



# steve & marty mcfarland

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## Update from Tanzania

July 2009

### In Memory Of Marty



**Marilita (Marty) Kay McFarland  
1950-2009**

**"I have fought the good fight,** I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day-and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing." 2 Tim 4:7,8

Marty passed away peacefully in her sleep around 3:00am (Tanzania time) on 05 June 2009. Her passing was totally unexpected. The autopsy found no conclusive cause. The doctors said it was most likely an arrhythmia of the heart. Funeral services and burial were held on Wednesday, June 10th at 2:00pm in Arusha, Tanzania, East Africa. It was a very nice outdoor service under some big tents. Around 350 people were in attendance.

**For more information see the memorial website "marty-kay-mcfarland.memory-of.com"**

Please join us for a memorial service for Marty. It is scheduled for July 18, 2009 in Wichita, Kansas at West Side Christian Church, 1819 W Douglas. The service will begin at 10:30AM.



Steve and Rachel stand behind the grave site in Arusha, Tanzania. Rachel holds her mother's picture.

**Thank you so very much for all of your prayers and words of encouragement during this difficult time. They are greatly appreciated.  
Steve and Rachel**

#### JOIN US IN PRAYING . . .

- For rightly dividing God's will for Key Connections Ministry after Marty's passing
- For Rachel's proper placement and appropriate care
- For our own tax exempt status in the US and for duty exemption status in Tanzania
- For clear priorities as we face far too many very good things to do
- For wisdom as we continue to plan and organize this mission

#### OUR GOALS

- Provide free and low-cost materials to church leaders
- Train leaders to effectively utilize resources
- Develop innovative ways for the poor to obtain key resources
- Utilize short-term volunteers and teams to meet critical needs
- Impart an urgent vision for ministry and evangelism
- Support health and development initiatives
- Bring unity to believers with Bible-focused materials

**. . . SO THAT THE MAN OF GOD MAY BE THOROUGHLY EQUIPPED FOR EVERY GOOD WORK . . . 2 TIMOTHY 3:17**



## SCOLA



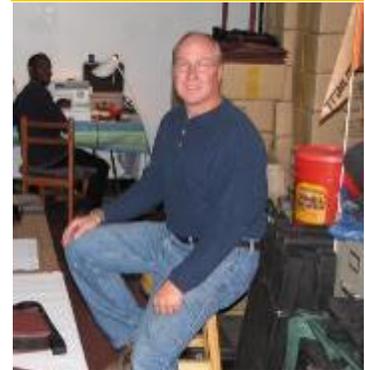
Scola in the kitchen

If you've listened to Marty speak for very long then you will know the name, "Scola" and what a dear friend and helper she was to Marty. She worked as a housekeeper under Marty's direction since 2003 and learned to cook many delicious foods.

Upon Marty's passing, Scola stepped up to many additional tasks. Even though she was in shock and mourning, she began seeing

to the needs of the many, many guests coming to the house to offer their condolences, seeing to Rachel's special needs, and trying her best to get Steve to eat. It is such a comfort to know that some of Marty's wonderful cooking abilities were passed on and continue to live on in Scola. In addition to her housekeeper work, Scola learned from Marty how to make tortillas and caramel popcorn and now sells them to several businesses around Arusha.

## JOHN MARK



At the news of Marty's passing John Mark dropped what he was doing in the States and flew to Arusha to help his uncle Steve. He was a big help in many ways especially in finishing the flip-charts and Saber unit cases. He designed cases and cut out the material while Polycarp did the sewing. It was a big job, but they were done in time for distribution.

## POLYCARP



Polycarp has recently joined the Key Connections Ministries staff in Arusha. He is a wonderful, young man of God who brings many needed talents and skills. He has two Bible college degrees, is fluent in English as well as his native tongue of Swahili. He will be helping in many ministry areas including translation, teaching, distribution, inventory management, and resource verification. We are very happy to welcome him as he will easily fill many functions where we have struggled in the past.

## UPDATE ON MAASAI BIBLE



*Maasai Bibles continue to go out to the Christians in the bush, but very slowly. The reason is the terrible famine that has gripped the Maasai people. Since many are starving they are unable to even think of scrapping together the very small amount of money needed to buy a Bible. We are praying and helping as we can with famine relief projects, but the needs are too great. Hopefully, the rains will soon come and allow the grass to grow for their cattle to eat and some crops in their fields to grow. They will then be able to purchase the Bible that they have had their hearts set on for so long.*

## Famine slows Maasai Bible distribution



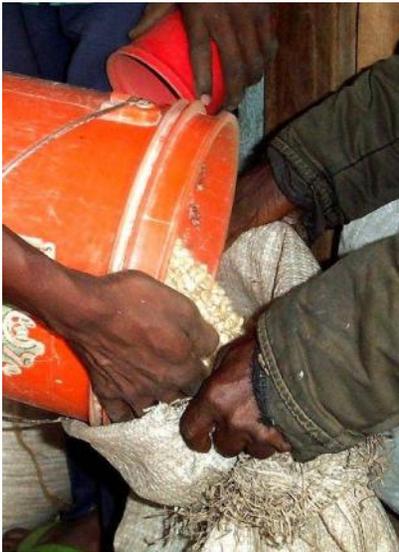
... SO THAT THE MAN OF GOD MAY BE THOROUGHLY EQUIPPED FOR EVERY GOOD WORK . . . 2 TIMOTHY 3:17



## Famine Relief Projects

With additional funds received for famine relief we were able to provide some much needed relief to two areas of great need.

**Olashvani**—This is an area near the Kenyan border where a new church plant has been taking place. What is so special about Olashvani is that they are a



new Maasai church plant from another new Maasai church plant. Usually new Maasai churches are not very interested in evangelism, but the new church at Ngoswak didn't know about that. They had listened through the New Testament with the Proclaimer several times. Each time they listened they clearly heard the Holy Spirit speaking to them of how

they were supposed to go and make disciples. So, they selected a group of church leaders, packed up the Proclaimer, and walked four hours to Olashvani. Day after day they played the Proclaimer and the people there listened to God's word and received teaching. Now, there is a growing and excited group of believers in Olashvani. Who knows how many new Maasai church plants they will make. Isack and Asnath are overseeing this new church plant and have reported the devastation the famine is causing to the new Christians there. Hopefully, the corn they have received through your generous donations will be enough to help them last until the rains come.

## Thanks for your generous famine relief support

**Loiborsoit Christian Nursery School**-Pastor Elijah has a nursery school in the Loiborsoit area with 40 students. He has reported that the famine is very severe in this area. Families lack enough food and are barely

## FLIPCHART/SABER SETS



Through Global Recordings Network we were able to receive flipcharts and flipchart audio which will provide much needed teaching to the bush Christians. The set consists of nine flipcharts, one Saber player, carrying cases, and a Saber operating manual. The flipcharts (also called picture books) cover an overview of the Bible, plus specific Old Testament and New Testament stories. The Saber player provides audio explanation for each flipchart picture in either Maasai or Swahili. The audio for all nine flipcharts totals around nine hours of teaching.



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LINKING RESOURCES WITH NEEDS FOR THE KINGDOM OF GOD

## The Future...

One thing learned is that only God knows our future. Marty and I had many wonderful plans for our future, but God had a different plan. We take our tomorrows for granted and we expect our loved ones to be there day after day, year after year, but there are no guarantees.

My wise counselors advise me to just live day by day and give proper time to the grieving process before trying to make long-range decisions.

Several meetings are planned to address the issues and provide firm foundations for wise decisions.

Marty's passing brings many changes in my life, so please take this before the Father in fervent prayer to know His good and perfect will.

I have returned to the States as of 02 Jul and am scheduled to return to Tanzania 03 Aug. During this month I am preparing for the memorial service and looking into all the legalities that comes with the passing of a spouse.

Because of the call,  
Steven McFarland

## REGIFTING?

It's a trend around the world and we think it has merit! Does your church have glass communion cups or trays no longer in use? Do you have a good digital camera that has been set aside for a newer model? Or a working laptop computer you have replaced? Consider giving those items a new life — in Africa! We know many people who would be greatly blessed by those items. If you would like to re-gift, just e-mail us or call Teresa, our US administrator, at 620-763-2595.

## YOUR RECEIPTS

We are deeply grateful for the many kinds of support. We want to be sure that you are getting accurate and timely receipts. If you send a financial gift and fail to receive a receipt within three weeks, please call Teresa, our US administrator at 620-763-2595 or e-mail us at [mcfarland@bol.co.tz](mailto:mcfarland@bol.co.tz). All donations should be made payable to TCC—Key Connections Ministries and sent to PO Box 266, Thayer, KS 66776. Please note any designations. Again, thank-you for your generous support — we pledge our faithful stewardship of your gifts to make a real difference in many lives.



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