



Rafiki Africa Ministries

Providing hope and love through Jesus Christ

January - February 2014 Newsletter

Website: www.rafikiministries.org

Blog: rafikiministries.blogspot.com

“May our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and by his grace gave us eternal encouragement and good hope, encourage your hearts and strengthen you in every good deed and word.” 2nd Thessalonians 2:16-17

Happy New Year!

In Uganda, everyone greets by saying, “Happy New Year” for the entire month of January. Each time someone greets me, it reminds me to be thankful that God has blessed us with a new year and a new beginning. I love looking over the previous year. I spend time thinking about all that has happened. Many times I am so busy when things are happening that I do not take the time to appreciate everything that God has done. Sometimes I do not see how God is working until that season has passed and I can look back over that time when God carried me through a difficult time.

This past year we have seen a lot of growth as a ministry. Our children are constantly growing and changing, becoming more like Christ everyday. It has been an exciting year with the new addition of Aisha and Janat into the Rafiki family. They have both been through terrible trauma. Please keep them in your prayers as they continue to adjust to their new home.

We have also been through some hard and sad times this year as we are still grieving the loss of Baby Victoria Tendo. Sometimes I do not understand God’s timing and purpose but I am strengthened by the fact that “in all things God works for the good of those that love Him” (Romans 8:28).



▲ **Some of Our Rafiki Kids – All Smiles!**



▲ **Abby, Joseph, Sara, and Baby Zoe In Pflugerville, Texas**

Thank you for donations! 😊

The Kiwanuka Family arrived safely back home in Uganda on December 30th just in time to celebrate the New Year. We brought 31 (50 pound) pieces of luggage with us filled with donations. The 31 pieces included 3 bags for missionary friends of ours that have not been back to the states in 6 years. They were excited to receive clothes and homeschool materials for their children.

Thank you to everyone who gave donations! The kids all received much-needed clothes, shoes for school, school supplies, backpacks, towels, bed sheets, blankets, soccer balls, toys, and more.

We caught a few stares at the Airport! ▶



Special Treat – Horseback Riding



▲ **Thank you to Clemmie Pierce (one of our former short term missionaries) and her family for giving the kids Texas Shirts.**



▲ **Thank you Travis and Sandra Williams for donating a Special Christmas for the kids. They had a lot of fun learning about horses and getting to ride. ▼**



▲ **Annet – Ready to Ride!**



Sponsor Letters Mailed Out

Sponsor letters and end of the year giving statements have recently been mailed out. **Heartfelt thanks to ALL of our sponsors.** We have been blessed with some new sponsors! We thank you for responding to what God has laid on your heart! We are still in need of sponsors – mostly for Aisha and Janat. It is now easier than ever to give through our online child sponsorship with our website: www.rafikiministries.org



▲ Joel



Brenda ▲



Fauziya ▲

**If you have not received your
2013 Giving Statement:**

Call Frank Hamilton at 512-771-0681(USA)
or Email Sara Kiwanuka at
sara@rafikiministries.org

Ways YOU can pray for us this month –

- Praise that the Kiwanuka family made it safely to Uganda with all 31 pieces of luggage.
- Pray for the children and staff as we strive to be more like Jesus everyday. Pray for the children as they learn more about the Lord daily and grow in their walk. Pray they will accept Him as their personal Savior.
- Praise that the kids have been healthy while out of school on holiday. Pray for them as they return to school.
- Pray for us as we have frequently been without power. Pray that they will improve the power infrastructure here..
- Pray for more monthly financial sponsors that will enable the ministry to provide a home for more hurting children.
- Pray for Rafiki as we continue to work with the local Police, government officials, and Social Workers on the placement of abandoned and orphaned children.
- Pray for our short-term missionary, Niomi, who has traveled back home. Pray for Amanda who is still currently serving with the Rafiki Team in Uganda. Pray that God will strengthen both of them and renew their spirits.
- Pray for excellent physical, mental, and spiritual health for the Rafiki Kids, Staff, Directors, and Missionaries.
- Pray for God's protection over Rafiki Africa Ministries, the directors, staff, volunteers, sponsors, and children from

spiritual attack from the evil one.

- Pray for God's guidance in raising the children to be godly adults, for direction for the Ministry.
- Praise God for his continuous provision, especially with supplying the finances to pay for another year's rent.
- Praise God for our sponsors and contributors who have been inspired by God to give of their time, resources, money, and talents. Pray that we will be good stewards of all that is given to us.
- "In all things give thanks". 1st Thessalonians 5:88

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 providing a home for 15 children (listed from youngest to oldest) Janat, Aisha, Emma, Carol, Don, Jerom, Annet, Esther, Oscar, Fauziya, Joel, Brenda, Cocus, Mary, and Joshua. 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)**
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