Rafiki Africa Ministries

Providing Hope and Love through Jesus Christ

April 1, 2011 Newsletter **Website: www.rafikiministries.com**

"Each one should use whatever gifts he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms." 1st Peter 4:10

Rafiki Yard Sale

Date & Time: Saturday, April 6th
Opening at Sunrise / Closing Around Noon

Location: Frank and Jo Hamilton's Home
803 West Noton Street
Pflugerville, TX 78660

Directions: From the Pflugerville Traffic Light at Pecan Street (Hwy 1825) and 10th Street - Go South on 10th Street Past First Baptist Church – Turn Left on Noton Street – 4th House on the Right. (Located about a block from First Baptist Church Pflugerville).

Donations: We are welcoming donations. Please call first! (512) 750-8047 Jo Hamilton

Thank you to everyone who already donated items to the Rafiki Yard Sale. 100% of the money raised will go directly to helping the children at the Rafiki Home. **Please let all of your friends, co-workers, and family know about it! We have had some really nice things donated!!!!!**

▲ Left - Jerom is trying to show us how old he is.
Middle - Jerom is sitting next to his biological brother, Joel.

Jerom's Birthday – celebrated on January 22nd, 2011

Jerom turned 3 years old on his birthday this year. If you're wondering why there are so many candles on the cake, he wanted more than 3 candles on his birthday cake so he could have more fun blowing them out. The other kids all joined in to help! Thank you for sponsoring Jerom and making it possible to get the love and care he needs in the Rafiki Home! As you can see in the pictures above, he is a very happy child.

▲ Sara and Mama Amooti, Joseph's grandmother, at her home in Kyegegwa.

Please pray for Joseph's Grandmother

Joseph's grandmother is 79 years old. She lives in Western Uganda in a small village called Kyegegwa. Joseph spent most of his years as a child living with his grandmother. They have a close bond. She is an amazing Christian woman and her faith is very strong. Each time she greets me she always says, "Praise Jesus!".

Everyone calls her Mama Amooti. In Joseph's tribe, each child is given a pet name called an "empaako". There are about 7 different pet names that you can receive – Amooti, Abwooli, Akiki, etc. Each pet name has a special meaning and usually children are given pet names that are passed down from their grandparents and parents. For example, Joseph's pet name is Amooti after his grandmother. When we got married, Joseph gave me the pet name "Abwooli" which means flower.

Mama Amooti was out working in her vegetable garden when she got some bad muscle cramps in her lower leg. The muscle cramps were soo severe that they caused her to fall and break her leg. Mama Amooti has come to stay with one of Joseph's aunts in Kampala while she is recovering from her broken leg. We have been able to visit her a few times. When we last visited her, she told us that she was having a difficult time moving around the house. She was spending most of her time in bed. She had to call a family member to help lift her and carry her anytime she needed to get up. I asked her if she had been given any crutches by the doctor and she said, "no". Joseph and I were able to find a local pharmacy store that sold crutches and were able to purchase some for her.

At our wedding, Mama Amooti spoke a blessing over us and prayed that we would soon find ourselves pregnant with TRIPLETS!! In Uganda children are considered a blessing from God and the more children you have the more God has blessed you. Twins and triplets are considered very special because God blessed you with two or three children with one pregnancy.

We are not having triplets with this pregnancy! Praise God! Haha! Mama Amooti is very excited about the baby on the way even though we have told her we are not expecting triplets. She just says, "wait for next time".

Thank you to EVERYONE who has been so generous in supporting us!

God Bless You!
Sara Hamilton Kiwanuka
Director and Founder of Rafiki Africa Ministries

Rafiki means Friend! Thank you for being a friend to the Rafiki Family!

- Praise for Jerom! He has healed wonderfully and is back to his normal self. Thank you for your prayers!
- Praise! I no longer have a cold and have not had a migraine in the past week. Praise God! Please continue to pray for our baby on the way.
- Pray for Mama Amooti as she heals from a broken leg. Pray that she will have enough strength.
- Pray for Mary as we try to get her on the right medication for her seizures. We are still adjusting her medication to find the right level for her.
- Pray for Joseph as he applies for a transit visa to the UK. We have to spend the night in London as we travel through the Heathrow airport on our way to Texas at the beginning of June. Joseph is applying for a transit visa so that we can spend one night at the airport.
- Please pray alongside us as we hire an administrator to be responsible for running things for the Rafiki Home while we are in the United States. Pray for the person that God has revealed to us for this new job position.
- Pray for the current situation in Uganda following the February 18th presidential elections. Pray that Uganda's foundation and government will be based on the Lord. Pray for the leaders of the country as they make decisions for the people. Pray that God's kingdom will reign and his righteousness and justice will rule.
- Pray for wisdom and discernment that God will show his desires for the ministry to the staff.
- Pray that Rafiki Africa Ministries will always be in the center of God's will.
- Pray against any attacks of the enemy.
- Pray for God's protection over the Rafiki Home.
- Pray for God's continued guidance in rearing these beautiful children.
- Pray for our staff that takes care of the children daily – that they will be strengthened and continue to show God's love to the children.
- Pray that God will be a light in these children's lives and the children will ultimately come to know the Lord personally.
- Pray that God will continue to provide for our needs as we grow and that God will be glorified.
- Pray that we will continue to be good stewards of the money we receive for the ministry.

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 $30 per month OR any amount you wish. Every little bit helps keep Rafiki Africa Home running. We have 9 children currently in the home (listed from youngest to oldest) Jerom, Annet, Esther, Oscar, Fauziya, Joel, Brenda, 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. You can sponsor a child as a family or as an individual. If you decide to sponsor a child please notify me by email: **sarainafrica@yahoo.com**

Donations can be made payable to and mailed 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.

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