



# Rafiki Africa Ministries

*Providing hope and love through Jesus Christ*

March 2014 Newsletter

Website: [www.rafikiministries.org](http://www.rafikiministries.org)

Blog: [rafikiministries.blogspot.com](http://rafikiministries.blogspot.com)

**“All your children shall be taught by the Lord, and great shall be the peace of your children.” Isaiah 54:13**



## Esther's Apartment Burglarized

March 3, 2014. When coming to the Children's Home this morning, we learned from our Manager, Esther, that her apartment had been broken into the night before. Many items including refrigerator, stove, television, and living room furniture were stolen. Esther lives with her sister only down the street from the Children's Home. We have heard that other homes in our area have been broken into as well.

We praise God for protecting Esther and her sister as they were both at home asleep when the burglars came around 3:00 a.m. The thieves had to break a metal door with a padlock to get in, but Esther and her sister stayed asleep. Praise God for His protection and for keeping them asleep so that no physical harm came to them.

During our devotional time, Esther expressed her fear of sleeping at home. Please pray that "the peace that surpasses all understanding" (Philippians 4:7) will come upon Esther and her sister.

As a ministry, we would like to help Esther during this time. We would like to give her a gift of \$500 to help with replacing the furniture and appliances that were taken. We desire to encourage her during this difficult time. If you are interested in making a donation towards this gift, then please let us know.

***“The gracious hand of our God is on everyone who looks to Him” (Ezra 8:22).***

## Land & Building Campaign

We have been spending the last couple of months visiting pieces of land and doing a LOT of research. We want to be ready for this next step for the ministry. We have been researching building techniques, farming and agriculture, raising animals, solar power, and water access. We have learned a lot in the last few months.

***“Suppose one of you wants to build a tower. Will he not first sit down and estimate the cost to see if he has enough money to complete it? For if he lays the foundation and is not able to finish it, everyone who sees it will ridicule him, saying, ‘This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.’” Luke 14:28-30***

We found out that land is **VERY** expensive in Uganda! An acre of land costs roughly **\$50,000 USD** in Kampala. The farther you get out of the city the cheaper the land becomes but this also means limited access to water, electricity, schools, and health care. Just to give you an example, we found some land outside of the city that currently is selling at 10,000,000 UGX an acre (roughly \$4,000 USD per acre). We are hoping to purchase at least 10 acres to begin with. If you do the math, that equals \$40,000 USD.

Please pray for God’s guidance and wisdom as we continue to research buying land and building. We firmly feel that this is God’s long-term plan for the ministry. Pray that we are obedient to the community and land that God calls us to.

***“By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going.” Hebrews 11:8***

## Restoring Hope – Orphan Prevention and Resettlement

In the upcoming month we will be researching more about resettlement and orphan prevention. We will be meeting with other ministries and organizations that are currently focusing in this area. We will be meeting with Social Workers, government officials, and the local police. Pray that God will open doors for the right meetings to take place. Pray that we will be able to find Christian partners and ministries that we can work together to impact Ugandan families.



## Back To School

In this picture, the kids are carrying local brooms that are used for cleaning inside and outside the classrooms. Local brooms are included in their school supply list. I remember shopping for school supplies with my Mom before school started each year and being so excited to get a new package of crayons or markers. Starting a new school year in Uganda is very different. Most children wait knowing that they most likely will not be able to go to school this year as their parent’s do not have the money to pay their school fees. Some have to sacrifice so that an older sibling can go to school while they stay at home and work.

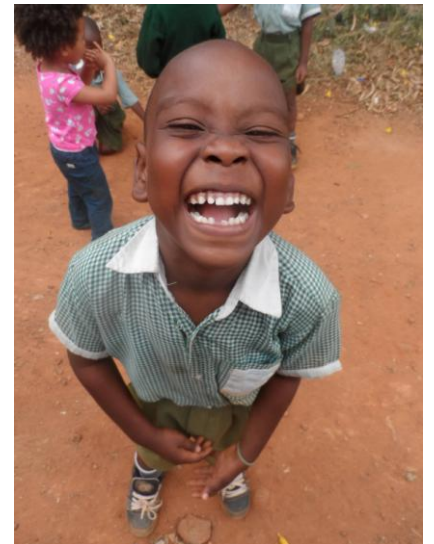
School is NOT free in Uganda. Parents have to pay school fees for their children to attend. At Rafiki, we pay roughly \$150 per term (3 terms each year) for EACH child in the home to be able to get an education. This amount does not include school supplies and uniforms.

## Emma on his first day of preschool →



↑ The kids proudly wearing their new backpacks and haircuts!

Jerom was so excited to see his friends at school after having a long break! →



## More Fun on Holiday

Before school started we were able to take the kids to a movie. We have a new movie theater in our area – the third in all of Uganda. And it even shows movies in 3D. It was so much fun! The kids loved wearing the 3D glasses (or goggles as they call them in Uganda).

I am always amazed at how God provides for His children. Thankfully going to the movie theater is much, much cheaper in Uganda. The movie theater even had a day where it was buy one ticket and get one free. Praise God for his daily blessings!



**Friday, March 28<sup>th</sup>, 4:00 p.m./ Afternoon 'til Sunset**

**and Saturday, March 29<sup>th</sup>, Sunrise 'til Sell-out**

***Spring Cleaning! Junk for Jesus! One Man's Trash is Another's Treasure!  
Clean out your closets for the Rafiki Yard Sale!***

All donations are tax deductible!! We will gladly accept donation items to sell in the yard sale. Come Shop! Please call to arrange a time to drop off donation items or make special arrangements for larger items to be picked up. Call Frank Hamilton at (512) 771-0681 or Jo Hamilton at (512) 750-8047.

## Upcoming Craft Show

If you are in the Pflugerville area, please stop by this local craft show where we will have a booth displaying and selling Uganda Crafts. All proceeds go to help with Rafiki ministry costs.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>
<b>Saturday, April 12<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9am-5pm</b>	<b>Pflugerville High School FFA Craft Show</b> 1500 North Railroad Avenue (Park Crest Middle School) Pflugerville, TX 78660

## Please Notify Us of Change in Payment Methods/ Card # Changes:

Due to recent fraud at stores such as Target, some banks are requiring their customers to cancel their previous credit card numbers and are issuing new cards. If that is the case with you, please notify us the change in account information. You can email or call Frank Hamilton at 512-771-0681 (USA). Please also notify us of address changes.

## Ways YOU can pray for us this month –

- Praise God for the opportunity for our children to go to school and receive an education!
- Pray for Esther and her sister as they recover emotionally from their home being burglarized. Pray that the thieves will be stopped before anyone gets hurt and they will come to know the Lord Jesus and change their hearts.
- Praise God for his provision of a home for the children and for our Christian landlords. Our rent lease is up for renewal soon. Please pray for God's continued provision for our annual rent payment.
- 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.
- 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 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". 1<sup>st</sup> Thessalonians 5:8

## 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. 2<sup>nd</sup> 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](mailto: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](mailto:sara@rafikiministries.org)

### Methods for Giving:

Donate through PayPal using the link on our website → [www.rafikiministries.org](http://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**