

## Kenya Trip Travelogue

**07.01.19**

Update from Kathie Denison:

Yesterday I had the privilege of meeting Mariamu and her 3 month old grandson, Abraham. Abraham's mother died due to complications in childbirth and Mariamu is raising him along with the rest of her children. Mariamu is such a joyful person, strong even in adversity. She is only able to carry on through her grief because she knows she will see her daughter again in eternity.



Brian and I began sponsoring Mariamu this year so it was especially emotional meeting her and Abraham. We brought some basic essentials for the household and for the baby, including cloth diapers and diaper covers. Pastor Jeff gave a demonstration on how to use the diapers and adjust the size on the diaper covers. Mariamu did not want him to diaper the baby because men do not do that here. It was difficult for her to allow him to do this but the other Mamas encouraged her that it would be ok. All the Mamas were so interested in seeing the process and Pastor Jeff was an "all star!" It was amazing to watch the Mamas all gathered around Mariamu and Abraham - everyone was so happy for them.

As soon as everything had been seen and admired, I offered some cookies to everyone. They said NO - first we want to thank God and praise Him for the gifts and blessing bestowed on Mariamu and Abraham. It was so important to them to acknowledge everything we have is a gift and blessing from our Good God! Their praise was so vivacious and enthusiastic. Mariamu was wiping tears of joy and smiling a big, beautiful smile! It left quite an impression on me - the adoration and acknowledgment of God as a first response, as well as the sense of community and support these women share. The people of Nkoisusu are beautiful and so happy, always smiling. I am humbled to serve here.

