



## **2025 Newsletter**



# Executive Summary

Charitos Transformation Africa (CTA) is a Christian charitable organization dedicated to transforming communities through the Gospel, discipleship, leadership development, education, healthcare, and food security. In 2025, CTA significantly expanded its ministry impact across Lamu County and the wider Coastal Region of Kenya, serving Churches, Pastors, Missionaries, farmers, women, youth, and vulnerable households amid challenging social, economic, and environmental conditions.

Key achievements during the year included progress in the construction of the Bargoni Church building—the first church building in an Aweer village inside Boni Forest—supported by partners from South Africa. CTA strengthened community resilience and stewardship through Farming God's Way training, which demonstrated higher yields and improved soil conservation compared to conventional farming, with trainees already replicating the model locally.

CTA played a central role in equipping church leaders through extensive pastors', missionaries', Sunday school teachers', men's, and women's trainings. Notably, the Lamu Islands Pastors and Missionaries Training brought together leaders from across the archipelago for the first time, providing mentorship, discipleship, leadership resources, and solar lamps for off-grid ministry. Follow-up reviews confirmed strong uptake of the training content and a high demand for continued capacity building, especially in discipleship among believers from Muslim backgrounds.

In partnership with The Voice of the Martyrs (VOM) and Biblica, CTA conducted comprehensive Bible needs assessments across Lamu County, revealing widespread shortages of Bibles and audio Scriptures due to poverty, language barriers, illiteracy, and remoteness. These assessments are directly informing large-scale Bible distribution initiatives planned for 2026. Evangelistic outreach through the Jesus Film and "Walking with Jesus" series reached hundreds of people, resulting in new conversions and strengthened local Church engagement.

CTA also continued its student sponsorship program, celebrating successful graduations such as that of a university student affected by past terrorism, while responding to numerous additional requests for educational support. Throughout the year, the ministry faced major challenges including flooding, drought, limited funding, leadership tensions among some Church networks, and the urgent need to replace an aging ministry vehicle.

Overall, 2025 was a year of visible spiritual growth, community transformation, and strengthened partnerships. CTA enters 2026 with a clear vision to deepen discipleship, expand Bible access, enhance food security, and equip churches to stand firm and multiply in the face of ongoing adversity.

*Michael Mbugua*  
**National Director**  
**Charitos Transformation Africa.**

# February and March Activities

## Bargoni Church Construction

The construction of Bargoni Church building has been on- going. Michael and Pastor Eliud have been overseeing the work. The Walmer Methodist Church in Port Elizabeth, South Africa had raised some funds towards the building and the Missioners from Walmer Methodist Church came and participated for nine days in putting up the Church structure. The Walmer Methodist Church has committed to continue to raise more funds towards the completion of the building. The roofing, mudding, plastering and flooring has taken place.

More funds are still needed for doing the painting and equipping the Church with seats. Fencing the Church compound is also critical to keep it safe from intruders and roaming livestock, especially during Church activities. Bargoni is the first Aweer village inside Boni Forest.

## Tearfund Training - 10th & 11th February

Michael attended a two days training workshop in Nairobi organized by Tearfund on community mobilization and engagement for sustainable development. He had joined other Missionaries from the Coastal region for the training.





## Joseph and Zintle Home-coming

On February 22rd, Michael & Alice had a home coming celebration of their son Joseph and his wife Zintle who had their wedding in Port Elizabeth, South Africa in the month of September 2024. They had invited guests and other believers to come and grace the occasion. They thank God for his loving kindness and thank all who came to celebrate and joined them in thanksgiving.



## Harvest Christian Church Missions Visit

On 1st of March CTA received Alfonso and Adri and two other Pastors from Harvest Christian Church South Africa, Pastor Ken Holloway and the new Missions Pastor Cyle Pulford. The team held discussions with Michael and Alice and made arrangements on supporting several Christian farmers from Bargoni, Hindi, Mokowe and Safirisi areas to attend a Farming God's way training in Kijabe.

The team also attended a Sunday Service together in Bargoni village, held for the first time in the partially completed new Church building.

## Farming God's Way

Creation Stewards International, Kenya, is located in Kijabe. It trains God's people to become good stewards of God's Creation.

### Training Topics include:

- Biblical Worldview on creation stewardship
- Farming God's Way
- Tree nursery management, forestry education, and grafting of fruit trees
- How to make and use Fireless cookers
- Beekeeping
- Wildlife conservation

The first group of 4 participants from Hindi Region went to Kijabe in January. The second group of 11 went in April where they took five days of intensive learning on farming that brings glory to God. They learnt practically the difference between Farming God's Way and Conventional agriculture. All FGW plots were paired with the conventional plot. Both plots were given equal treatment in terms of crop variety, planting date, spacing, planting depth and equal amounts of external inputs and rainfall. Farming God's way plots produces an average of 2 times more yield than the conventional plots.

In farming God's Way, there is zero tillage, year round mulch cover ('God's Blanket'), and crop rotation. As a result, water runoff is very slow and the soil erosion is minimal. While on the conventional farming, fields are plowed before planting, zero mulch cover and crop rotation, resulting to large amounts of soil erosion.

Majority of those who got the training, including Michael and Alice, have started practicing the farming method on a small scale with great results.

## Bible Needs Assessment

A needs assessment to determine approximately how many believers in Lamu County need Bibles and in which languages and formats they best understand was conducted. The assessment was requested by The Voice of the Martyrs (VOM) to help them plan on giving out Bibles to those who need them the most. VOM works very closely with Charitos.

The assessment was only for those believers who sincerely needed the Bibles and don't have a copy. The assessment also required Pastors to give at least three reasons why in their observation some members do not have Bibles in their congregations.

The tables below summarize the findings from the assessment. The data is from 200 Churches, slightly more than half of all the Churches in Lamu County, including the Churches from seven Islands that form the larger Lamu archipelago.

Language	Swahili	Giryama	Kikuyu	Taita	Kamba	Pokomo	Duruma	Meru	English
<b>Total</b>	5,621	683	646	44	324	232	46 (A7)	45	1,730
<b>Audio Bible Needs</b>	1,099	483	122	1	48	43	7	13	90

**Total Church Members from the 200 Churches assessed came to 16,276.**

Other Minority Languages with Bible Needs in Lamu County included the following: Teso, Kalenjin, Luo, Luhya, Kisii, Waata, Tharaka, Chonyi, Orma, Somali and Maasai.

NB: Close to a half of the Churches did not submit their data.

## Reasons Given Why Believers Who Do Not Have Bibles

Some of the reasons given why believers do not have Bibles in these Churches included the following:

- Lack of Bibles in the needed Language
- Bibles are costly, not affordable to many.
- Assumption/Ignorance
- Prioritizing other things other than God
- Poor financial status
- New converts
- Old age and loss of eyesight/ Impaired vision/ Lack of reading glasses
- High levels of illiteracy
- Poor reading culture
- Some were lost/burnt during the terrorist attacks on Christians in previous years.
- Lack of Bookshops where Bibles are stocked
- Use of phones to access Bibles/ Listening to TV and Radio preachers
- Lack of Audio Bibles for those who can't read
- Many depend on the Pastor's teachings only.
- Lack of enough Bibles designed for children
- Some have difficult translations that are difficult to be understood by the young generation, e.g. KJV.
- Lack of hunger and thirst for God's Word.

## Lamu Islands Pastors And Missionaries Training

The Pastors and Missionaries Training organized by Charitos Transformation Africa took place at Administration Police Chapel Lamu Island. The training was well attended by participants from different Islands. The training was graciously funded by our partners the Voice of the Martyrs (VOM).

The participants were missionaries from Ndau Island, Kizingitini Island, Pate Island, Faza Island, Mtangawanda Island and Kiunga, and pastors from Manda Island and Lamu Island.

The training started between April 22nd – 26th. On Saturday 27th, the Pastors and the Church leaders came with their spouses for a couples' seminar facilitated by Bishop Dr. Peter Njoga and his wife Rev. Beth N. Njoga.



Lamu Islands Pastors Training Review Meeting



The facilitators covered the following lessons:

## Bishop Dr. Peter Njoga

### Mentorship

#### Definition, Purpose and Biblical Roots

- Benefits of Mentoring
- Common Qualities of a Mentor
- Relational Nature of Mentoring
- Jesus as the ultimate model of Mentoring

### Coaching

#### Key Differences and Application

- Why Coaching matters
- Traits of a great Coach
- Coaching and Leadership Development
- Coaching Models
- The heart of a Coach (Empowers, Releases, Serves)

## Dr Silas Kinyua

- Biblical Basis of Leadership
- Biblical Overview of Pastoral Leadership
- Biblical Nature of Pastoral Leadership
- Importance Aspects of Christian Leadership

## Michael Mbugua

- Making Disciples Who Make Disciples
- The Six Marks of a Disciple
- Developing Healthy Believers from a Muslim Background (BMB's)
- Church Planting models among Muslim dominated areas.

The 40+ participants also received a package of books that included the following:

- Africa Bible Commentary (ABC).
- Ufafanuzi wa Biblia Katika Mazingira na Utamaduni wa Kiafrika (ABC in Swahili).
- The Nine Marks of a Healthy Church
- Learning to Lead: The Making of a Christian Leader in Africa, by Richard J Gehman.
- Preachers of a Different Gospel, by Femi Adeleye.
- Hubiri Neno. (Preach the Word)
- Kuandaa Jumbe za Biblia (How to prepare Biblical Sermons)
- Neon: Biblia Takatifu
- Life Application Study Bible
- Solar Powered Lamps with capability to charge Mobile Phones/Tablets for 10 Missionaries on the Islands without electricity.



## Sunday School Teachers Training

About 20 Sunday School teachers of the Redeemed Gospels Churches in Lamu and Tana River Counties were trained in Mpeketoni on Saturday July 12th. Michael, assisted by Rev. Allan Muiruri a CTA Team member, facilitated the training.

### The topics covered included:

- The calling of a Sunday School Teacher
- The qualities of the Sunday School Teacher

Various Sunday School materials were also donated to the Teachers by Charitos.



## Full Gospel Church Men's Seminar

On July 19th Michael held a one day men's seminar at Ndeu Full Gospel Church. This was their 1st men's seminar to have been organized by the Church.

### The topics covered:

- Dad the Family Priest, Shepherd and Coach
- Sexual fulfillment with your spouse
- Things that hinder sexual fulfillment and ways to surmount them.



# August Women's Conference

This took place in Pangani, Witu, organized by Gospel Revival Church Lamu Region in the month of August. Alice and Lucy Wainaina were the teachers. The theme was the *"Strength of a woman"*.

Also in the month of November Alice ministered in a women conference organized by PEFA Church in Hindi Ward.

## Jesus Film and Walking With Jesus Series In November

Jesus Film Screening in Kiswahili began at PEFA Church in Bora Imani, outside the Church building, where even the local villagers, some Muslims, watched the film. The five-part series "Walking with Jesus" in Kiswahili (Kutembea na Yesu) was screened in two consecutive weekends. **A total of 10 young people gave their lives to Jesus.** Michael was able to train a few youths in this church on how to use the screening equipment. Two of the young men played a big role of screening the films later in Bargoni mission.

## Bargoni Mission 2nd-4th Nov.

The mission involved door-to-door witnessing, open air evangelistic crusades and screening of Jesus Film and Walking with Jesus series (in Swahili) in the evenings. The Jesus Film especially stirred up the entire Bargoni village. Some villagers who are from a different religion chose to hide under the shadows to watch the films (for fear of victimization) for attending Christian meetings.

**By the end of the mission, 6 people gave their lives to Jesus.**

## Uziwa Mission 20th – 23th Nov.

Michael was involved in this mission at a place called Uziwa, about 10 km. from Mpeketoni town towards the Indian Ocean. The mission involved door-to-door witnessing, open air evangelistic crusades in the shopping center and screening of Jesus Film and Walking with Jesus series (in Swahili) in the evenings. The films especially had a great impact both to the Christians and those who were not yet saved. **About 200 people were exposed to the Gospel. A total of 10 people gave their lives to Jesus.**



Uziwa Mission

## **Review Meeting Of The April Pastors Training**

A review meeting of the Lamu Islands Pastors training with Stephen Galgalo VOM Country Director, accompanied by Roseline Sibinde and Joseph Mulato took place on 13th of November.

One representative each from the far flung Islands, 2 from Manda Island and 4 from Lamu Island were selected to give feedback of the April training. The review was held on Lamu Island at the Administration Police Chapel, the same venue where the training had taken place. The Pastors and Missionaries gave very useful feedback. They commended Charitos and VOM for the timely training, excellent and rare resources to equip them and to bring them together for the very first time from almost all the Islands that form the Lamu archipelago.

Many of them expressed their appreciation for the lesson on 'Disciples who make Disciples' and 'Following Jesus'. Other highlights included the NLT Life Application Study Bible, Neno Biblia Takatifu and the book 'Preachers of a Different Gospel', of which many of them said it truly opened their eyes to the false teachers in our current situation.

They pleaded with the team to conduct a second session next year and desired to learn more on ways of preaching the Gospel to Muslims and how to disciple believers from a Muslim background.

## **Fact-Finding Mission on Bible Needs in Lamu County by Biblica. December 1st to 4th.**

Charitos was privileged to host Rev. Jesse Gathura the East Africa Director for Biblica. He was accompanied by Rev. Benson Muiruri who is the National Director for ServeNow organization.

Biblica is a global Bible Ministry founded in 1809 and is dedicated to making the Bible accessible to everyone through Bible translations and publishing in various languages. They also provide other Bible resources. They are the publishers of the widely used New International Version of the Bible, commonly known as NIV. They have also undertaken translations of the Bible in some of the major languages in Kenya, namely Kikuyu, Dholuo, Kiswahili (Neno Biblia Takatifu) among others.

ServeNow is a Christian non-profit organization founded in 2012 and is dedicated to provide Discipleship resources as tools for spiritual growth and development. They also equip local Church leaders for Ministry and outreach, among other ministries.

Rev.'s Jesse and Benson were on an advance mission to assess the Bible needs in some of the remotest areas of Lamu County in preparation for a bigger Biblica team-visit early next year to give out free Bibles to those who have never owned one and who are unable to purchase copies for themselves. The team will include the top leadership of Biblica from their US headquarters.



ServeNow Director Presenting Discipleship materials at Moa Village

Michael was able to take the two for a marathon 3 days' visit to Manda Island (Manda Maweni village), Mokowe, Sinambio in Mpeketoni region, Kipini, and finally to Moa village, at the very edge of Lamu County bordering Tana River County. The team met with many pastors and believers who need the Bibles and had a great time listening to the challenges the Churches in these regions go through. The team also held discussions with a team of Bishops in Mpeketoni.

After the visit, the CTA team was left to compile a list of the believers who needed Bibles in Kiswahili, Kikuyu, Dholuo and English languages. CTA has already done the hard work of receiving the data from the Pastors and compiling it into a summary.

From the very few areas visited and data submitted, about 1,800 believers from 87 Churches that submitted data were found to be in need of Bibles in the four languages which Biblica is ready to donate. Another 1,078 youths indicated they needed the Reach4Life New Testament with lessons/study notes. Over 100 Pastors indicated they needed the Discipleship resources from ServeNow.

NB: This is a very small part of the entire Lamu County. The needs are much much more due to the remoteness of the regions and the low economic status of the majority of the people. There are only two bookshops in the entire County where one can purchase a Kiswahili Bible, one in Mpeketoni and the other in Hindi.



## Students' Sponsorship Programme

Charitos has continued to sponsor a few needy students in High Schools and Universities through the partnership of other organizations, Churches and individuals.

One such student, Douglas Njuguna, graduated on 21st November at Tom Mboya University in Siaya County with a Bachelor of Science Degree in IT.

He specialized in Software Engineering. His is a great success story of true transformation. It has been an 8-year journey, right from Form One at Mpeketoni Boys High School. His dad was a victim of the 2014 terrorism massacre of Christians in Lamu.



Douglas in High School



Douglas Graduation

We have others in various levels in High Schools and Universities. We continue to receive more requests for help and we encourage more partners to come on board and help brighten the future of a needy student by sponsoring their education.

## Other Ministries

CTA Team has also been involved in preaching engagements, individual mentorship and counselling of Pastors and individuals and Youth trainings and discipleship across the County throughout the year. Michael has also been giving leadership in the local High School as the Chair of the Board of Management. It's a voluntary position, appointed by the Government. The team has also been engaged in numerous other community engagements.

# Major Challenges Encountered In 2025

1. Lots of flooding in the month of April and May that made many roads impassable and destroyed many farms with crops almost ready for harvesting.
2. Lack of enough funds and other resources to support the great work of trainings and discipleship by CTA and also for meeting the many needs presented by the poor believers.
3. Some leadership struggles among some of the various Pastors' Fellowships that made CTA work to slow down in some areas for lack of proper cooperation from the Pastors.
4. Breakdown of the now aging Ministry 4WD Land Cruiser resulting in expensive repairs. A new vehicle is definitely needed.
5. Failure of the short rains that usually fall between October and December. Farmers in Mpeketoni, Hindi and Mokowe regions have been especially affected. Those who had planted at the onset of the rains hoping that the rains would continue had their crops scotched dry by the hot sun. Temperatures have been soaring to sometimes 37° C! Nights also have been very hot and humid, but no rains. Many families will require food relief by January 2026.



The challenge of bad roads



Flooding of farms

## Gratitude

We at Charitos Transformation Africa continually thank God for all the partners that have joined hands with us to make our year a great success. At Charitos we deeply value partnerships. Partnerships are essential for fulfilling the Christian mission of taking the Gospel to our communities and nations, growing in spiritual maturity, and sustaining momentum. No individual can accomplish God's work alone. By working together through shared resources, support, and diverse contributions believers strengthen the mission and help one another grow more fully in Christ.

Our heartfelt gratitude goes to our partners and supporters in Kenya and other Countries, particularly those in the UK, Australia, the USA and South Africa. May God bless you all.

## Prayer & Praise Items

1. Thank God for His divine provision in the Mission field and the good health enjoyed by the Charitos family.
2. Thank God for the many opportunities to serve Him in different Churches in Lamu.
3. Pray for resources that Charitos may be able to conduct more trainings and meet some of the needs presented to us.
4. Thank God for the many souls that have come to Him this year. Pray that they will continue to thirst and hunger for righteousness.
5. Thank God for the prevailing peace in Lamu and in our motherland Kenya.
6. Thank God for the successful Lamu Islands Pastors and Missionaries training. Pray that transformation will be realized in their lives and the lives of their congregants as they put into practice what they learnt and as they study the resources they received.
7. Thank God for the good work being undertaken by Walmer Methodist Church, VOM, Biblica, and ServeNow organizations among the believers in Lamu County in partnership with Charitos. Pray that God will continue to protect and prosper them financially.
8. Thank God for Christian Church International Wellsprings Chapel in Thika for dedicating a team of intercessors for Charitos Ministry in Lamu. Pray that more Churches and individuals in Kenya and abroad will come on board and pray and give regularly to support the work.
9. Pray for God's provision, good health and protection for Michael and Alice and other CTA colleagues and the other Missionaries serving on the Islands in the coming year 2026. Pray also for new opportunities to serve. The Islands are mentioned elsewhere in this Newsletter.

## Conclusion

Charitos has been burdened to see to it that the Churches in Lamu County and the Coastal Region have come to maturity and are able to evangelize and multiply, just like in Acts 9:31, and stand strong in the midst of opposition and persecution.

*“So the Church throughout all Judea and Galilee and Samaria had peace and was being built up. And walking in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, it multiplied.” (ESV).*

After reading this report, we encourage you to pray and purpose to give regularly to Charitos. Your giving will go a long way in helping us accomplish God's Mission in this vast region.



# How Can You Help?

You too can be part of this transformation by:

- Interceding with us by becoming a prayer partner.
- Offering regular financial support to our Ministry activities.
- Volunteering your expertise in health, education, agriculture, technology etc. on short or long term basis.
- Giving a needy student a brighter future by sponsoring their education.
- Meeting direct needs in the villages by donating clothes, food and other items.

## **We would love to hear from you!**

For more details and how you can give, you can reach us through;

Email: [charitostafrica@gmail.com](mailto:charitostafrica@gmail.com); [mikhail.mbugua@gmail.com](mailto:mikhail.mbugua@gmail.com);  
Mobile +254 728 381 912.

**Michael & Alice Mbugua.**

24th December 2025.

**Find us on: [charitos.org](https://charitos.org)**