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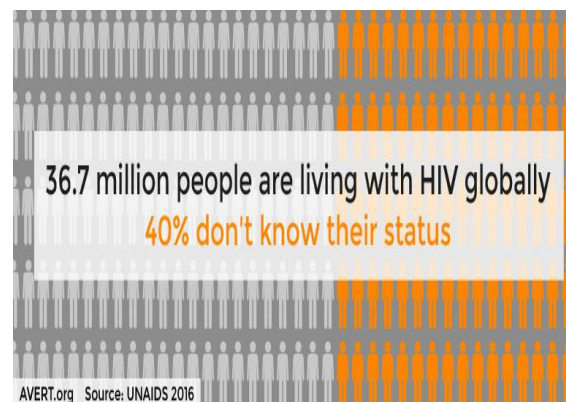
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STATISTICS

	United States	Kenya	Difference
Population	320 Million	45 Million	U.S. is 7 X Greater (275 Million More in U.S.)
Living With Aids	1.2 Million	1.6 Million	Kenya 25% Greater (400,000 more in Kenya)
New Diagnosis in 2015	47,000	98,000	Kenya 2 X Greater (51,000 More Diagnosed)
Deaths 2015	7,000	61,000	9 X Greater (54,000 More deaths in Kenya)

HIV disease continues to be a serious health issue for parts of the world. Worldwide, there were about 2.1 million new cases of HIV in 2015. About 36.7 million people are living with HIV around the world, and as of June 2016. An estimated 1.1 million people died from AIDS-related illnesses in 2015. Sub-Saharan Africa, which bears the heaviest burden of HIV/AIDS worldwide, accounts for 65% of all new HIV infections. Other regions significantly affected by HIV/AIDS include Asia and the Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean, and Eastern Europe and Central Asia.

If interested in participating in The Gathering Place
Intercessor Team, please contact:
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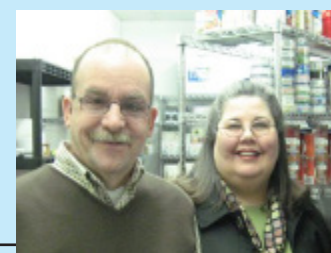
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Gathering Place

JAN/FEB/MARCH 2017
Volume 21, Issue 1

Update



TREASURES BEYOND COMPARE....

From Bob's Heart

My Pastor, my small group leader, my Wife, my inner voice and my God have all been encouraging me to set my eyes on the New Year. For me it has also meant the immediate future. As part of that plan I have committed to consistent Morning Prayer, Devotions and cover-to-cover Bible reading.

I started with "In The Beginning" so about the end of week one I arrive at Genesis 19 with the story of Abraham and his three visiting Angels. Of course there is the part about Sodom and Gomorrah which I have read many times before. Then here comes verse 17 and out of the blue; "When Lot and his family had safely left the city one of the Angels ordered 'Run for your lives! And don't look back or stop anywhere in the valley. Escape to the Mountain or you will be swept away.'"

I believe in my Heart of Hearts that the Slums of Nyalenda are our next summit to climb. Oh Yes there are Treasures beyond compare on that mountain top. The lives and souls of thousands.

The Main words that JUMPED OUT at me were "Run, Don't Look Back, Escape to the Mountain". WHOA, so I'm thinking, "Are you talkin to me??" He didn't mean run from the verse either. Yes, He was talking to me. I had been asking God to reveal something for 2017. Something new, something for my personal life, my married life, my family life, my church life and, yes, my ministry life.

As I began to earnestly and prayerfully try to grasp the meaning of this scripture, I became drawn into its leading and its importance to be obeyed. Our lives are like tapestries, countless threads with a rainbow of colors, twisted and knotted, arranged by its/Our Creator to tell a story, depict an event or reveal words of Wisdom. From our vantage point most of the time we only see the twisted, crossed stitches and knots that seem to have no rhyme or reason. So I asked God for a glimpse through His eyes of what His work in me looks like.

I don't have a perfectly clear view as of yet, However, He did remind me of Psalms 121: 1- 8.

"I will lift up mine eyes unto the Hills (that mountain), from whence cometh my help. My help cometh from the Lord, which made the heaven and Earth. He will not suffer my foot to be moved: he that keepeth thee will not slumber.

Behold He that keepeth Israel will not slumber nor sleep.

The Lord is thy keeper:

the Lord is thy shade upon thy right hand. The sun shall not smite thee by day, nor the moon by night.

The Lord shall preserve thee from all evil:

He shall preserve thy soul.

The Lord shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in

from this time forth, and even for evermore." (KJV)

So, for now, this shall be the Mountain to which I run.

In October of 2015, we were contacted by the Maisha Project in Kisumu, Kenya

with an inquiry on the possibility of TGP coming alongside them in ministering to people with HIV/AIDS in a slum area of 800,000 people called Nyalenda. After a two week visit to Maisha in April 2016, the prospect of a partnership became evermore exciting and clearer as to its viability.

I recalled a conversation I had had with Mr. Roger North, a well-respected businessman, a number of years ago about TGP spreading our tent stakes internationally while maintaining a local presence. One of his more interesting comments was, "Bob, you realize you can't do both." Those words have stuck in my mind.

I believe that the RUNning is to God/the Hill (from whence cometh my strength), not away from anything. Yes, learning from the past, but not looking back with regret or longing. Keeping one's eye on the Mountain. These two dynamics seem to be the starting line for 2017. Our Goal: the Mountain. You would think after 42 years walking with God and 30 years in Ministry that reaching that Mountain top should seem easier. Let me tell you something: it does get closer but my goodness, the closer you get, the bigger it appears!

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"Unto Him shall the gathering of the people be." Genesis 49:10

Bob's Heart Cont'd from Pg. 1

I'm reminded of a trip I and two friends, Barry Badger and Bob Bucks, took to climb Mount Marcy in New York State. It took us three days to reach the summit each carrying about 75% of our body weight in our back packs. The morning we prepared to climb the final ascent we left everything behind, everything but each other and our Guide, God. We focused on the summit in a torrential downpour, strong winds blowing our slickers over our heads, no visibility at all.

Took a picture of the National Geographic bronze plaque to commemorate its 5,433 foot height, prayed and headed down. *(We did it again the next year just to get the real view from the top.)*

Back to the point of this Bob's Heart.

I believe in my Heart of Hearts that the Slums of Nyalenda are our next summit to climb. Oh, Yes, there are treasures beyond compare on that mountain top: the lives and souls of thousands. To make this journey we must leave the things that encumber us behind. So, with our eyes fixed on God's Mountain, The Gathering Place will approach this new starting line that we might Run the race and be victorious and win the prize.

Even Sir Edmund Hillary needed people to invest in his mountain top quest. Likewise, we need you to stand along the path and cheer us on with encouragement, prayer and financial support.

Pastor Bob**"CLIENT WORDS"****Pastor Bob, Mel, Norm & staff**

Thanks for having faith in me always.
Thanks for going out of your way to
show me the Way!

Thank you for going above and
beyond to keep me coming back.

Thanks for keeping me in your prayers
& blessing me with the Spirit of God.

And most of all, thank you for
just letting me be Me!!!

Love Always, Rhonda

**Please consider The Gathering Place when doing your
online shopping. Go to www.amazon Smile and
select Gathering Place!!!**

We would  your support!

Buy your Valentine's Day gifts at
smile.amazon.com and Amazon donates.



Melanie's Minute

Dwight Nelson recently told a true story about the pastor of his church. He had a kitten that climbed up a tree in his backyard and then was afraid to come down. The pastor coaxed, offered warm milk, etc. The kitty would not come down. The tree was not sturdy enough to climb, so the pastor decided that if he tied a rope to his car and pulled it until the tree bent down, he could then reach up and get the kitten.

That's what he did, all the while checking his progress in the car. He then figured if he went just a little bit further, the tree would be bent sufficiently for him to reach the kitten. But as he moved the car a little further forward, the rope broke.

The tree went 'boing!' and the kitten instantly sailed through the air - out of sight.

The pastor felt terrible. He walked all over the neighborhood asking people if they'd seen a little kitten. No. Nobody had seen a stray kitten. So he prayed, 'Lord, I just commit this kitten to your keeping,' and went on about his business.

A few days later, he was at the grocery store, and met one of his church members. He happened to look into her shopping cart and was amazed to see cat food. This woman was a cat hater and everyone knew it, so he asked her, 'Why are you buying cat food when you hate cats so much?'

She replied, 'You won't believe this,' and then told him how her little girl had been begging her for a cat, but she kept refusing. Then a few days before, the child had begged again, so the Mom finally told her little girl, 'Well, if God gives you a cat, I'll let you keep it.' She told the pastor, 'I watched my child go out in the yard, get on her knees, and ask God for a cat. And really, Pastor, you won't believe this, but I saw it with my own eyes. A kitten suddenly came flying out of the blue sky, with its paws outspread, and landed right in front of her.'

***Never underestimate the Power of God and
His unique sense of humor.***

Anyone can count the seeds in an apple; but only God can count the apples in a seed.

Melanie**PRAY WITH US REGARDING...**

- Board Members and New Board Members
- Spiritual Direction
- Salvation for our Clients
- Continued Health for TGP Staff
- Financial Breakthrough
- People of Kenya
- For Pastor Bob as he prepares training materials

"EMERGING GRACE INITIATIVE" 2016 BANQUET

(L-R back row) Bill Finkill, Pastor Bob Lewis, Lisa Beard, Beatrice Williamson, Nancy Martin, Jesse Martin (Front row) Margaret Finkill, Melanie Lewis & Charlotte Martin

**THANKSGIVING/CHRISTMAS
2016 VOLUNTEERS**

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"A bunch of us are getting together at my place Saturday night to ignore each other and stare at our phones. Would you like to come?"

ONE A-CHORD CHOIR**Maisha Children's Choir****Park City Diner/Knight and Day Diner*****"SHARING OUR SUCCESS PROGRAM"***

Please continue to use your S.O.S. card at either Park City Diner or Knight and Day Diner. The Gathering Place will continue to receive 10% of your purchase! If you did not receive a card and would like one, please call our office at (717) 295-4630 and we will make sure you get one!

IT'S NEVER TO LATE!

With proper ID, the groups listed below will get the designated discounts as well from Park City and Knight & Day Diners.

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25% - Fire Fighters	15% - Park City Mall & Plaza Employees
10% - Veterans	10% - Hospice
10% - Active Military	50% - On-Duty Law enforcement