

Local Vision 2020 Project: Maryland Church Supports Kenyan Church

Gregg Jones and Matthew Goldberg
December 11, 2013



On Wednesday evening, December 11, a gathering of a dozen or more families from Maryland celebrated the holiday season with a program to support Rev. Gregg Jones in his efforts to reach out to Kenya. Rev. Jones, a Horticulture vocational high school teacher, brings his skills and experience to benefit our brothers and sisters in Kenya, which is one of the nations named by Mother Moon as a special mission nation part of Vision 2020 for District One of the Unification Church in the USA.

A pot luck supper was followed by a slide show and description of the project which will involve renovating and irrigating a large greenhouse on the 5 acre farm near Nairobi, Kenya. Over forty adults and young people gathered as a local Maryland member from Kenya, Ezra Karimi, shared significant episodes in the history of the Kenyan church since its inception in the 1970's by an international team of missionaries.

Leaving from Dulles Airport in the evening of December 15, Rev. Jones will flew to Kenya to spend three weeks serving at educational workshops and assisting with the farm project. He joined Mrs. Wanjii Rowe, who was the first Kenyan to join the Unification Church in her home country and the person who invited Jones to join the mission in Kenya. Mrs. Rowe, now known as the "the Mama of Kenya", is currently working at the SASAMOTO FARMS project along with her spiritual son, Henry Mungai and the members of the Kenyan Unification Church near Nairobi, the national capitol city.

Home based meetings of West Anne Arundel County and East Prince Georges County have been held at the Jones's garden farm in Gambrills, Maryland since 2011 when Rev. Gregg and his wife Kyoho initiated a community garden ministry which now includes several other families. The purpose of the ministry is to share best practices gardening together and to become a group that can initiate other such urban gardens. Jones says he knew the home based project was a foundation for greater things, but did not anticipate a request to come to Africa!