



Rafiki Africa Ministries

Providing hope and love through Jesus Christ

December 2015 Newsletter

Website: www.rafikiministries.org

Blog: rafikiministries.blogspot.com

“For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.”

Isaiah 9:6



Emma, Bright, James, Ivan, Ruth, Jennifer, Hannah, Jimmy, Sharifa or Shakirah, Rebecca, Janat, Aisha, Junior Not Shown Acram, Carol, Don, Jerom, Annet, Esther, Oscar, Fauziya, Joel, Edwin, Brenda, Cocus, Addadi, Mary, and Joshua

Merry Christmas from the Rafiki Family!



Rafiki Staff (Left to Right) – Deborah, Esther, Doreen, Monica, Sarah, Godfrey, and Florence



Joseph and Sara Kiwanuka and Family
Left to Right – Zoe, Baby Naomi, Annet, and Abby

Rafiki staff not shown are Steven (caretaker on the land) and Christine (childcare worker) who recently gave birth to a baby boy (named Austin) and is currently on maternity leave. Please be in prayer for Auntie Christine, her husband, and baby.

This Christmas holiday, the kids that were resettled with their families will be returning to the Children’s Home for a couple of weeks. This will be a fun time for all! The Children’s Home will be full. I hope we have enough beds! ☺ We will have the

opportunity to spend time with the kids and see how everything is going in their new homes. We will be planning some Christmas activities including a play day out. We will be meeting with our families to talk more about ways that we can serve them this upcoming year. Please be in prayer for our children and their families during this time! We are praying that more of our children and their families will come to know Christ as their personal Lord and Savior!

Christmas Wish List at **TARGET!**

THERE'S STILL TIME - ORDER BY SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7TH

Thank you very much for purchasing Christmas gifts for the Rafiki Kids and the Children's Home. We are excited to continue the tradition of purchasing gifts through the Target Wish List for a fifth year. We initially created the list because sponsors wanted to give gifts to their sponsored child. The children get so excited when they receive new clothes and a special toy. We would love to take a special item for each child again this year. To make a purchase please visit our **TargetList** by clicking on the following link or cut and paste it into your web browser →

<http://www.target.com/targetlists#public/89970a417ed2402da262a7a22d42c486>

If you do not want to shop online, then you can make purchases at any Target store and then drop them off with Sara Hamilton Kiwanuka or Frank and Jo Hamilton at 803 West Noton Street, Pflugerville, Texas 78660. The gifts will then be packed in suitcases and travel with us to Uganda. Please do not wrap the gifts because they will be opened as they go through customs. If you order by December 7th we should receive your gifts in time to take them back with us.

Other beneficial donations include:

- Laptop in good condition
- New or Used Clothes for kids in all sizes from baby size 12 months to children's size 14/16
- Swimsuits for all ages, boys and girls in all sizes
- Lifeway and Mardel Gift cards to purchase biblical and educational materials

You Are Invited

Sunday, Dec. 13

8:45 Coffe & Breakfast Snacks

9:30 A.M.

Sara Hamilton Kiwanuka

Rafiki Africa Ministries
Speaker
Multi-Purpose Building

11:00 A.M.

A Season of Joy

Christmas Concert Service
Sanctuary Choir and Orchestra
Worship Center Sanctuary

First Baptist Church
Pflugerville

306 South 10th Street
Pflugerville, TX 78660

Corner of 10th St. and West Pecan (FM 1825)



This Christmas, Give to the Rafiki Building Campaign!



We are overjoyed that after many years of praying we have been able to purchase land in a community that we feel God is calling us to move to and serve. As you can imagine, this is a huge undertaking but we have BIG faith that God will provide. We have already seen Him provide in many ways.

Rafiki is currently raising funds to build a Children's Home on our newly purchased land. Our hope is to have a transitional children's home, smaller long-term foster care family homes, staff housing, nursery and primary schools to serve the community, health clinic, and multipurpose building to be used for a church and discipleship. The first building to be built will be our transitional Children's Home that will house the current children that we care for. This will allow us to move from our current location that we rent. The money that we will save on renting will go a long way to help us with future building. Our goal is to be moving onto the land by June of 2017. This gives us 18 months to raise \$100,000 and build the first home. We know that this is a large goal but we also know that we serve a GREAT, BIG God that can do anything.

Give the gift of the Love of our Savior to children and families in Uganda this year!

Fundraising Goal for 1st building on land = \$100,000

"At the end of life we will not be judged by how many diplomas we have received, how much money we have made, how many great things we have done. We will be judged by "I was hungry, and you gave me something to eat, I was naked and you clothed me. I was homeless, and you took me in." - Mother Teresa

Work Day On the Land

Missionary Hannah Leading Praise and Worship ►





◀ **Short Term Missionaries Corinne and Niomi Planting Trees with Emma's Help**

Uncle Godfrey ▶



▼ **Joseph Kiwanuka with Land Surveyors**



This past week, Joseph took a group to do some work on the land. The group included three of our short-term missionaries, our older boys from the Children's Home, and three of our employees. The surveyors came out to complete the topographic survey. The Rafiki team planted some trees in the front of the fence on the main road. The team even mixed cement to help with finishing the front of the fence.

Godfrey, Corrine, and Niomi Mixing Concrete ▶



Ways YOU can pray for us this month –

- Praise God for the birth of baby Austin! His mother is one of our employees, Christine. Please pray for her as she is healing from a C-section and as her husband is out of the country long term working.
- Pray and Praise for short term missionaries Hannah, Corrine, and Niomi. Pray for them as they represent Christ while serving in Uganda.
- Pray for Sara, Abby, baby Naomi, Sara's parents, Frank and Jo Hamilton, and her brother, Joshua, who will be traveling on December 15th and 16th from Texas to Uganda. Pray for safe travels!
- Pray for monthly financial sponsors for all of the children so that we can support all of their needs.
- Pray for God's direction as we improve the land and for God to provide the funds that are needed for building. Pray that it will become a center of hope and refuge for many children and families.
- Please pray for the children by name who are living at the Children's Home: Junior, Ruth, Hannah, James, Janat, Ivan, Aisha, Emma, Addadi, Fauziya, Edwin, and Cocus.
- Pray for these children by name as they settle into their family homes: Annet, Acram, Shakirah, Brenda, Esther, Carol, Don, Jerom, Oscar, Joel, Mary, Joshua, Jimmy, Sharifa, Jennifer, Rebecca, and Bright.
- Please pray that the Rafiki staff and short-term missionaries will be strengthened physically, emotionally, and mentally as they care for the children.

- Pray for God's direction in making decisions about the best possible care for each Rafiki child.
- Praise God for the children under our care who carry their Christian faith to their families and serve as a witness to them during family visits and when they are resettled. Pray that God gives them boldness in sharing their faith.

Ways YOU can support the ministry –

- **PRAY** for the ministry and orphans in Uganda. "Brothers and sisters, pray for us." (1 Thessalonians 5:25)
- **GIVE** financially. 2nd Corinthians 8:3-4 says, "For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability. Entirely on their own, they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service to the Lord's people."
- **SERVE** on the mission field and come to Uganda. We are in desperate need of teachers, childcare workers, nurses, etc. We can use anyone. "We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully." (Romans 12:6-8)
- **CONNECT** the ministry with local churches, rotary clubs, schools, businesses, etc. Connect us with your friends and family. Please email Sara at sara@rafikiministries.org if you are interested in arranging a speaking engagement.
- **SPEAK UP** and tell their story. What a simple way of obeying God's instruction to us about the poor...simply tell their story. Proverbs 31:8-9 says "Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy."

Please Give by Sponsoring a Life

Prayerfully consider making a one-time donation or become a monthly sponsor. You can sponsor a child for only \$35 per month OR any amount you wish. Every little bit helps keep Rafiki Africa Home running. We are currently supporting 29 children (listed from youngest to oldest) Baby Junior, Ruth, Hannah, James, Janat, Rebecca, Bright, Jimmy, Jennifer, Ivan, Acram, Sharifa, Aisha, Shakirah, Emma, Carol, Don, Jerom, Annet, Esther, Oscar, Fauziya, Joel, Edwin, Brenda, Cocus, Addadi, Mary, and Joshua. Some of these children live at the Rafiki Children's Home, while others live with immediate or extended family and Rafiki helps with school fees and other necessities. When you decide to sponsor a child you will be helping take care of their needs by paying for their shelter, medical needs, food, clothes, and education. Prayerfully consider sponsoring one of these children as a family or as an individual. If you decide to sponsor a child please notify me by email: sara@rafikiministries.org

Methods for Giving:

Donate through PayPal using the link on our website → www.rafikiministries.org

Please mail checks to: **Rafiki Africa Ministries**
P.O. Box 3526
Pflugerville, TX 78691-3526

We are a non-profit organization in the State of Texas. 100% of money raised goes to helping orphaned and destitute children in Uganda. Rafiki is classified as a 501©3 charity and contributions to Rafiki are tax deductible under Sections 170(b)(1)(A)(vi) of the tax code. Rafiki is qualified to receive tax-deductible bequests, devises, transfers or gifts under section 2055, 2106 or 2522 of the code. This exemption is retroactive from the date of filing the 501©3. For further clarification, [contact Frank Hamilton at \(512\) 771-0681 \(USA\)](mailto:frank@rafikiministries.org)
 If you no longer wish to receive these emails, please reply to this message with "Unsubscribe" in the subject line.

Webale! (Thank you!) We continuously thank God for you!
Joseph and Sara Kiwanuka, Founders and Directors, Rafiki Africa Ministries