

## COPE Ministry

**But the angel said to them,  
“Do not be afraid. I bring you  
good news of great joy for all  
the people.” – Luke 2:10**

**December 2020**

### **THANK YOU FOR THE GIFT OF HOPE**

This Christmas as we celebrate the hope that the gift of Jesus has brought, we want to thank you for the support which you have given to COPE that has brought hope to many children in the Pokot community.

Many of the children supported through the Good Samaritan Sponsorship Program would never be able to go to school without the support of their sponsors.

Your support also provides relief food for 300 individuals who have no means of supporting themselves due to age, physical disabilities, and/or lack of family to take care of them. The COPE House is another way that we have been able to give hope to the Pokot community. Almost 70 children now live in COPE House. Some of the young girls that live in our house came to us to avoid being given in marriage or to seek refuge from abuse.

Even as there is a pandemic at large in the world, your support has kept the COPE Mission in a position to bless those around us. We are so thankful for the hope that Christ has brought to our fallen and broken world. And we are so thankful that your support gives us the opportunity to share that hope with the Pokot Community in Kenya.

### **SPONSORSHIP UPDATE**

We have had a few questions about how sponsors can contact their children with so many changes in 2020.

Sponsors can still write letters to their children and send them to the COPE PO Box.

COPE Ministry

PO Box 903

Lincoln, IL 62656

We are so blessed to have technology available that we can scan cards, letters, and pictures directly to the admin team in Pokot. They will print out copies and give them to the children.

When the Amalla Family is able to safely travel to Kenya they will take the physical cards, letters, and pictures with them and give them to the children.

**If you would like to start sponsoring a child, we can think of no better time than Christmas!** The school year in Pokot resumes in January and we are preparing for all students to return.

The students waiting for sponsors are those most in need in the Pokot community. The suggested amount of \$40 a month covers all their school cost: school fees, uniforms, supplies, meals, and any medical intervention if needed. But, any amount can make a difference.

If you would like to sponsor a child email us and we will help match you with the perfect child. You will receive their picture, bio, drawings, and letters from your child. You will also be able to write encouraging notes to your child. It is an incredibly special relationship! Please consider sponsoring a child today!

## A Letter to COPE Mission

Wycliffe is a child who has benefited from the COPE Mission. He wrote a letter expressing his thankfulness for his school fees being paid and him being able to return to school. He gave us permission to share his letter with all of you.

"Dear COPE Mission,  
How are you? I hope you are fine. I am alright and trying my best to settle down in my studies. My name is Wycliffe Lochawun. I am writing this letter to thank you because you really helped me when I was at home. It was far and it was difficult for me to get transport to come back to school.

First, I was in my aunt's house and she has been paying my school fees but it reached a time when she retired the same year her husband passed away and I realized that nobody would pay my school fees. And then I decided to drop out of school. But now, I have come back to school because you have supported me by paying my school fees. I am so happy to learn with my classmates whom I have missed for a long time.

Thank you. May God bless you.

Faithfully,

Wycliffe Lochawun"

Sponsoring a child helps them navigate hard circumstances without having to give up their education. There are many children waiting for sponsors, and we would love to connect you with a child like Wycliffe today.

Check out our webpage to learn more about sponsorship today!

[Childrenofpokot.org](http://Childrenofpokot.org)



*Children in the sponsorship program receiving school supplies!*



## **A letter from The Amalla Family**

*Hello COPE Family,*

*Thank you for all your love and support you have already sent our way! Devane and I are so excited to work with COPE Ministry. We love what COPE is doing in the Pokot Community and are excited to get involved.*

*We urge you to continue to support us in your prayers as we strive to connect with more people and fill more needs.*

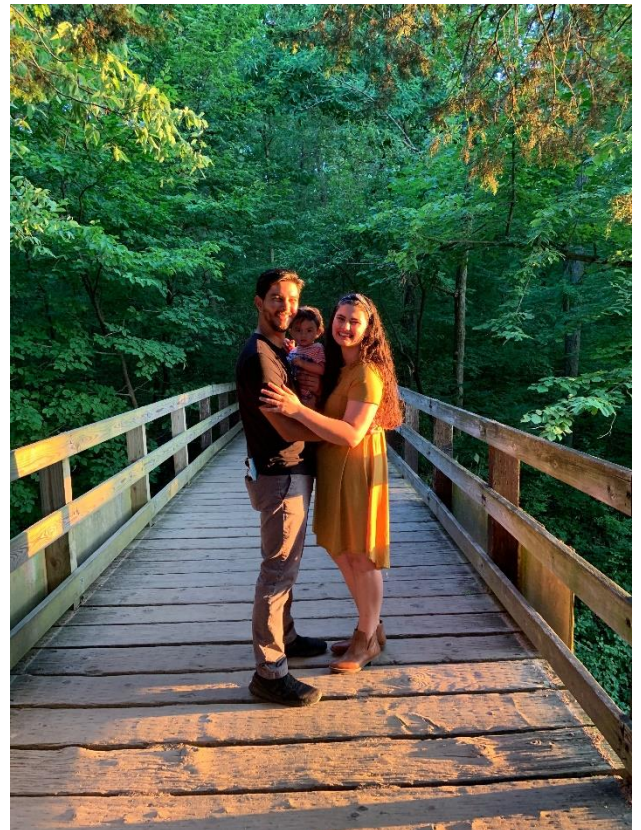
*We are truly blessed to be a part of COPE and are anxious to get to the mission in Kenya and meet everyone in person as we grow as partners in the mission of spreading Christ and meeting tangible needs throughout the Pokot Community.*

*Please hold us, the COPE Board, and the Pokot Community in your prayers as we hold you in ours!*

*Have a Merry Christmas and Blessed New Year!*

*Love and Blessings,*

*Devane, Michaela, and Addie*



## Board Members Update

Jen Causer is stepping down from the COPE Board after serving a 3-year term. Rob Hoefs resigned earlier this year. We would like to thank them both for their years of service to COPE and the Pokot people.

Josh Turney is returning to the board after a required hiatus. We are grateful for the leadership, enthusiasm and experience he brings to the mission. Officers will be elected in January.

## Employee Christmas

The COPE Board voted to give each COPE employee a Christmas bonus. There are 50 COPE employees. We wish each of them a Blessed Christmas.

## End of Year Donations

We are coming to the end of 2020, which means we are all thinking about what taxes we will owe and pay in 2021. If you have the opportunity, consider an end-of-year gift to COPE, which can lower your tax debt. A Win/Win. Just remember, for your donation to be deductible in 2020 it must be **postmarked** by December 31, 2020. Mail checks to COPE, PO Box 903, Lincoln, IL 62656 or donate online at [childrenofpokot.org/donate](http://childrenofpokot.org/donate)

## Prayer Requests and Praise

We are so grateful to receive a grant from IDES got renewed for 2021! This will allow us to provide food for individuals who have lost so much due to flooding.

Please pray that we can continue to stay healthy and safe as we have no idea when anything like a vaccine will make it to the Pokot.

Pray for the safety of the children that have been home from school for so long.

Pray for wisdom on our part to discern when it is safe for us to travel to Kenya again.



*Children Waiting for Christmas Dinner!*

## Who We Are

COPE was founded in 1997. The organization's headquarters is located in Lincoln, IL. The African Mission is located in Tapadany, Pokot, Kenya. The purpose of the organization is to provide a Christian education to the children of the Pokot Tribe. The ultimate goal is to bring each of the Pokot children and adults into a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Since 1997 the mission has grown and developed and become the center of the community teaching Christian beliefs and ethics.

For more information visit [childrenofpokot.org](http://childrenofpokot.org) or COPE Ministry on Facebook.

