

Light up a child's future

Stratford and Evesham Methodist Circuit Project 2018/19



More than £4000 raised

Almost 600 million people in Africa have no access to electricity. 75% of Kenyan families depend on home-made kerosene lamps which produce little light, lots of toxic black smoke, and can easily cause house fires. In 2018 the Circuit decided to support the Elsa Conservation Trust's Centre for Education in Sustainability's solar lamp programme in Central Kenya to make solar lamps available to needy families who still rely on kerosene lamps. Well over 200 of the 'jam-jar' style lamps (see above) are now in use, and guests visiting the Eco Lodge at Elsamere are frequently making donations towards the purchase of more of these lights which, as the quote below illustrates, are making a real difference to children's lives.

With much honour and respect, I thank you for donating a solar lamp to me because has helped me at home when I read and writing homework. Secondly it has helped me because I have improved my performance in all subjects. Whatever I read at night am able to understand and remember. I would like to be a lecturer in future. I thank you for what you have done and may the Almighty God bless you in abundance. (Monica Waithira aged 13).

Light up a community's future



In the second phase of the project, Elsamere is focussing on 'forgotten' communities in Northern Kenya. Working with Pastor Thomas, a Methodist Minister who is planting churches in the Samburu District, the project is using larger German designed, but locally made, solar packages which provide two brighter lights, can charge two mobile phones, and can be repaired locally, should the need arise. The first batch of 34 units were distributed to Samburu communities in July 2019; we anticipate our funding will support another 50.

Pastor Thomas see above (from Mgutuk Engiloi Methodist Church in Samburu) writes: 'The church, the pastor, and the church leaders appreciate so much the support we have received from the Methodist Church of UK, partners with Elsamere Conservation Trust, of the lamps. Our people are very happy and they have seen the church has a role to play in our community. We really thank God for giving us friends who are ready to partner with us to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ in the unreached community.'

Asante kubwa sana - thank you so much

creating awareness changing attitudes encouraging action