



Rafiki Africa Ministries

Providing Hope and Love through Jesus Christ

June 1, 2010 Newsletter

“I lift my eyes to the hills – where does my help come from? My help comes from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth.” Psalm 121: 1-2



Fauziya's Birthday - 4 years old

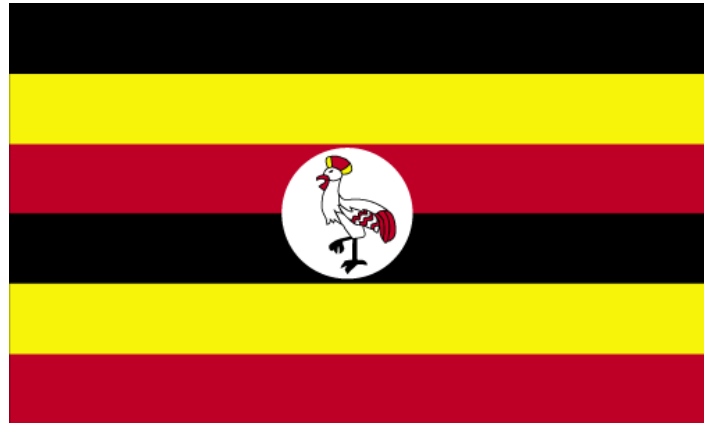
Fauziya turned 4 years old on May 8th, 2010. We made a cake to celebrate her birthday. It was the first time that we have used birthday candles and I do not think Fauziya knew what to do with them. She was very excited about celebrating her birthday. I occasionally hear her singing the Happy Birthday song around the house. In the picture on the left, Fauziya is about to blow out her candles. In the picture on the right, Fauziya is showing us how old she is now. It is such a blessing to see the smiles on the faces of our kids. They have truly blossomed with God's love!

Our NEW Transportation to Church

Two newsletters ago, I included a picture of us riding to church on motorcycles (called boda bodas in Uganda). This Sunday we will be riding our NEW transportation. God has blessed the Rafiki Home with a van. We will no longer be riding on boda bodas!! The van is a 1995 Super Custom Hiace Toyota with a diesel engine and very low mileage. We are buying the van for 18 million UGX (roughly \$9,000 USD). We put a down payment on the van and will pay the remainder over the next three months.



We got the van today! Yippee! I will try to send pictures tomorrow. We took Emily, a visiting missionary, and the kids to Ndere Center to see cultural dancing. I drove for our first trip! Ugandans drive on the opposite side of the road from the U.S. but Joseph said I was a good driver on the bad roads. Hahaha! We had lots of fun! The kids loved joining in the dancing. The kids love the new van! When we arrived back home, Joshua kept saying, "car here?", as in the car is going to stay here? He is SUPER excited! We all are! Thank you for helping us to get it. I can't wait to use it on Saturday for the grocery shopping. We have had to hire a car to do our weekly shopping.



Facts About Uganda

- ❖ Uganda is located on the Equator. Did you know? Countries on the Equator have the quickest rates of sunrise and sunset. They experience summer weather year-round and there are always 12 hours of day and 12 hours of night throughout the year.
- ❖ 78% of Ugandans are under the age of 30. 50% of Ugandans are under the age of 15.
- ❖ There are over 2 million orphans in Uganda. Children are orphaned due to war, disease, and malnutrition.
- ❖ Uganda is approximately the same size as the state of Oregon. The population is 33 million people.
- ❖ Uganda is the 3rd leading country in teenage pregnancy.
- ❖ Lake Victoria, located on the southern border of Uganda, is the 2nd largest fresh water lake in the world. Lake Victoria is the source of the Nile River. The Nile River is known as the longest river in the world and flows north.
- ❖ Uganda has two seasons – rainy (wet) and dry. The rainy season falls from March to June and from November to December.
- ❖ Religion - Christianity 70%, Islam %25, and Local Religions (including witchcraft) 5%. Islam is a fast growing religion in Uganda.
- ❖ Uganda is one of the few African countries that have decreased the HIV rate. The HIV rate has decreased to 8% mainly due to openness.
- ❖ Under a proposed “Anti-Homosexuality Bill”, people who test positive to HIV and subsequently engage in homosexual relations may be executed.
- ❖ Infant mortality rate is 79 per 1,000 births. Life expectancy is 50.2 years for women and 49.1 years for men. There are approximately 8 physicians per 100,000 people.

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

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

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

Please Pray:

- 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 they 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.
- Pray that the application for non-government (Uganda) status will be approved.

Please Give:

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 5 children currently in the home – Annet, Fauziya, Mary, Joel, 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

Please check out our website for more information: www.rafikiministries.com

Monetary Donations Needed to Purchase:

Used Van - \$9,000 total

Special High Chair for Mary - \$200

Dressers for boys & girls room - \$100 each

Extra mattresses for volunteers - \$60 each

Classroom – Bookshelf for school supplies \$100

Classroom - Tables and Benches \$100

Classroom - Large Chalkboard with stand \$75

Educational Posters \$10

School Materials \$20

1-Year Work Permit in Uganda - \$100

Plane Ticket to the U.S. - \$1700

Car seats

Donations Needed:

*New or gently used children's clothes (average year round temperature 80° days, 60° nights)

*Age appropriate toys

*Children's movies on DVD

*Arts & Crafts – construction paper, beads, crayons, markers, scissors, glue, etc.

New or used projector (for speaking engagements in the U.S.)

*The items above may be taken to Uganda in a suitcase.

Please contact Jo Hamilton at 512-750-8047 to arrange a time to drop them off in Pflugerville, Texas.

Donations can be made payable to:

Rafiki Africa Ministries

Donations can be mailed to:

Rafiki Africa Ministries

P.O. Box 3526

Pflugerville, TX 78691-3526

John 15:12-13 NIV

“My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends.”

We are a non-profit organization in the State of Texas. 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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