

AUGUST - NOVEMBER 2013



AGAPE CHILDREN'S VILLAGE

WWW.AGAPECHILDRENSVILLAGE.COM

The month of August began with visitors from both The Bridge and Calvary Chapel Lake Arrowhead. Once the team arrived from the states in Uganda, they were met by the Overseer and Leader at ACV, Jacques Masiko. The following is a short description of the team members and what they accomplished on their trip:



Jacques Masiko: Senior citizen commonly known as Uncle Jacques. He planned and coordinated all activities at both ACV and the youth retreat. He has great passion for child advocacy and holistic child development. He is also the spiritual leader/father at ACV. He co-lead the youth retreat with Aaron Cronen through character study of Joseph under the theme: **“Be Different”**.

Team members from The Bridge and CC Lake Arrowhead:

YOUTH RETREAT

Aaron Cronen 26 yrs - The team leader came with his wife Breanna the Co-leader. He is a pastor, a worship leader, and an excellent teacher of the word at The Bridge Calvary Chapel. He runs a group called "Fusion", which is a college age group - - of 18 to 30 year olds. This is his third time in Uganda. He was hugely affective with the youth at ACV.

Breanna Cronen: A Co-leader with Aaron. Children's ministry director at The Bridge Calvary Chapel, really good with kids, plays/skits, games, also a very good teacher and very hard worker. This was her fifth time in Uganda. She is a dynamo. The kids at ACV were greatly impacted by this woman of God.

Jenise Gleason: 22 (single female) - She is on staff at The Bridge as an assistant to Breanna in children's ministry. She is good with all age children. She is also gifted in play/skits and games. She is a hard worker and has a heart for the village. She is very good at one-on-one mentoring of young adults. This was her third time going to Uganda.

Chelsea Abercrombie: 26 (single female) - she is a "behavioral specialist". She has a degree in behavior analyst. She is now working on her masters. She is also an athlete. She played basketball in college. Excellent with the older kids with counseling and sports. Chelsea was well loved by all the kids. She made a huge difference in the lives of many of the girls she disciplined.

Lucas Matas: 21yrs - (single male) is gifted at counseling and has a lot of wisdom when he shares. He helped Aaron with worship by playing the drums/box. He also spent many hours discipling the young boys.

Austin: 21yrs - (single male) - He is extremely gifted in sports. He has played every sport. He is fun-spirited guy. The kids really enjoyed playing with Austin. He made a lot of friends and impacted a lot of kid's lives.

Mama Sandi Balli senior mentor, coordinator and an excellent counselor with great passion and love for children. She helped with the movement of this team and all the logistical aspects of their trip.

Emma Gaffney - 19yrs (single female) She comes from Minnesota and stayed at the orphanage for two months last year. This trip was her first returning trip. She has huge compassion and love for the children at ACV. She was a major asset on this team.

Another team member was a Ugandan college student, Azaria Kibaya. He is finishing up his degree in theology in Tanzania. He was interning at the church, Agape Chapel. He became a part of this team by doing worship, teaching and discipling the kids.

Azaria Kibaya: A student at Mt. Meru University in Arusha Tanzania who was doing his intern at ACV for three months. He assisted Aaron in worship, discipleship groups and counseling sessions. He later did follow up even after the team left Uganda. An Alumni of Compassion International as a formerly sponsored child by Compassion international and has great passion for child advocacy. Great bible teacher and led all morning devotions at ACV during the month of September till he left in the first week of October back to Arusha. Kibaya aspires to return back and serve at ACV when he finishes school in May, 2014.

The core retreat content was:

- "Be Different", looking at how God calls his people to be different than the world.
- Love different,
- Forgive different,
- Live or walk different.

The morning messages on character study of Joseph were quite foundational for the Sermon on the Mount. This also balanced teachings from OT and NT yet the theme was quite congruent. On the character study of Joseph:

Big Idea was: Joseph = can we find anyone like this in whom the Spirit of God dwells? Gen 41:38

This is what Aaron had to say about character study of Joseph: *“When I think of Joseph I think of how he was mistreated and was honored by God because he chose to love, live, and forgive differently”*. He further said that this was in line with Jesus’ teachings in *Matthew 5 when Jesus asks us to be meek, loving, forgiving, turn the other cheek, and esteem others higher than ourselves”*.

Group discussion and prayers for individual students.





AFTER THE YOUTH RETREAT, THE TEAM ACCOMPLISHED DAILY DISCIPLESHIP WITH THE YOUTH. AND EVERYDAY WORKED WITH THE KIDS TO ACCOMPLISH SOME WORK PROJECTS AROUND THE COMPOUND. IT WAS A VERY EFFECTIVE TIME SPENT WITH THE KIDS AT ACV. PRAISE THE LORD FOR ALL THOSE PEOPLE WHO DONATED AND SUPPORTED THIS TEAM.



CHANGES MADE TO THE GROUNDS IN OCTOBER & NOVEMBER

New developments at ACV with face lift of variety of gardens



Lush banana plantation below the houses



We planted a new crop of a sweet potato garden below the houses



Cabbages soon ready for harvesting

SUKUMA WIKI VEGETABLES. WE CAN NOW USE THESE VEGETABLE IN OUR DAILY COOKING. THIS IS A HUGE PRAISE REPORT. THE ADDITIONS OF THE GARDENS HAVE INCREASED THE DAILY VEGETABLES TO THE CHILDRENS DIET. THIS IS SOMETHING WE HAVE BEEN PRAYING FOR.



Top left is the new pumpkin garden.

Directly left is the tomatoe garden which is putting out fruits.



Guava tree planted in the ACV



Mango tree sheltered from being eaten by goats



Planted over 1000 pineapples



Onions garden between the sanctuary and new dining block

An orange tree was planted in the compound



Mixed farming (groundnuts & bananas)



TYPICAL LIFE AND ACTIVITIES AT AGAPE CHILDREN'S VILLAGE

Feeding:

Children have plenty of food varieties- balanced diet. Beans and Ugali (posho) remain staple diet. However, meat and chicken are served on Thursdays and Sundays. Groundnut sauce also served once a week but green vegetables are on every meal since we have plenty of green vegetables from our own gardens that we have recently planted. We used to buy 100 kg of posho every month but since we harvested our own, all morning breakfasts and major meals are prepared from our posho from the maize we harvested. We have not purchased posho for the last three months. The beans we planted in August have been harvested and we hope to get at least over 600kg, which will be a big relief from the budget. We used to buy 100 kg of beans per month but may take 6 months before we buy. By the time they are finished, we shall have planted more. Once the potatoes and matoke (bananas) are ready, we shall cut down purchase of foods we used to buy from local market. Thanks to mama Grace and Josephine who have spearheaded planting the foods.

Education:

Currently we have children in University, High school, secondary schools, Primary and kindergarten. Officially all schools in Uganda will be closing on 6th December but those who completed their final exams in P.7, S4 and S6 can go home after exams. At ACV, the following sat for their Primary leaving Exams (PLE):

8. Madundu Esther Ruth
9. Nakabugo Dorah
10. Nambajwe Dorah
11. Nankya Grace
12. Sanyu Gift
13. Munezero Charity
14. Masereka Andrew

Those that sat for Uganda certificate of Education (UCE) in S.4:

6. Nalwadda Joan
7. Nansamba Faridah
8. Esther Amongini
9. Ssensiti Abraham
10. Robert Sekyanzi

Those that sat for Ugandan Advanced certificate of Education (UACE)

5. Kyarigonza Ronald
6. Turyananuka King
7. Bwere Barbara
8. Nakyejwe Halima

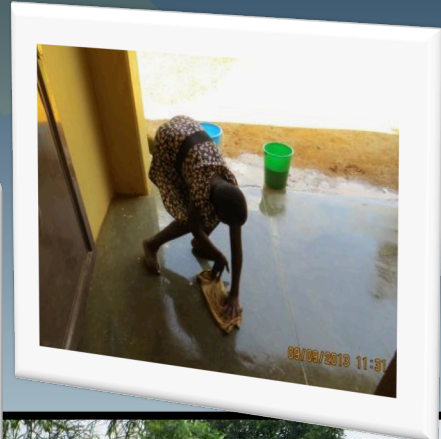
The rest of the children in primary schools are currently doing their end year exams and will be promoted to next levels after they get their exam results.

On academic performances in all schools, ACV children have not been performing well. We have not yet figured out the major causes of such poor performances and during this December vocation, need to analyze the major causes and ramifications needed to rectify this serious deterioration of academic performances. In addition, it is also reported by various school authorities that ACV children's behaviors are not good. Please pray with us that we can figure out how to correct this behavior



HELLO FROM THE KIDS AT ACV

PROMOTING A CLEAN ENVIRONMENT WITHIN THE ORPHANAGE



Children participate in house chores especially the younger children. While Annet (bottom right corner) is helping the mothers peel Matoke (bananas) for dinner. Joseph (to the right) in spite of his weak body (from Aids) participates in slashing the grass. Ivan is also a huge help in the upkeep of the grounds.



Shaggy receiving a gift from her friend, Tim. Tim was a part of the Biola team that visited last year. He is now back doing a semester of college in Uganda. He comes to the village once a week as an intern and helps any way he can. Thank you Tim.



PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- **monthly support needed to run the village
- **health of the children
- ** finances to finish building the clinic and the dining hall
- **more Godly workers
- ** the behavioral issues of some of the children
- **AND - please pray for continued strength and wisdom for Jacques Masiko as he administrates and leads the orphanage.

AND A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL OUR SUPPORTERS AND SPONSORS !!!!!