

# **VISION MINISTRIES KENYA, WESTERN** **REGION CONFERENCE REPORT 2021**

**'CELEBRATING A DECADE OF GOD'S FAITHFULLNESS'**

# **10YRS**

**VENUE: GLOBAL HARVEST MININISTRIES**

**DATE: 28<sup>TH</sup> – 30<sup>TH</sup>, OCTOBER, 2021**

**Theme: God says, 'Try It! Put Me to The Test! Malachi 3:10 NLT**



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**More, effective, flourishing churches!**

## **INTRODUCTION**

Western Kenya chapter is a region that has always shown great commitment in terms of church representation in the VMK conferences. From the last year's data, about 40 churches were represented.



Brother Ishmael, Bishop Wandera and the Canadian virtual speakers were the facilitators. Ishmael was doing part of Brother Gord's training lesson in addition to church training lesson for new VMK partners while Bishop Wandera was continuing with his topic on Mission/ Evangelism amidst pandemic. Reverend Theophyllus Mokinyo joined the team however he was to facilitate joint Sunday sermon.

***Bro. Ishmael during his training session***

## **CONFERENCE DAY ONE**

We started well setting the pace for the whole week. The praise team was incredible.

The first lesson was by Dir. Ishmael who introduced VMK to those who were interacting with this ministry team for the first time. He gave a brief history of how the ministry started and how it has walked all through these ten years. Citing the ministry's vision, purpose, mission and core values.



***Praying with the leaders after the teachings***

## Highlights from speakers;

VMK Vision: To have a network of churches which are known for good bible teaching, pastoral care and positive leadership.

Our ministry priority;

- Provide training for church leaders
- Cultivate a network of partnering churches
- Facilitate evangelistic church planting
- Introduce our churches to social service agencies



Purpose: That there may be more effective and flourishing churches



## *Bishop Wandera Ministering during his session*

Why mission even in the pandemic?

- Preaching Christ is the only way to God
- Because Jesus died for man kind
- Because through Christ that is the only way mankind is saved
- Christ is the only hope

When the Covid - 19 rules regarding gathering were implemented in Kenya, it came with a great challenge. Churches were locked and were that end of preaching Christ? I want to believe that the whole Africa church had challenge because we had not really valued the digital means. Maybe 1% only was familiar with these other means. The pandemic has taught the church not to only rely in one means. I encourage pastors to try their level best to adopt the digital means. I know it has its own challenges especially to some of us who reaching the believers in the remote villages.

Areas suggested for pastors to try in adapting the pandemic new normal;

- Utilize cell group churches/ fellowship
- Create WhatsApp groups for the church members. Fellowship can sometimes take place here
- For those with stable internet, live streaming the summons in Facebook, YouTube, linked in, twitter, zoom, etc.

For these entire new trends to be used effectively, the servants of God must embrace training. They were encouraged to join IT classes or invite those with those skills to train them.

On the first day, we also had a teaching by Doug Love day on sexual wholesomeness.



**Worship session with the worship team)**



## **CONFERENCE DAY TWO;**

Brother Ishmael continued with the Gord Martin's training on 'Teach, Train, empower and release.'

### ***Highlights;***

- ✓ We work and reach churches of all shapes and sizes, and by far, the biggest growth barrier they are encountering is leadership. It cuts across every program and ministry and touches every corner of the church. When the leaders get better, the church often gets better and the evangelism get better.
- ✓ Healthy and growing churches have a higher percentage of volunteers and leaders who thrive in their role. These aren't people who show up on Sunday morning to do a task or reluctantly meet a need; they are people invested in the ministry outcome. They don't



**(Rev.Mokinyo leading prayers)**

think like attenders, they think like staff. This only happens if there is effective training, teaching and empowerment of leadership.

- ✓ Volunteer and leadership involvement is always leading indicator of a growing church.
- ✓ Whether you have a small staff, large staff, group of elders, deacon board, or key volunteers, there are people in your church who need you to lead them. Develop a training curriculum and train them. Empower them so that when the time reaches for releasing them, you release mature leaders ready to pass the same skills to others.
- ✓ Every church or fellowship might be having a culture or a tradition. These traditions are not always created on purpose, but rather evolve over time. We encourage church leaders to abandon the bad ones. If you want a culture where new believers consistently show up at your church, then you must invest in the habit of inviting them. One question you should ask has a leader is “What habits do we need to turn up or what habits do we need to implement to impact the culture”.
- ✓ Create a plan of developing leaders
- ✓ Great leaders are responsible. Take the responsibility of developing your team
- ✓ When you help people get better, you also get better and your church as well develops
- ✓ Provide necessary tools for your team members
- ✓ Cast a clear vision for the future for your team members

### **DAY THREE**

All the conference teachings were concluded in the morning hours before the closing ceremony in the afternoon.



- Speeches from the regional leadership
- Issuance of the certificates
- Response to questions arising from the lessons
- Speeches from Dir. Ishmael, Sis. Molline, Bsp. Wandera , Rev. Mokinyo, and host Bishop

- Eating together
- A vote of thanks from the regional leadership

CONFERENCE ATTENDACE DATA				
DAY	CHURCHES	NO WOMEN	NO MEN	TOTAL
THURSDAY	15	24	22	46
FRIDAY	20	23	27	50
SATURDAY	23	20	36	56



*A photo of part of the delegates during one of the conference sessions*

“The church is all about Jesus and people and helping people follow Jesus. It is amazing how easy it is to forget that the people is part of ministry. Ultimately, what we do is meant to help people follow Jesus. Evangelism should therefore be prioritized in our churches as you go back to your various local churches”. Brother Ishmael remarked in his final speech.