



Rafiki Africa Ministries

Providing Hope and Love through Jesus Christ

January 15, 2011 Newsletter

Website: www.rafikiministries.com

“Pray without ceasing.” 1st Thessalonians 5:17



Starting from left to right – Oscar, Fauziya, Joshua, Annet, Jerom, Mary (sitting in my lap), and Joel

Thank you to all of our wonderful supporters!!

Back to Uganda – Start of a New Year

Joseph and I left Texas on New Year's Eve and arrived to a new year in Uganda. We arrived late at night Ugandan time and did not reach home until 2 a.m. I was really excited about seeing the children after being away for over 2 months. It was difficult for me to be away from them for so long. As soon as I got home, I wanted to see the kids but did not want to wake them from sleep. Fauziya heard us unloading all of the bags and woke up. At first she seemed confused but then immediately became excited when she recognized me. I gave her a hug and told her to go back to bed. But I soon heard little girl's voices coming from their bedroom. Fauziya woke up Annet to tell her the good news that Mama Sara and Uncle Joseph were back from America. Soon both of them were awake and got out of their beds to welcome us home. The boys continued to sleep through it all and the next morning they were very excited to see us.

We made it safely and through customs with all of our 13 pieces of luggage! We brought lots of donations with us – children's clothes, school supplies, sheets, blankets, etc. Thank you John and Margaret Hankins for the donation of a high chair for Mary! Yes...all the pieces fit in our suitcases! Thank you to everyone who has donated generously to the Rafiki Home. The children were very excited to get new clothes. Fauziya and Annet helped me sort and organize all of the clothes the next day. They were very excited to get new underwear and pretty dresses. They are both “girly girls” and their favorite color is pink so they were more than overjoyed when they received two pink tutus as their Christmas present!! Thank you Christina! The boys were excited to find matchbox cars among all of the donations brought back. Thank you Mama Gaila and Papa Floyd!



From left to right - Joel, Jerom, and Oscar playing with their new cars



Fauziya and Annet twirling in their new tutus!

Please Pray! – 2 sisters desperately in need of a home

Before leaving Uganda, Joseph and I had been praying about receiving new children in our home. We feel that God wants us to help as many children as we are able to. Joseph was notified by a friend of two girls desperately in need of a home. Joseph decided to visit the family and meet these precious little girls. The mother abandoned the family a few years ago. The father is the sole provider for his two children, Brenda (age 5) and Esther (age 4). The father is unable to find work and can not adequately provide for his children. He rents a small one room lean-to for 5,000 UGX a month (roughly \$2.50 USD). They have no furniture or beds. The entire family sleeps together on a mat. The father leaves the girls alone every day as he goes out to search for work. At night, he goes to the local pub to drink alcohol before he comes home to sleep. He feels desperate and admits that he must drink to be able to sleep. The girls are severely malnourished and there is no joy or hope in their young faces.

We feel it is very important to bathe everything in prayer before making decisions. It is important for us to always be in the center of God's will. Please pray with us as God gives us direction on how to best handle this situation. Please be in prayer for these two little girls, Brenda (age 5) and Esther (age 4).

School Fees for upcoming year – Back to School on January 31st

Schools in Uganda are either private or government run. The school year begins in January and ends in December. There are 3 terms in each school year. All children have to pay school fees for each term. The children are given a break (holiday) in between each term. Currently, Joshua is on break from school. This past school term we were able to send Joshua to Little Rina Nursery and Primary School. Little Rina is located a block away, within walking distance, from the Rafiki Home. Joshua is dropped off every morning and is picked up before lunch time. We found out this week that Joshua has been promoted from Nursery class (Kindergarten) to Primary 1 (1st grade)! Joshua will begin going a full day of school on Monday, January 31st when the new school year begins.

Starting this year, we would like to send Fauziya, Oscar, and Joel to school along with Joshua. One term in school costs \$150.00 USD per child. This includes cost of education, school uniform, school supplies, and books. We have sponsors for Joshua and Joel but we are in need of sponsors for Fauziya and Oscar in order to be able to send them to school this year. Prayerfully consider sponsoring a child's school fees.

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 that Joseph and I arrived safely back in Uganda.
- 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.
- 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 7 children currently in the home (listed from youngest to oldest) Jerom, Annet, Oscar, Fauziya, Joel, 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: sarainafrika@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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