

New York Avenue Presbyterian Church and the Orphans and Vulnerable Children Program in Njoro, Kenya

Since 2007, the New York Avenue Presbyterian Church has supported the Njoro KENYAPC Orphan and Vulnerable Children (OVC) Program in partnership with the Njoro Presbyterian Church of East Africa (P.C.E.A.). This program helps support 35 children, providing them with meals, clothes, uniforms, school materials, school fees and tutoring among other things.

This fall, New York Avenue Presbyterian Church could host four of the students - John Njoroge, 18, Peter Babu, 16, Rebecca Andisi, 16 and Virginia, 14 - from the program for a visit to Washington DC. The trip was an incredible unexpected joy.



Rev Beth Braxton reports that they not only experienced riding an airplane for the first time, but they also experienced riding an escalator for the first time, doors that open automatically, a train ride on the Metro, traffic that stops at red lights even when there is no traffic coming the other way, pillows on every bed, picking apples, three meals a day - everyday - as much as you want, and high school students with smart phones and she knows this “first list” is much longer! For these students just being here was a big education. The love and hospitality they experienced was so encouraging and grace-filled! It will make a difference in their lives.



Their many activities included, a lunch with the NYAPC staff in the Lincoln Parlor and a tour of the church, sitting with tutors at NYAPC’s Community Club program, visiting the Smithsonian’s African Museum of Art, attending 2 days of classes at Bishop O’Connell High School, visiting the Sasha Bruce Youth Center for Homeless Youth in DC. Their visit also included time at the NYAPC retreat where the student together played Amazing Grace on their recorders, while John recited a poem he wrote along with dance movement in appreciation of the trip.

This trip the product of an ongoing relationship that NYAPC has with the Njoro Presbyterian Church, but is also sustained by the help of Old Presbyterian Meeting House (which gave the students a chance to visit a Senior Center) as well as grants through the Global Mission Network and its Kenya Partnership Network. If you’d like to learn more about the Njoro Program, or would like to get involved, please contact revbeth.braxton@gmail.com.



Together We Are Making A Difference!