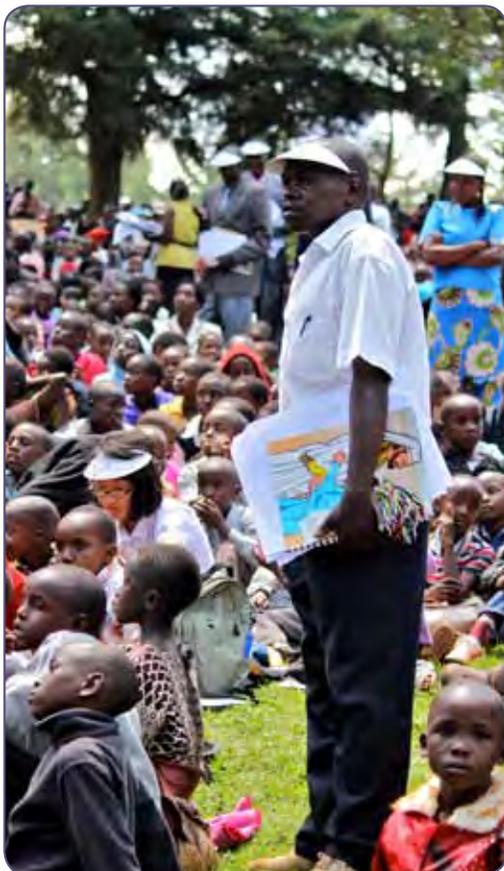
Despite the number of children in attendance and the number of souls that were saved, the day posed its challenges. Carmel Baptist Church had planned to send three representatives to the event but because of the devastating fire at the Nairobi airport, the team cancelled the trip, causing grief both in Kenya and North Carolina.

In addition, Hellen Rutto fell the morning of the event, causing team leaders to accompany her to the hospital for treatment of two facial lacerations. Praise God that she was treated quickly, allowing her to attend the event.

The Kericho Children's Rally is just the tip of the iceberg for the future of children's ministry in Kenya. Andrew Langat, financial coordinator for the rally, spoke candidly about the next steps for AGC and TCHD: "Our desire is that the churches learn to own this ministry for themselves so that we may praise with them rather than work for them."

Plans have been made to host another Rally in Nakuru on November 23, 2013. This really will focus on quality rather than quantity – to encourage discipleship and follow-up within the church communities. Carmel Baptist Church already has made plans to join AFC and TCHD for this event and, Lord willing, they will make the trip and be welcomed by their brothers and sisters in Kenya.

As praises are shared for a successful rally and plans for the next are commencing, the people of the Africa Gospel Church and Tenwek Community Health thank God in unison for a day of blessing shared with His children. As Andrew Langat expressed, "The purpose of this rally was to create awareness in the church to enhance children's ministry. We want to see a revival!"



## Meet Hannah Velling: FOT's Tenwek Intern

Hannah Velling is FOT's communications intern – serving on-site at Tenwek Hospital to help us make essential connections with visiting U.S. physicians and gather the news and information we need to keep all FOT supporters informed about what's happening at Tenwek today. Hannah is a 2013 graduate of Wheaton College who majored in psychology. In addition to providing administrative and other support to hospital leaders, Hannah organizes the weekly dinner meetings FOT sponsors for visiting physicians and coordinates information received from doctors who want to become members of FOT.



Hannah Velling

Hannah's enthusiasm for her job and her creativity and talent resulted in the creation of the Friends of Tenwek Facebook page, which she curates at: [www.facebook.com/FriendsOfTenwek](http://www.facebook.com/FriendsOfTenwek). Hannah's work also is evident in many of the stories in the FOT newsletter where she contributed her writing and photography.

Here is how Hannah describes her work for FOT:

*As the Friends of Tenwek Intern, I not only have the chance to develop communication skills, work on grant projects, and develop relationships with visiting and long term staff, but I get to have a blast doing it! The opportunities that arise in this position are endless. One day I'll be out in the community helping the medical team administer vaccines to children, and the next I'll be meeting with the Principle of the Nursing School trying to develop a strategy to help support their students. Every day is different, but that's the beauty of this job - you get to be creative! Stepping into the Tenwek community can be challenging but keeping your ear to the ground to hear what the Lord is doing is the best way to stay involved and invested. Being a part of Friends of Tenwek has taught me that obedience to the Lord's call, and love for Him and others, will always lead to where He wants you to be.*

# FOT News and Notes

## Ngito Water Bore Project Delayed by Drilling Problems



Earlier this year, FOT helped fund the initial drilling process for a water bore at the Ngito Dispensary. Unfortunately, after several attempts to drill – on occasion even reaching over 200 meters down – the drillers encountered bedrock. Over the two month period during which drilling was underway, two drill bits were destroyed. The contractor now is reviewing the land survey to determine

a new location for another drilling. Because of the problems encountered, the contractor has offered to pay for the next drill bit that will be needed.

A reliable supply of water at the dispensary compound is critical to its success – particularly since there are plans to make it the site of a small hospital for the area.

**Please add your prayers to ours for the success of the next water bore drilling.**

**We will provide an update in the next newsletter.**



Dr. Michael Chupp and Dr. Moses Tanoi

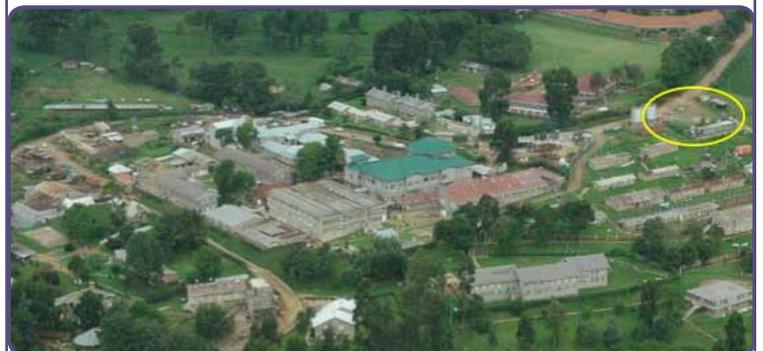
## Construction of New Eye/ Dental Building at Tenwek



Proposed design for new eye/dental building

Tenwek's Eye Department continues to be one of the most proactive departments in terms of evangelism and missions. Dr. Ben Roberts recently traveled with some of his staff to South Sudan where they performed cataract surgeries. Tenwek is moving forward with plans to construct a new building on the hospital campus that will be dedicated to eye and dental care, two urgent areas of health care in Kenya.

The hospital is soliciting bids from at least five contractors for the building project and is on track to break ground for the facility in February 2014. An American contractor from California, whose wife has served at Tenwek as a surgeon in the past, has agreed to come to Tenwek and help with the construction project. Hospital administrators are still awaiting word on the status of the Phase 2 grant they have requested through the American Schools and Hospitals Abroad program of USAID. In the meantime, Dr. Roberts continues to raise funds for Phase 1 of the project; approximately \$170,000 is still needed.



Proposed campus location

# HMIS Launches with Immediate Impact



Tenwek's new Health Management Information System is now serving Tenwek's outpatient and emergency departments with full implementation hospital-wide expected by year's end. The wireless laptop system has made a tremendous difference in the hospital's ability to efficiently manage its finance and billing systems. It has helped physicians and staff demonstrate to sometimes skeptical patients that there is no favoritism in how patient care is delivered. The use of electronic records has increased efficiency, reduced patient waiting times, and eliminated lost files. These milestone achievements are appreciated by Tenwek's young Kenyan staff and patients, who are enthusiastic about the improvements.

The expense for creating the new system, however, has been substantial. The project required ten times more customization than anticipated. FOT has pledged \$140,000 for the HMIS project; to date, \$25,000 has been provided to Tenwek. The balance of funds needed to meet the project's \$466,000 total budget have been coming directly from the hospital's operating budget and cash reserves as bills are received. Tenwek administrators have been willing to use reserves because completing the project is critical to maintain the patient care improvements and financial records momentum that has been achieved.

**FOT is soliciting contributions to provide another installment of the remaining \$115,000 funds pledged to Tenwek for this important project. A cash infusion to the project now would provide significant relief to Tenwek during a very challenging budget year at the hospital. Your consideration of this urgent need is greatly appreciated.**

**To make your gift online please visit:  
[www.friendsoftenwek.org/about-fot/ways-to-help](http://www.friendsoftenwek.org/about-fot/ways-to-help)**

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# Staying Connected

## Visit Friends of Tenwek Website & Facebook Page!

The Friends of Tenwek website ([www.friendsoftenwek.org](http://www.friendsoftenwek.org)) brings you the latest news from Tenwek Hospital, and keeps you up-to-date on what the missionary doctors and their families, visiting physicians, and hospital staff are doing in support of Tenwek's unique medical and spiritual mission in Kenya.

The site includes links to the blogs maintained by Tenwek staff and offers you the opportunity to share your own Tenwek story. Through this site and our new Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/FriendsOfTenwek](http://www.facebook.com/FriendsOfTenwek)), we are creating a vibrant online community of Tenwek "alumni" who want to remain in touch with the hospital and with their Tenwek colleagues. We invite you to visit both sites at your earliest opportunity!



## Visit Tenwek

If you want to use your medical skills and specialty training to serve the people of Kenya, it's never too soon (or too late) to visit. Physicians from all specialty areas are needed and welcomed.



Short-term service trips to Tenwek Hospital for Christian physicians, dentists, and other medical professionals are arranged through **World Medical Mission**, a division of Samaritan's Purse. This international relief organization coordinates all details, including:

- Matching each professional's interests, abilities, and time frame
- Providing orientation and spiritual resources before and during the assignment
- Arranging international travel schedules and airline ticketing
- Assisting with necessary visas, permits, and other field requirements
- Coordinating field housing and transportation
- Assisting volunteers in handling financial details related to overseas service



For specific information about short-term assignments at Tenwek Hospital, please visit the World Medical Mission web page at: [www.samaritanaspurse.org/index.php/wmm/](http://www.samaritanaspurse.org/index.php/wmm/)

## How You Can Help

As a valued member of Friends of Tenwek, we invite you to discover new opportunities for involvement with Tenwek Hospital. You can help in any of the following ways:

- **Pray** for the hospital's staff, operations, and specific needs we will bring to your attention.
- **Be an ambassador** for Tenwek to your church's mission and/or service board and leaders.
- **Encourage colleagues** to consider a volunteer service assignment at Tenwek.
- **Return to Tenwek** for a volunteer assignment in your area of medical expertise.
- **Make a financial gift** to meet critical needs at Tenwek Hospital:  
[www.friendsoftenwek.org/about-fot/ways-to-help/](http://www.friendsoftenwek.org/about-fot/ways-to-help/)

## Share Your Story!

In our experience, every U.S. physician who serves a short-term medical mission at Tenwek Hospital has a deeply personal experience – as evidenced by stories from Dr. Brynne Standaert and Dr. David Longstreth in this issue. Your Tenwek experience is important to us – and to your colleagues. We will feature many of your stories in this newsletter and on our website – to inform and encourage others who share and value the Tenwek experience. Please visit the FOT website at [www.friendsoftenwek.org](http://www.friendsoftenwek.org) to learn how to share your story. We want to hear from you!

### Tenwek Hospital Mission

*Tenwek Hospital is a Christian institution that seeks to exemplify Christ in all aspects of what we do. Our motto, We Treat – Jesus Heals, is Tenwek's guiding belief and the hope that we offer to each patient.*

Friends of Tenwek is committed to fostering communication among U.S. physicians who have served at Tenwek and know first-hand how vital the hospital's medical and spiritual mission is to the people of Kenya and beyond. As an independent 501c3 non-profit charitable organization, we also solicit tax-deductible donations in support of Tenwek's mission to treat patients in the name of Jesus and its unique "teaching-sending" ministry.

