



# Rafiki Africa Ministries

*Providing hope and love through Jesus Christ*

December 2016 Newsletter

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

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

**“For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.” Isaiah 9:6**

## Merry Christmas!!

This is my (Sara) favorite season of the year. The birth of Christ reminds us to be selfless and give to others that are less fortunate. Christ gave the ultimate selfless act by dying for us on the cross.

### “10 gifts for the person who has it all”

Maybe you’ve seen a headline similar to this on your favorite website or on a magazine cover as the Christmas shopping season draws near. In our society where everyone has their necessities and most have all they want, as well, finding the perfect gift can be a challenge. So stores offer us the solution of buying crazy, wacky gifts that our friends will probably use a couple of times and then put away. This solution seems hardly satisfactory, especially when many people around the world are just wishing for a warm coat, a healthy meal, or shoes for their children this Christmas. As you are shopping this holiday season and have to decide what to get for that relative or friend who is impossibly hard to buy for, consider giving a gift that can actually change a life. You can give the gift of life by giving a donation for an abandoned and malnourished child to be cared for at the Rafiki Children’s Home. You can **SAVE A CHILD’S LIFE** through your giving!



Not only will your friend or relative be touched that you gave a thoughtful gift (and didn’t fill their closet with more junk), a child across the globe will not go to bed hungry because you made a difference in their lives. **This Christmas season, you can transform a life.** After all, that’s what Christmas is all about. Jesus transformed our lives! This year, instead of stressing about what to get friends who seem to have everything, let’s focus on giving generously to those who have much less.

### Inspire Your Children to Give Sponsor a Child or Shop for a Cause

Get your kids involved with ways your family can bring physical relief and the hope of the Gospel to hurting children and families in Uganda. Teach your children about how other children live around the world. Many children this Christmas season are just hoping to receive some shoes so that they don’t have to walk around barefoot and can protect their feet from getting infected from things like jiggers.



Are you on the fence about child sponsorship? Or just not sure how the process works? Child sponsorship is a relationship that is both precious and powerful. **And at just over \$1 a day (\$35 a month), it doesn't take much to make a HUGE impact!**

Check out our new website [www.rafikiministries.org](http://www.rafikiministries.org) to sign up to be a sponsor today! We are in desperate need of monthly partners to help take care of the physical and spiritual needs of the 4 children that we have received from police in the past month. Reagan is our most recent child. He is 9 months old and extremely malnourished. We will share more about him soon, but please be in prayer for him as he builds his strength.



## Amazon Christmas Wish List

It's hard to believe that the Christmas season is upon us. Our Christmas Wish List was a HUGE blessing the past five years! We are excited to continue the tradition for a sixth year. We have created a wish list of items including new books, puzzles, toys, and Bibles for the kids. The children were so excited last year to receive new clothes, a special toy, and soccer balls for outside play. Rafiki Africa Ministries has created a wish list on Amazon. Items can be purchased and shipped to 803 West Noton Street, Pflugerville, Texas 78660.

Please visit our WishList by clicking on the following link or cut and paste it into your web browser

[https://www.amazon.com/gp/registry/wishlist/PHKWE2CYMCDW/ref=cm\\_sw\\_em\\_r\\_wsg\\_K8ynybGZ4XQ1Z\\_wb](https://www.amazon.com/gp/registry/wishlist/PHKWE2CYMCDW/ref=cm_sw_em_r_wsg_K8ynybGZ4XQ1Z_wb)

## Dedication of New Family Home

Thank you to CRANE for making this project a reality by partnering with us to help build this family, our neighbor at the Rafiki land, a permanent home. Some of the Rafiki Team was able to attend the dedication of the home. They prayed for the new home to be a blessing to the grandparents and the grandkids that they take care of. Projects like this help keep children with their families. We pray that we can take part in more projects like this in the future.



▲ Small house on the left was the original home.



▲ Jjaja (grandmother) washing dishes.

# Rafiki Market - Shop for Gifts that Give More than Once!

## Rafiki is offering handmade items from Ugandan crafters:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>
Sat., December 3	12:00-2:00 pm	<b>One Chapel Christmas Market</b> A Fair Trade Shopping Event One Chapel Lake Travis 22800 Hwy 71 W Spicewood, TX 78669
Sun., December 4	11:00 am-4:00 pm	<b>Allies Market – A Holiday Experience</b> Allies Against Slavery (Slavery and Human Trafficking) at Fair Market Austin 1100 East 5 <sup>th</sup> Street Austin, TX 78702
Sun., December 11	8:30 am-11:00 pm Rafiki Mkt *11:00 Christmas Choir Service 12:00 pm-1:00 pm Rafiki Mkt	<b>First Baptist Church Pflugerville</b> Worship Center Mall 306 South 10 <sup>th</sup> Street Pflugerville, TX 78660
Tues., December 13 Wed., December 14	10:00 am-2:00 pm 6:00 pm-8:30 pm <b>*Everything “Marked Down” during the Open House</b>	<b>*Rafiki “Mark Down” Market</b> Open House – Home of Frank and Jo Hamilton 803 West Noton Street Pflugerville, TX 78660
Sun., December 18	8:30 - 9:30 am Rafiki Market *9:30 Traditional Service 10:30-11:00 Rafiki Market *11:00 Contemporary Service 12:00 pm-1:00 pm Rafiki Mkt	<b>First Baptist Church Pflugerville</b> Worship Center Mall 306 South 10 <sup>th</sup> Street Pflugerville, TX 78660

## Ways YOU can pray for us this month –

- Praise God for this Christmas season!! Praise for the birth of Jesus and His perfect life and sacrifice of His blood to save us!
- Pray for the people in Uganda to hear about Jesus this Christmas! Pray for the Rafiki Team to have more opportunities to share the love of God to our neighbors at the Children’s Home and at the Rafiki Land.
- Pray for our newest child, Reagan. He is 9 months old and is very malnourished. We will include more information about him in the next newsletter. Pray for God to give us monthly partners to help with caring for Reagan’s needs.
- Pray for the people of Uganda. Pray for those who are so destitute that they must abandon their families in hopes that their children will be “taken in” and survive. Pray for the Ugandan government as they seek ways to protect children and help the abandoned and orphaned children of Uganda. Pray for Children’s Homes, like Rafiki, who are struggling to have the finances and means to support as many children as possible.
- Pray that God will provide the funding needed to move to our new land. Currently, we need \$100,000 to complete the first part of our building phase so that we can move the Children’s Home permanently to our land in Kakiri. This will enable us to serve more children and families in the community.

- Please pray for the children by name that are living at the Children's Home: Baby Florence, Reagan, Blessing, Max, Junior, Ruth, Hannah, James, Janat, Ivan, Aisha, Jerom, Joel, Addadi, Esther, Brenda, Fauziya.
- Pray for these children by name as they settle into their family homes: Farouk, Michael, Winnie, Tina, Mungu, Sophie, Pony, Annet, Acram, Shakirah, Carol, Don, Emma, Oscar, Cocus, Edwin, 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 and for the use of our land. Pray that many children and families will come to know Christ as their Savior and Lord.
- 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.

## 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 39 children (listed from youngest to oldest) Florence, Reagan, Blessing, Tina, Max, Junior, Mungu, Michael, Ruth, Hannah, James, Janat, Rebecca, Bright, Jimmy, Jennifer, Ivan, Farouk Acram, Sharifa, Aisha, Shakirah, Emma, Carol, Don, Sophie, Winnie, 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 us by email: [sara@rafikiministries.org](mailto:sara@rafikiministries.org)

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 thank God for you!**

**Joseph and Sara Kiwanuka, Founders and Directors, Rafiki Africa Ministries**

## 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, ..."
- **SERVE** on the mission field and come to Uganda. (Romans 12:6-8)
- **CONNECT** the ministry with local churches, rotary clubs, schools, businesses, friends and family.
- **SPEAK UP** and tell their story. Proverbs 31:8-9 says "Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, ..."