

Presents



Rev. John Parit

Director of The Olive Branch Mission in Africa

Tuesday, March 26, 2019

12:15 p.m. Ellen Stowe Room in Garlock*

Over 25 Years, Rev. John Parit has been very active in various programs that address the spiritual, social, economic and environmental challenges of various communities in Kenya. He is the founding Director of The Olive Branch Mission in Africa. The Olive Branch Mission is the oldest continually-operating community-based human service organization in Chicago (now in its 152nd year), and is the primary provider of all the support to its Kenyan/African operations. These operations were established in 2002 under the leadership of Rev. Parit. Over the years, The Olive Branch in Kenya has worked with communities in different initiatives to create awareness and help communities overcome huge challenges brought about by poverty, ignorance and observance of some cultural practices that have negatively impacted certain segments of the community, especially women and children. This ministry has impacted the lives of hundreds of people.

One key program is run at the Hope Beyond Transitional Centre, founded by Rev. Parit and his wife, Dorcus (pictured above). The Centre has been a focal point of addressing the huge challenges of female genital mutilation (FGM), child marriage and other forms of child abuse which are rampant in this area. Through their efforts and that of their partners, they have been able to rescue, rehabilitate and educate over 150 girls and boys, most of whom live and stay at the Centre and also attend Lenkai Christian School (which the Parits also founded). Besides this Centre, both John and Dorcus have been fierce crusaders of child and women's rights both in Kenya and globally. Both of them have been invited to come to the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women meeting (March 11 - 22, 2019), as representatives of NGOs with Consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).

John is a graduate of Kenya Utalii College, a premier hotel training institution, and has a diploma in Project Management, Social Work and Community Psychology from the Regional Institute of Management. Additionally, he has a diploma in Theology from BSM and a Master's Degree in International Management from the University of Liverpool, UK, among other qualifications. He also oversees twenty-five churches under the Olive Branch Ministries.

*Those attending are encouraged to bring their lunch with them.

Sponsored by the RWC Cultural Enrichment Committee. Contact Dr. Matthew Moore for more info: 585.594.6786 or moorem@roberts.edu.