

MUKO H.O.P.E.

January 2009

Greetings from Blessing Kyokwijuka (Social Worker),

"Praise the Lord! With all my heart I will thank the Lord in the assembly of his people. How wonderful are the things the Lord does! All who are delighted with them want to understand them. All he does is full of honor and majesty; His righteousness is eternal. The Lord does not let us forget His wonderful actions; He is kind and merciful. Who are we? It is not by our works or strength or knowledge, but it is only by His grace so may His name be lifted on High.

Yours in His vineyard," Blessing



Accomplishments on behalf of the orphans

Motorcycle and laptop for Blessing

This summer Scott Thornton of Midland, rode his motorcycle 1000 miles through Hell, Hope, and Paradise Michigan to raise money to purchase a much needed motorcycle for ACT. The orphans live far apart requiring long, difficult walks to visit their homes. Blessing will save much time in home visitations which will allow us to increase the number of orphans and Sponsors. He should be receiving the new motorcycle in the next few weeks. The process, like most in Uganda, has been very drawn out due to necessary registrations and appropriate nonprofit (NGO) certificates in order to register the cycle in ACT's name.

In addition, we are in the process of shipping a brand new laptop and special heavy-duty carrying case for Blessing to use in the village. It has extended (19 hour) battery life and he can recharge it using a generator. This will also save him much time from writing documents and reports by hand.

Seeds and Gardening



Seeds carried by Uganda in 2006 by the Waechters have been planted and are reaping harvests. A training program has begun for the Guardians and their orphans to learn about new crops and nutrition. Recently, an organization called Hope Seeds, <http://hopeseeds.org/about.htm>, donated 200 seed packets to ACT - Michigan.

Each packet has 5-6 smaller packets of different vegetable seeds that will grow in this region of Uganda. There are descriptions, information about cultivation and nutrition in the packets. They are being shipped to Muko as we speak!



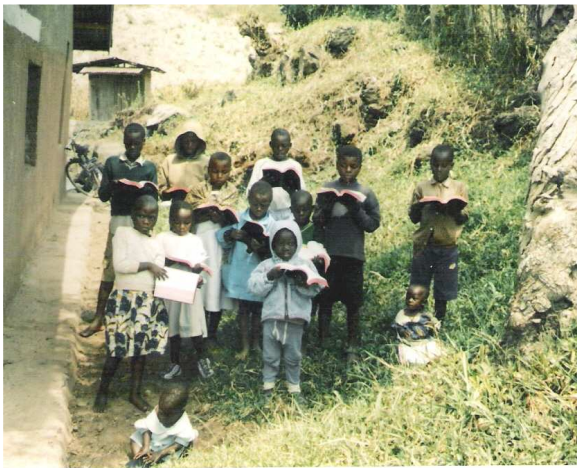
Christmas Celebration

During the month of December 2008, we also had an opportunity of Christmas mission and a small end of year party. Two speakers were invited from the catholic and protestant faith and explained to children the meaning of Christmas and why the Lord was born to us. The day was punctuated by praise, prayer, tea party and a well decorated Christmas tree which was a sign of welcoming the new born Jesus to our hearts.

Home Visitation

Some of the children were privileged to be visited by Generous Turinawe, (Director of ACT), along with Blessing and Tito during her recent trip to Muko for the ACT board meeting. Most were found to be in good health with adequate living conditions. However, it was discovered during these visits, that some of the guardians are migrating to other areas outside of Muko sub-county. This is mainly due to the lack of enough land and the extreme poverty which is the order of the day for many families in Uganda. Together with Tito, the chief mobilizer, Blessing emphasized it is in the best interest of the child to stay in Muko and be assigned a new guardian where they will continue to receive Muko HOPE support.

Bible Study



We want to thank Almighty God for the Bibles we received. We thank God for our partners in Michigan and may you be blessed richly and keep up with the spirit. This month, the orphans studied the prophecy of Isaiah 9:2-7 "The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light. They lived in a land of shadows, but now light is shining on them ..."
We ask our sponsors to read this text and pray with us.

Distribution

During the month of December 2008, goats for grazing were purchased for \$17 each for the Muko HOPE children. It is hoped that the goats will produce kids which will be a source of income for the children and their families. Guardians and the children were told to keep and look after the goats well so that they may produce healthy kids and provide for them in the future. They were very happy to have received these goats and were thankful for the support of their sponsors.