

CHRISTAID "MINI-NEWS LETTER" FALL 2015



The 20th Anniversary Thank You Banquet held on October 17th for our ChristAid supporters was an awesome gathering. We were so pleased that many of you attended! The Board members shown here who served the tasty African cuisine are (left to right) Pastor Philip Reimers, Diana Bailey, Terry Oman, Carol Blechschmidt, Darcy Oman, Amy Murphy, (our Caterer-Fetiene) and Pastor Bruce Van Dusseldorp. For those who did not get to hear the recent progress discussed at the Banquet, this report will touch on some of the details. **THERE ARE EXCITING THINGS HAPPENING !!**

Pastor Bruce (and his long time friend, Barry Charelle) had the privilege of explaining that they have raised a significant amount of money to be used for a sanitary sewer system for our ChristAid Academy in the village of Kicuna! This will replace an extremely unhealthy and unpleasant "outhouse" situation that 350 (sometimes) barefooted kids in the school now use. The project will also include solar power for the school. This amazing blessing will allow the school rooms to be lighted (rather than depending on light coming in through the windows) and to power up the **COMPUTER ROOM!!** We had donated computers sitting ready to allow these under privileged kids to learn about God's entirely beautiful creation...but no power to turn them on! A mission trip is in the planning stages for late 2016 to implement these improvements. (Would you like to help???)

Pastor Bruce also introduced Elizabeth Reimers, (wife of our Board Member, Pastor Philip) who has agreed to be a "transition ambassador" for ChristAid. She will work on long term retirement plans for our well-loved In-Country Director, David Mporampora. Elizabeth is currently in Uganda for 5 weeks talking at length with David, assessing the leadership needs to replace David at some point in time. Elizabeth is a dynamic and dedicated young Mom, who has a love for God and ChristAid. She has just finished a Business Management degree at Colorado Christian College. We anxiously await the wisdom she will bring us regarding the way forward. We feel the money we allocated to send her over was an excellent investment in ChristAid's future.



Terry Oman talked about the new construction projects that have been completed since the first Grandma house was built in June of 2013. We have SEVEN block houses for Grandmas filled with happy families and have three more under construction!! The first of five Teacher Housing buildings (shown at left) is nearing completion but awaiting additional funds to complete. This will allow some of our phenomenal ChristAid Teachers to avoid walking miles everyday to teach. This building is the **FIRST OF ITS KIND ANYWHERE NEAR THE VILLAGE OF KICUNA! THIS IS A BIG DEAL!!**

Board members Carol Blechschmidt and Amy Murphy teamed up to talk about our fabulous Ahadi students. Amy heads up the program to encourage letter writing between our Ahadi Kids and Grandmas (to and from) their sponsors. Carol oversees the University and scholarship program which is growing rapidly. **We have many deserving kids who need sponsors.** Please contact ChristAid if you are interested in changing a life forever!! (Contact and donating information is available at the bottom of this page.)



CHRISTAID IS ON THE VERGE OF UNVEILING A NEW REFRESHED WEBSITE!!

We have an awesome volunteer (Holly Erlichman, pictured at left) who has just returned from a visit to ChristAid Uganda for the purpose of gathering new details, pictures and video to be included in the refreshed website. It will be highly interactive and easy to navigate. WATCH FOR NOTICE THAT IT IS UP AND RUNNING (around year end) SO YOU CAN TAKE A LOOK!! Thanks Holly for investing loads of time and effort to work on this wonderful tool to keep us all better connected and to allow more people to learn about our mission to assist the widows and orphans in Uganda. Christaidintl.org

At the Banquet, we played a video greeting from David Mporampora where he highlighted many things that ChristAid is accomplishing and the large numbers of people whose lives are dramatically better because of generous sponsors here in the US. Four separate mission trips will be happening between this October 17th and this year end!! The purpose of these trips range from fact finding, to long term planning, to Grandma house building by the Lutheran Church of the Cross in Evergreen, and a music celebration trip at Christmas time by a long time friend of David's. PLEASE PRAY FOR DAVID AND FOR US ON THE BOARD TO MAKE EVERY DECISION PRAYERFULLY AND THOUGHTFULLY TO THE GLORY OF GOD DURING THIS BUSY AND IMPORTANT TIME IN CHRISTAID'S "HISTORY". ("Full sized" Newsletter coming out in January 2016)

Just when you thought there could **NOT POSSIBLY BE ANYTHING ELSE NEW AT CHRISTAID**..... We are diving into a whole new era of enhanced accountability for all of our ChristAid projects and programs. We have engaged the assistance of a well respected Accountant from Kampala, Uganda, (Rogers Mwesigye Besigye) who is shortly going to install new programs in our local computers and train our Uganda staff to automate many of their systems for delivering ChristAid support and tracking the results. Rogers is also an expert in the Ugandan legal system, so we are pleased for the extra level of understanding of Ugandan law that relates to charitable groups operating within the Country. This will be new and on-going expense, but one that we feel is critically important as ChristAid grows.

You can see that the news in this mini-newsletter is anything but "mini"!!

ChristAid is simply exploding with good news and blessings for the people of Kucina. If you are in any way moved to help financially with the administration costs of this vibrant and growing mission, please consider a year end gift "to Administration" for the purpose of overseeing both our core projects and the many new and challenging efforts that we are taking on. Another great alternative, would be to pledge any amount per month during the coming year "to admin costs". (A few people are already doing this for us and we are extremely grateful.) It can be any amount (great or small) and you can rest assured that we will stretch every dollar to its greatest benefit. Donations may be mailed to ChristAid, P.O.Box 1374, Arvada, CO 80001. Or, online at tinyurl.com/christaid-donate. If donating by credit card, please consider checking the "offset the processing fee" box. Please call Michelle at 303-579-5459 with financial questions and Kent at 303-463-2932 with other questions. **Thank you for your support!!** Christaidintl.org