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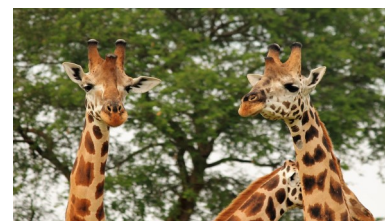
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HEADLINE NEWS !!! CHRISTAID GOES WILD IN 2017 !!



While Uganda has a wild and natural beauty that only our all-powerful God could conceive and create, He also has wildly exciting plans set in motion for the ministry of ChristAid in 2017. A 15 person Mission Team leaves for Fort Portal in Mid-March with the critical objective of celebrating the retirement of David Mporampora and welcoming Grace Karungi as the new In-Country Director. With transition and training well underway, this marks an important new beginning for ChristAid.

This team will also do significant work towards the completion of the sanitation project for the ChristAid Academy and other needed projects for the school. (A BIG thank you again to Barry Charelle, going over as part of the team, who has raised the funds for this amazing and life changing project after his mission trip a couple of years ago. He witnessed firsthand the deplorable condition of the school "outhouses" the kids have to use, and made it a personal goal to change it.)

Pastor Bruce Van Dusseldorp, in his new role as Executive Director (USA side) will lead this team and many others to come, as resources and love from the USA are shared with God's people in Kicuna and the surrounding community. Please pray for the leadership transitions to be smooth and productive, for God's protection to cover the team during their travels and for His inspiration and guidance for their work and activities in the village.

INTRODUCING THE 2017 BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND EX-OFFICIO STAFF/ADVISORS



Front row left to right: Pastor Philip Reimers-VP, Rick Hollis and Terry Oman-Board President. Back row: Nancy Hollis, Marcee Martin, Darcy Oman-Treasurer and Amy Murphy-Secretary

Pastor Bruce Van Dusseldorp—Executive Director (effective 3-1-17) Michelle Chaffin—Accountant, Kent Stannard—Programs Manager

CHRISTAID ALUMNI –

ROLLING DOWN THE HIGHWAY TO ISINGIRO, UGANDA

With great joy, the ChristAid Board has heard and seen evidence of something new and beautiful happening in Uganda!! The young adults who are our ChristAid alumni graduates, found a way to give back to Uganda in a profound and caring way!

Led by two of our young people on staff in the Uganda ChristAid office, the Alumni has aggressively gathered food, cash and clothing for the people of Isingiro, Uganda which is located approximately one hundred miles south of Fort Portal. This area has serious drought conditions which has lasted long enough to have dangerously impacted the food supply in the area.

Jen Komuhendo, (our Ahadi kid's specialist) and Emmanuel Isagara, our new accountant, (both shown at right) were the CA alumni members who heard of the devastating impact the drought is having on families in Isingiro and acted. Enlisting the help of others in the alumni group (50+ members strong) they set up tents in Fort Portal for collecting much needed food and clothing. They rallied the community to give generously by walking the streets with loud speakers in hand to tell the plight of the Isingiro people and ask for assistance on their behalf.

You can see by these pictures, that they were highly successful in securing donations of all kinds. The thing not to be missed here, is that this effort is Ugandans helping Ugandans. For the first time ever, it is not the ChristAid Board or its donors who were asked for help. It is our Alumni seeking help and fostering volunteerism from among their own people. This is significant and the first effort of its kind in Fort Portal.

With piles of fresh potatoes, cabbage, cassava, bananas and rice these young people next had to arrange transportation to the remote villages in Isingiro several hours away. A large truck with a high rack was secured and every possible inch filled with food and other necessities given for the people.

Anyone who has visited Uganda has seen that transportation is expensive and physically difficult. Our kids from all walks of life, (including ChristAid Pastor Jennifer Bysinge and David Mporampora) climbed atop the precarious pile of precious gifts and bumped and jarred their endless trek to the quiet province bordering Rwanda to the south.



The faces of mothers and children who received the food in their handmade baskets shows real gratitude and relief. There was food for their Christmas tables when it must have seemed impossible, just the day before.

The Alumni learned that it feels wonderful to share with other people....in this case....sharing delicious food, genuine smiles, heartfelt

encouragement and most importantly....the love of God. The initiative of Jen and Emmanuel, and the generosity of the Fort Portal residents has hopefully started a new mentality of caring for each other and sharing to bless each other.

Before the exhausted alumni group gathered in the empty truck for the hundred-mile trip home, Pastor Jennifer, in her deep, rich voice, delivered thunderous prayers for rain and prosperity for the Isingiro people.....and before they left, the first rain they had experienced in a very long time began to fall !! (God likes to put His "Amen" on things.) **Thanks, ChristAid Alumni for your initiative and for being "God's Love in Action" !**





Grandma Mary Balinda, Chairperson of the “Grandmas for Jesus” group, is the most recent recipient of a new block house. Shown at left with her family, Mary has been a caring leader and faithful servant of Grandmas in need since the Grandmas for Jesus program was begun about eight years ago. The work crew got to enjoy her cooking while the house was being built. They are all smiles !!



A GRANDMA HOUSE WITH A DIFFERENT LOOK AND A DIFFERENT PRICE—NOW AVAILABLE IN “METROPOLITAN” KICUNA !!



Grandma Rose Tibasaga was the first to receive a “red brick “ and stucco house in December, built by the same Shelter’s Crew who builds the block houses. (Notice the difference from the home above.) The size and interior design is the same but this is a more customary style in the village and is cheaper to build. These days the Grandmas are given a choice.



Martin Mukonyezi is eight years old and in the P2 class. He is one of four boys his mother is raising. Her only income is to sell vegetables. Martin desperately needs help to stay in school. If God moves on your heart to help Martin, or any of our other kids needing sponsors, please contact Kent in the ChristAid office (303-463-2932) or on the website christaidintl.org (at \$40 per month). **Grandma Proniya Kyamulesere** (right) is 80 years old. She has spinal cord damage and is disabled. There are six in her home to care for. If you can help, please let us know! She is fervently praying for a guardian angel and some financial assistance. (at \$30 per month)



ON THE HORIZON.....CHRISTAID PRE-SCHOOL

Funds are being gathered for **ChristAid Pre-school** which will allow us to start children at a younger age and prepare them for success in ChristAid Academy as they grow. The upper level of the proposed building will be home to the Primary grades 1 and 2 , to alleviate overcrowding at the ChristAid Academy,



A large playground is being planned which is lacking at the school. If you are interested in helping fund this important project, please donate on the ChristAid website or by sending a check to the office marked “Pre-school” (See front page for the website link or mailing address.) **Education and God’s love are our best weapons against poverty and despair.**



The ChristAid Alumni, is made up of young people who have at one time attended ChristAid Academy, and in many cases gone on to attend colleges and universities in Uganda. They held a weekend planning retreat in Kampala in December. As a group they visited the Lake Victoria beach, the zoo and Entebbe Airport to watch planes come in. These were first time experiences for most of this group.



David works with them extensively to broaden their horizons and help them see God's plan for their lives. This group sponsors kids at ChristAid academy ...as their motto is "Blessed to bless...." We look forward to more great works by this group like the Isingiro relief mission as described on page 2 above. **WE ARE BUILDING FUTURE LEADERS FOR UGANDA!!**



Judy Frilando of El Segundo, California, a long time acquaintance of David Mporampora, has recently completed her second music mission trip seminar to Uganda which she called "The Heart of Worship: Phase Two". On her first trip in late 2015, Judy set the stage for several powerful trips to help form an organization of worship leaders, praise dancers and choir directors committed to ushering in the next revival across Uganda and beyond. There were five members in her first core group in 2015 and there were more than 30 waiting for her this December!!

Judy states that, "The people of Uganda have captured my heart. I was very impressed by the way the worship seminar participants were able to immediately incorporate what they learned in the seminar." It is important to note that Judy has touched people in the Fort Portal community that were otherwise not involved with "ChristAid". They came from varied denominations such as Anglicans, Baptist, Catholic, Methodist and Pentecostal backgrounds. This is truly a new outreach impacting new groups within the community.

Judy was able to visit with the ChristAid Grandmas in the "Grandmas for Jesus" group and speak to the ChristAid Academy children and parents on their Awards Day to share words of encouragement. She also visited a pygmy settlement with David, which is an area David hopes to pursue mission work in the future. (She is pictured with the King and Queen of the pygmy village.) **THANK YOU JUDY for sharing your heart and resources with God's people!!**



CHRISTAID WISHES YOU A HAPPY NEW YEAR AND GOD'S RICHEST BLESSINGS IN 2017.....