

RICHEY family



June 2026

Dear Pastors, Supporters, and Friends,

We thank God for allowing us to have amazing partners as we serve Him here in Kenya. There have been many blessings of growth and progress, as well as a personal loss. We are grateful for all.

As our members have continued to grow spiritually and doctrinally, we have transitioned from Connie and me leading most aspects of the ministry to the teachers doing most things, learning by our example of church service. Now we are almost completely removed from all functions of Lighthouse Baptist Church. The Sunday school program is now run by a wonderful lady named Jelda, and our ministry focused on couples is now being led by a good man by the name of Tito. Both Jelda and Tito were saved and baptized through the church a few years ago. Tito recently held a conference for all the parents of our church, which was a great success. Connie and I are involved in operations of the church only when the leaders of various ministries seek us for advice. It is with great joy that we share this with you, as we have reached this stage of the church plant.

The church had a real milestone when two of our members got married. It has been a slow process to instill Biblical truth concerning marriage and its value. The public expression of that couple, Eric and Jane, has served as an example to many others in the area of marriage and a wedding ceremony. Three questions here will tell whether two people who are together are married or not: (1) Do both sides of your family agree that you are married? (2) Do your fellow church members see that you are really married? (3) Does society (the government) know that you are married? Our church constitution will require a clear testimony of these to qualify for office of pastor or deacon. This wedding is the first to symbolize a Biblical commitment of marriage within our church, and we praise God!

On a much grander note, as previously stated, the Kenyan church members have been taking on more and more responsibility. I have announced to the church that I am stepping down as their pastor in the near future—IT IS TIME! Emmanuel, the man who has been at my side now for four years as assistant pastor, has been leading the church for the last two months, as I have been present but deferring most responsibilities over to him. I am only involved as Emmanuel might request. Currently on Sundays, I am on property but remain out of sight so that our people will see that Emmanuel is capable and learn to follow him, while I am accessible if needed. Please pray for our church to grow into national leadership, away from dependency on the “missionary.” In the near future, the church will vote him in as their pastor officially; at which time, I will stop attending regularly.

For a year now, we have had a weekly Bible study on Tuesday evenings, resulting in many salvations and much spiritual growth. Could this be the foundation of the next church plant? Pray with us about the future.

On a personal note, my father passed away in January. His lack of presence left a lot of unfinished issues that have been quite a challenge for our entire family. God allowed me to spend two weeks with him when we knew his days were limited, but I returned to Kenya, my calling, knowing my dad’s time was short but unknown. Two weeks later, he left this world and, by faith in Christ, went to Heaven. My dad was my hero until the end and always will be.

Serving Kenyans on your eternal behalf,

Andy & Connie Richey

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