



Uganda Calling!

Home and Away

July 2017

Hi everyone – greetings from Anona & Dave.

First, an update on Zion Community School in Kakuba.

The school continues to flourish – even more as we slowly improve the infrastructure. The new pit latrine block is now in use following the provision of a new soak pit.

A recent end of term report, sent by overseer Daniel Kamyá, highlights the daily challenges the school faces; here is an extract from his report:

Challenges

1-Untimely and non payment of school fees. This is a very big challenge especially at the beginning of term where we need a lot of stationary and other study materials. Never the less, we managed to collect enough to take us through the term.

2-Limited play material and items more especially for the infants. The big ones equally need some, like balls and the like.

3-Limited play area. We would have enough only that it has not been cleared and levelled to be put to use.

4-Feeding both pupils and teachers has not been easy. This was because both numbers had increased yet the school fees have been coming in slowly. The figure for feeding totalled up to Shs 806,700. (£180)

5-Some pupils have often times missed school due to malaria which is very common during wet season. This has somehow affected their academic performance.

6-Our pupils who do not have shoes find it hard to walk in the mud during rainy days and some of them end up catching infections.

7-Pupils late coming to school has been very common. Most of it has been caused by early morning down pours yet most of them lack rain gears.

8-Our garden on the new land was planted with sweet corn but, unfortunately, almost all of it was ravaged with a strange worm. By the time the government got the suitable spraying chemical, it was too late.

9-High food and other commodity prices caused by a long dry spell that hit the country. This has greatly affected the school budget.

Daniel also reported some positive things which greatly encourage us:

Our school has been beautified by being painted both, in and outside plus the construction of shades and verandas. This has created a very conducive learning environment. Now, our school is rated the best looking in the entire parish. We feel so proud together with the parents and our pupils. You have made Kakuba village into a shining star within darkness.

Following the parents' teachers meeting that was held in earlier this year, a strong relationship has been registered. The outcome is that, the parents have come up with an idea of working the school land and grow food for the school because they thought that it will reduce on the school expenditure.

They also decided to help one of our new teachers (Mr. Joshua) with some food and any other possible help. This has been witnessed as one of them started providing him with milk everyday for the last two month.

They have also started visiting the school very often than before. This has strengthened the bond between them and the teachers.

We have been able to provide our pupils with porridge (though without sugar) throughout the term irrespective of the financial constraints.

The school has been able to provide some medicine for mild illness like fevers and the like.

We also serve our pupils with safe drinking water using purifying kit (life water) donated by the friend missionaries. By doing this we discovered that there hasn't been any case of unsafe water related sickness in all our pupils.

The school has provided the pupils with uniforms at a very cheap price which goes for as low as shs 5,000. However, the old stock has run out. This has been replaced with a new stock which has a different fashion (colours will be maintained) which is better looking and slightly more expensive. (this was decided by the parents in the previous meeting).



Some of the children in their new uniforms – the school is looking good too!

Finally, Daniel says:

All in all, God is good who has made it possible for us to conclude the term irrespective of all the challenges.

Sincere gratitude and appreciation to our brothers and sisters in the UK (SPONSORS) who have made it possible for the school reach this far. God has really used you to give hope and transformation to this village.

One other challenge which became apparent this week is that the P4 teacher, Ritah Nabaale, is leaving at the end of July to take up further education in another direction. However, this may be a opportunity for us, because Daniel is talking to another teacher who has a teaching diploma, rather than a teaching certificate. This means that if we employ her, she is qualified to be our Head Teacher. Her salary would be higher but it would be another step towards Education Authority compliance.

Now, news from our friend Pastor Alfonse in Kasese.

You will remember the problems which surrounded our conference in Kasese in February this year. As a result of that, Alfonse took a team high up into the mountains early in July to repeat the teaching of that conference which many pastors missed. This is his report:

The conference was so nice but sadly Alimos did not join me. His wife was sick. But it was amazing time and we had the Lord supper on the closing day. The journey was very long, walked up for 4 hours. As I reached home I got sick but now am improving. Am taking rest for three days.

God brought all the people around and the food that we budgeted for was not enough for the three days. Just came back with a debt of three hundred thousand. (Note: We have now cleared this debt.)

Over three hundred people joined in this seminar.

We had over one hundred people came to the Lord supper and I had to baptist 43 people . 84 people recommitted them selve to Christ. (Note: February's problems led to July's opportunities!) And 25 Pastors asked me to follow up with having small bible school for them. They really need to study God's word so the they can apply it.

We were over 64 churches and only 13 pastors have gone to bible school, even not all completed but 5 completed. We still have a lot to do in the mountains

Please you come because we need to sit and start thinking of the pastor who have asked me to have bible school so that they can be taught and apply the word of truth. These 25 pastors is a good number to begin with. It would better for me to follow them up (into the mountains) than them to come down.

Since Alfonse returned home, he has recovered from illness, but our friend and co-worker Alimos Secondborn has been in hospital with typhoid. He is home now, still very weak but recovering.

Also, we heard again from Alfonse recently. About 3 years ago, we were given a laptop which we gave to Alfonse. Sadly, yesterday it died and is not repairable locally. The computer was very useful to him in his ministry, and also to us as we communicate with him, so if anyone has a laptop they no longer need, then we can find a good home for it!

Dave will be returning to Uganda in November, and will be discussing ways forward for both the school in Kakuba and the proposed training school in Kasese, as well as speaking at a three day conference in the mountains for around 300 pastors. The theme is 'Servanthood'. He will be accompanied by Teresa & Emma Chalker from Welton Baptist Church. Please pray for them as they fly into a different culture and get involved in our ministry there.

Thank you all for your continued interest and support.



Please pray on! God bless & love to you all,

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30th July 2017