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Putting Christ into the Crisis of Uganda Spring 2015

MY LIFE IS A LIVING LEGACY.....TO AMERICAN MISSIONARIES



In 1967, my family had sold its heart, body and soul to idolatry. Witchcraft and satanical rituals were our daily way of life. In fact, we were so committed to Satan that we had alters inside and outside our home dedicated to demonic worship and sacrifices. Then came Arthur and May Dodzweit, a missionary couple from Rochester, New York, preaching the gospel of love and reconciliation. It was what we called a white man's god who had a son called Jesus Christ. Under heavy persecution and opposition they preached the gospel against all odds. At that point, my dad was on his death bed, dying of cancer. The wizards and witches had taken away their huge share of everything he owned and left him for dead. Except he got healed in a missionary revival camp meeting AND THINGS CHANGED!! . To cut the long story short, he came back transformed and turned my whole family to Christ.

May Dodzweit gave me my name, "David" and prayed over me to have the gifts of the Psalmist David. At the age of seven, I was singing, composing music and preaching the gospel all over Uganda. The Dodzweits took me over as their kid and sponsored me through elementary, middle and high school. During the day I went to school and in the evening I was out winning souls to the Kingdom. I became a humble psalmist ... a gift that still today is opening

up doors in people's hearts. You are one of them. JUST LOOK WHAT THE LORD HAS DONE!!!

I am so proud to say that I was and still am, the living evidence of the seed planted by American Missionaries and a bold testimony to the fact that, when you support some kid, you just never know who that kid will become. You just never know what that project you have sown yourself into will do to change lives; or the scope of Godly impact that one Grandma you support will bring to many. **Your support is far more than just putting a check in the mail...just look at me!!** As you read this great newsletter that Darcy (our Board Member) has so wonderfully compiled, remember that you are actually giving **LIFE ITSELF TO SOMEONE WHO COULD MAKE HISTORY** in our lifetime all to **HIS GLORY.** **Please be strong.... be encouraged and serve the Lord with gladness.**

Arthur and May Dodzweit have long gone to be with Jesus, but their legacy is marching on through my life. May your sacrifices be honored by God and may He bless all the labor of your hands. On behalf of the huge Christaid family in Uganda, **THANK YOU,** far and beyond what words could possibly say. God bless you for "living simply so that others can simply live".

YOUR MISSIONARY BROTHER, DAVID MPORAMPORA

2015 BOARD MEMBERS (Back row - left to right) Pastor Philip Reimers -Lutheran Church of the Cross -Evergreen, Terry Oman-ChristAid Construction Manager, Pastor Bruce Van Dusseldorp-Christ Community Church and Board VP. (Front row—left to right) Darcy Oman-Treasurer, Amy Murphy-Secretary, Diana Wallace- President, and Carol Blechschmidt-University Program Coordinator.



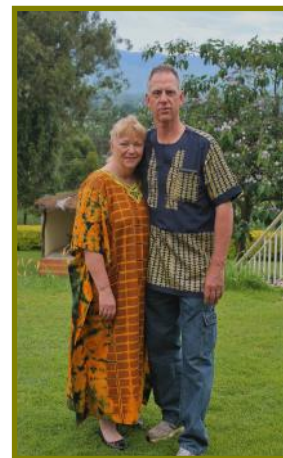
ARLEN NORDHAGEN retired from the ChristAid Board of Directors at the end of 2014, after serving faithfully for 6 years. Arlen was the Board Secretary for several years providing outstanding record keeping of our decision making and detailing our follow-up responsibilities. He was insightful and able to zero in on the crux of any problem or issue. Arlen was also instrumental in beginning and funding the University Scholarship Program we now have in place to encourage our ChristAid graduates to continue on to higher levels of education. Arlen's business experience as President of SecurCare Self Storage has been invaluable in shaping the business decisions and direction of ChristAid. He has been a strong supporter of CA for many years—(even giving David his first car, when he came to the US to start ChristAid!) **THANK YOU ARLEN** for your enthusiasm and Godly insight shared over the years.



MISSION TEAM RETURNS FROM UGANDA—A WHIRLWIND OF JOY AND CELEBRATION!!



A four member Mission Team spent part of April 2015 in beautiful Kicuna, Uganda. Pictured left are ChristAid President, Diana Wallace and her fiancé, Craig Bailey, who were first-time travelers to the village. Craig worked long and hard updating the CA computer systems. Thanks, Craig! Pictured right are Terry and Darcy Oman, returning for the fourth time to work on construction projects.



The Mission Team's first official activity was joining in worship with many of the ChristAid families at the Kicuna church. Craig gave the sermon and served communion and we all enjoyed raising our voices in joyful praise of the God who makes every blessing of ChristAid possible.



Shown below at left: Members of the "Grandmas for Jesus" group receiving the monthly support from their sponsors. It is a time of rejoicing and praising God that He has given them help in a time of devastating poverty, so they may live with dignity. Shown here— Pastor Jennifer and Jen (ChristAid staff) singing in "wild abandon" with the Grandmas. Center picture : Diana and Resty, our ChristAid Finance Manager, having one of the Grandmas place her fingerprint on the log book to show receipt of her support. If you are sponsoring a Grandma, may God bless your efforts to help the truly Helpless!



Pictured at right....is Grandma Majiri Matama. Like many of the other Grandmas, she struggles with serious health issues. This Grandma is 80 years old, blind and unable to support herself. She has the help of only one granddaughter, who is in Primary 5. This granddaughter prepares everything for Majiri's day before she goes to school and returns home at the end of the day to check on her. It is our prayer that Majiri falls into the blessed arms of a sponsor at \$30 a month to assist her and radically change her life. If you are moved to help her, or any other Grandma on the ChristAid website, please contact ChristAid at this direct link: tinyurl.com/christaid-grandmas

TEACHER HOUSING PROJECT — GROUND BREAKING EXTRAVAGANZA

(In the pouring rain....experience with a monsoon up close and personal !!)

An estimated 800 enthusiastic people attended the Ground Breaking Ceremony for the Teacher's Housing Project. Most excited of all were "the teachers" themselves, shown at right. Some of them walk many miles each way to teach at our ChristAid Primary School and will be blessed beyond measure to have housing next to the school. The foundation of first apartment building of 4 units was begun when the team was there. They are currently building the second floor.



On the artist's rendition to the left, the first building under construction is shown on the bottom of the banner. To date, approximately \$39,000 has been spent to purchase the acre of land, have it graded into three levels and to purchase materials, blocks and labor to construct the first building. About \$5,000 is still needed to complete the infrastructure for the complex....for sanitation, sidewalks, retaining walls and for water retention tanks for all the units (to be easily filled by those monsoon rains!!)



PLEASE PRAYERFULLY CONSIDER MAKING A DONATION TO HELP FULFILL THE DREAM OF A BEAUTIFUL HOUSING COMPLEX FOR OUR AWESOME TEACHERS!! (Please use this direct link to donate: tinyurl.com/christaid-projects .) It is the plan to also complete three more apartment buildings in the near future, so that housing for all 16 of the teachers will be available. The cost estimate for each subsequent building is about \$28,000 (This building site is 100 yards from the school building and has a breathtaking view of the lush Ugandan countryside.)



“Sewer” you sure you can live with this !?!



More than 350 ChristAid students use these latrines every school day. The buildings look OK on the outside.... but they don't smell OK on the inside. Quite frankly, the kids “miss” a lot! They often have no shoes to wear and therefore stand barefooted in filth when using these facilities.....



Barry Charelle, a mission trip participant in June of 2013, was appalled by this discomforting truth when he used these facilities as well, while at ChristAid working on the block press machine. Barry has been diligently working ever since to raise money for a sanitary sewer system for the ChristAid Primary School kids. He has raised over \$11,000 for this purpose but still has a long way to go. **IF YOU WOULD BE INTERESTED IN SUPPORTING MUCH NEEDED IMPROVEMENTS AT THE SCHOOL, PLEASE VISIT THE DIRECT LINK AT THE CHRISTAID WEBSITE AT tinyurl.com/christaid-projects TO DONATE TO THIS VERY WORTHWHILE PROJECT TODAY!**



Barry is ALSO raising funds for SOLAR POWER for the lighting in classrooms and for computer use. The classrooms are only lighted by the ambient light coming in through the windows which isn't much! **We can create a better learning environment for the kids!!** Direct link for this project: tinyurl.com/christaid-projects



CHRISTAID SOCCER FIELD OFFERS SUSTAINABILITY



David is always concerned about the “SUSTAINABILITY” of ChristAid, if for any reason there are “unpredictable disasters, a rise in acts of terrorism or greater political instability in Uganda”. God forbid these things should happen, but we have to be ready to maintain God's legacy of compassion even in the most difficult and worst of times.



One option to make ChristAid more self-sustaining (in case our US Aid cannot get through) is to turn our soccer field into a regulation stadium that can be rented out to local and professional teams for games and tournaments. Apparently there is no field like it anywhere in Uganda! Getting the field ready would require some serious grading for an access road and a parking lot for the stadium. Also, the addition of stadium seating and a fence which would separate the field from the ChristAid School would be needed. (The left picture above is the current field...on the right is with some of the proposed improvements shown.)

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN DONATING TO THIS “SPORTING CAUSE”, PLEASE SEE THE “SOCCER STADIUM” DONATION SECTION ON THE CHRISTAID WEBSITE: tinyurl.com/christaid-projects GOD BLESS YOU!!

Grandma Gorretti Komukibuga Receives “Shelters in the Storm” House #6



Grandma Gorretti (center) and her Grandsons were all smiles at the party following the ribbon cutting and dedication of her house. Her long time sponsors, the Beck family, gave this amazing gift to her and to the glory of God. Many of the other “Grandmas for Jesus” and other friends and family members came for her big day! Lunch of plantains, peanut soup, beans, goat and some “unknowns” was served to more than 225



Grandma Tereza Kabonesa Receives “Shelters in the Storm” House #7



Grandma Tereza's house dedication was also a joyful affair. The road to her land, was often made impassible by mud and serious erosion during the building, so the ChristAid school kids carried the blocks from the block press to her house (1/2 mile) on their heads. (On the next house, maybe they will be digging the foundation with their soup spoons!!) The blocks they carried, weigh about 15 pounds each! Grandma's house was an awesome gift from her sponsors, the Yostens. Her land is against a side hill giving her a gorgeous view. What a lifelong blessing she has received!! God is Good!





Pictured left: Jackline Kirungi is 13 years old and is in P5 (fifth grade) at ChristAid Academy. She stays with her father who has become weak and does not work. He can no longer pay school fees for Jackline. If you are interested in sponsoring her at \$40 per month to keep her in school.... you will change her life forever!! The direct link to helping Ahadi kids is: tinyurl.com/christaid-kids



Pictured left: Marvin Mugabe is 12 and in P6 at ChristAid Academy. He lives with his mother who does small scale farming just to get food for survival, but is unable to pay his school fees any longer. He lives in Kicuna (near the school) but will be unable to attend without help. If you are interested in helping sponsor Marvin or any other child on our ChristAid website, please let us know! These beautiful kids need our love!

University Scholarship Program

The University Scholarship Program is now in its second year. Last year twenty-six students applied for a scholarship and donations were available to provide funding for two semesters for seventeen of the applicants. Four of these students will graduate from their university programs this spring. This year there are over fifty applicants! Several of these applicants will be able to receive a scholarship thanks to a generous donor. **Donations to the University Scholarship Fund are always welcome so that we can assist more students.** The direct link to donate to the University Scholarship Fund is tinyurl.com/christaid-projects. Another valuable way to help is to consider continuing your sponsorship of a secondary student to the university level when your sponsored child is ready. Costs vary, but most applicants need approximately \$1,000 per year (or about \$88 per month) to cover tuition, room and board, and supplies. (About the same as funding a private high school student in Uganda.) What a deal by US standards!! **Thank you for prayerfully considering donating to this new ChristAid ministry!**



Our "Grandmas for Jesus" group is active and strong with 110 members. To these Grandmas who often live in isolated conditions, ChristAid represents a network of encouragement and spiritual strength as they struggle with poverty and the responsibilities of caring for numerous grandchildren whose parents have been lost to AIDS and other misfortunes. Some Grandmas have serious health issues of their own and are barely able to take care of themselves. Your support of \$30 a month can make a huge difference in their lives, enabling them to get basic healthcare and assistance with food.

If you are supporting a Grandma....please know that your help is priceless!! If not, please consider a sponsorship of someone like Tedora Timbigamba shown at left. (Also other Grandmas shown on the ChristAid website.) Tedora is 72 and caring for two grandchildren. She is subject to severe headaches, has ulcers and high blood pressure. Please pray for all our Grandmas so that they might feel the love of God and have the means to live in peace and security. They are the backbone of society in the villages. The direct link to the Grandmas is: tinyurl.com/christaid-grandmas

THESE SEVEN GRANDMAS HAVE RECEIVED "SHELTERS IN THE STORM" HOUSES SINCE JUNE OF 2013!! Left to right they are: Elizabeth Kajumba, Teopister Kisembo, Imelda Kabagenyi, Gorretti Komukibuga, Juliana Kyenda, Ester Abigaba and Thereza Kabonesa. They are blessed indeed! **THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HAVE DONATED TO THIS AMAZING PROJECT!!** By our calculations, you have provided permanent and earthquake proof homes for 43 people (currently) and for generations of their families to come. **TO GOD BE THE GLORY FOREVER AND EVER!!!**



“SHELTERS IN THE STORM” CREW KNOWS HOW TO WORK HARD AND HOW TO CELEBRATE SUCCESS!!



The “Shelters in the Storm Crew” has developed into a formidable work force in the two years since the Block Press machine rolled into Kicuna in the spring of 2013. **THANK YOU DWELL-EARTH** for developing such a machine that can use native soils, cement and water to create strong blocks and to **PASTOR BRUCE and CHRIST COMMUNITY CHURCH** for finding the vision and the funding to purchase the block press and send it 8,500 miles from Denver to Uganda!!

Seven Shelter’s Houses have been built and dedicated to the glory of God, with two more in the process!! Also, the picture above shows progress already made on the **Teacher Housing Project**, where a four-unit apartment building is going up as **Phase I**.

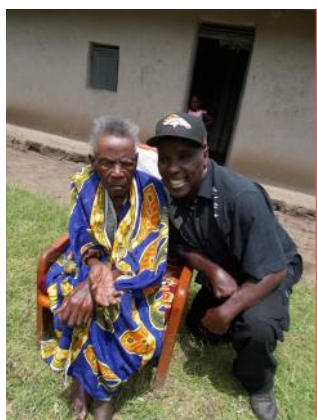
It is difficult to describe all the amazing “fringe benefits” to the Kicuna community that result when money is put into a building project like the Shelter’s houses or the Teacher Housing project. The crew, shown above in their new hard hats and blue uniforms, has three women and 22 men who have perfected the block making process into an art form and work **VERY HARD** in appreciation for having jobs and the sense of empowerment they receive from being able to support their families. The ladies on the crew are by no means the “weakest link” on the team, but rather push the men to a higher level of “hustle” because of how hard the ladies work!



Two of these ladies support their children shown here **BY THEMSELVES!** If ChristAid did not create a job for them, they would be on the streets (which means prostitution, HIV and certain death.) If you would consider sponsoring one of their children to attend ChristAid Academy, please call 303-463-2932 and speak with our Programs manager, Kent Stannard. What a blessing that the worker’s lives can be so impacted by simply having a job.



The “Shelters in the Storm” block houses cost \$7,000 to build. Some Grandmas have land in remote areas where vehicles cannot reach, therefore local materials must be used instead of blocks. The newest offering is the building of a home made of the natural materials, that will be the same size, shape and look of the block house. The walls will be made of logs and mud, not blocks. It will have a cement floor and be roofed just like the block house. It would be considerably cheaper...perhaps half the cost. A third option we are exploring is to repair homes which are structurally sound but have damage due to age and earthquakes. **We have MANY Grandmas needing help with their homes.** Direct link to the building projects is tinyurl.com/christaid-projects



THIS IS WHAT CHRISTAID IS ALL ABOUT: One of our “Grandmas for Jesus” named Veronica Kahinju went to be with Jesus this May. The recent mission team brought back a letter from her in April to her sponsors (Steve and Liz Jenkins) containing these words— “I am grateful and thankful for the monthly support you always send to me. It has really made me a strong Grandma. **I am now growing old and old, because I am going to celebrate my 110th year this June.** I cannot stand on my own. My grandkids have to carry me outside for sun. But I have strong eye sight and a good memory. Thanks be to God! Your loving Grandma, Veronica.” (She left 260 descendants, many of whom were at her funeral.) She lived and died with grace by the assistance of her long time sponsors. **SPONSORS—DON’T EVER THINK WHAT YOU ARE DOING DOES NOT MAKE A DIFFERENCE!!**





Yes! God made these unique and fascinating creatures and placed them in Uganda for the enjoyment of His people!! Maybe YOU are supposed to be part of the next mission trip, to see these wonders, as well as gain an understanding of how God can use YOU to help the warm-hearted but hurting people of Uganda. If you would like information about a mission trip, email Terry and Darcy Oman at omanterry@msn.com. **God can use everyone to further his Kingdom.**



If you have read this letter cover to cover, **you might be overwhelmed** with all the areas in which ChristAid needs funding! The **Teachers Housing complex** needs water tanks and sidewalks and more apartments and there are at least **35 Grandmas on the list that need new houses badly!** We need a **sanitation and solar solution** for the ChristAid School and the **soccer field needs work!** Don't forget that **David** still needs help with his **personal house project** and we have lots of **kids and needy Grandmas** that need sponsorship! Certainly don't forget that maybe you are supposed to be **going on a mission** trip some day soon!!! The point in saying all that is.....there might be just one thing you are interested in, and that's OK. Everyone feels their own calling and is more likely drawn to one project over the others. It is just our job on the Board, to tell everyone where the areas of need are and let each person figure out where they are drawn to help.



At ChristAid, we know that one of the things that make our ministry special, is the personal contact between sponsors and Ahadi Kids or Grandmas. In the rush of excitement for the many building projects taking off lately, we realize that these important communications have slowed down!! Amy Murphy, our Board Secretary, has taken on the project of facilitating these communications, and it is our goal to have the kids and Grandmas write to you 2-3 times per year. **(This means you should write back!!)** You can download a letter format from the ChristAid website under "Forms and Documents" to use, or simply email a letter to ChristAid and we will forward it on to your child or Grandma. The kids (at left) sent over 100 letters back with the mission team in April. It is a good start!!

We have a SKYPE EVENT planned for Saturday, August 1st from 7:00 to 9:00 AM for anyone who would like to talk with their Ahadi Kid or Grandmother in Uganda. The skype session will be held at Christ Community Church, 8085 East Hampden Ave, Denver, CO. Enjoy a continental breakfast, visit with Board members and other sponsors; learn the latest news about "Shelters in the Storm" and other projects. To schedule a time of conversation with your African family member, call Kent Stannard at 303-463-2932 or email christaid@christaidintl.org. You can always find us at ChristAid International on Facebook at tinyurl.com/christaid-facebook.

To help reduce expenses, please send us your email address instead of receiving a paper copy of the newsletter. Thanks!

**THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR SPONSORS!!!
AN APPRECIATION DINNER IS BEING PLANNED FOR
OCTOBER FOR ALL WHO MAKE "CHRISTAID" POSSIBLE.
DETAILS TO FOLLOW.....GOD BLESS YOU, EVERY ONE!!**