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Programs Manager—Kent Stannard



Happy 2018 from the ChristAid USA staff and advisors!

Shown from the left: Kent Stannard - Programs Manager, Michelle Chaffin- Accountant, Maggie Van Dusseldorp- Communications Co-Ordinator, and Pastor Bruce Van Dusseldorp- ChristAid Executive Director



Happy to be serving God and serving YOU—the 2018 ChristAid Board of Directors!!

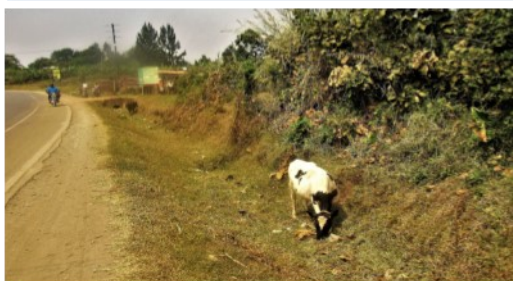
Shown above from the left, Darcy Oman- Treasurer, Terry Oman- President, Nancy Hollis- Secretary, Marcee Martin- Member—(specializing in all things educational) and Rick Hollis, Vice President.....

CHRISTAID TAKES A GIANT LEAP TOWARDS SELF-SUSTAINABILITY

Only God could stir the hearts of ChristAid supporters to raise the money necessary for our most significant project thus far.... buying land in Fort Portal, Uganda for the purpose of building office space for our own ChristAid office **AND office space which will be leasable to other businesses, to create sustainable income for ChristAid!!!** This has been the dream of the ChristAid Board ever since there WAS a ChristAid Board, and we are thrilled that funds raised at our October 2017 Fundraiser Banquet brought in nearly enough to make this dream a reality.

A small loan has been taken out so that we have the capitol to secure the piece of land we have identified as an ideal location. It has water and power available, is along side a main access road in Fort Portal, and is of sufficient size to support our planned three story building. We have the land under firm contract and expect to close on it later this month. (February)

If you have interest in helping to eliminate this loan, please direct the funds to our ChristAid office with a note to that effect. **Our Construction Team both here and in Uganda can't wait to whack down some banana trees and send in the shovels!** Our heartfelt thanks to all those who have already contributed to this amazing project. We are very excited to see where this will take ChristAid in the future! Please pray for our closing to go well and for safety in the planning and building process!!





Please join the CA Board of Directors in thanking Pastor Philip Reimers, who recently retired from the Board, after serving a three year term. Last year he served as Vice President and we are grateful for his dedication and service to God's people in Uganda. Philip is the long time pastor at Lutheran Church of the Cross in Evergreen, Colorado where the congregation is highly focused on mission work and world service. He is a veteran traveler to Uganda for house-building mission trips, and also does mission work in other parts of Africa. Philip is a serious outdoorsman and mountain climber, and enjoys family time with his wife, Elizabeth and their four children. Thank you Pastor Philip for sharing your heart for Jesus with the world!!

JANUARY MISSION TRIP STARTS THE YEAR OFF WITH A BANG!!



Shown above are pictures of the new MK Medical Clinic run by Dr. Moses Muhumuza (husband of our In Country Director—Grace) in Fort Portal. The clinic has a "Grandma's wing" (shown at right) where our "Grandmas for Jesus" members are able to take advantage of the health insurance that is provided to them through the extra \$5 per month that sponsors now pay for this much needed benefit. Three Grandmas were hospitalized at the time the mission team visited. Dr. Moses also serves the public in another area of the clinic and one of his nurses is a ChristAid graduate! Thank you sponsors (who now pay \$35 per month in support of their Grandma) and to Dr. Moses, who together are making life so much better for our aging Grandmas who have spent their lifetimes caring for and working the land to feed their grandchildren. **Better health care is a huge blessing!**



In a rare opportunity to observe Ugandan culture more closely, the mission team was invited to attend and participate in the wedding of our ChristAid school's Head Master, Frank Alimanya and his wife, Grace. The team (starting from the left in their rented wedding finery) are...Casey and Amy King, Maggie and Bruce VanDusseldorp, Director Grace and Dr. Moses, Lydia King (front), Marsha Lea Yosten, Scott and Sherri Graeser, our driver—Francis and John McGuire. The wedding was an all day event!!

The major project focus of the January mission trip was to pave the area between the ChristAid Academy school buildings to eliminate the problem of mud in the rainy season and dust in the dry season coming into the classrooms. In the pictures below, you can observe the first preparations of the area which were leveling and covering the terraced surfaces with sand.

The pavers were odd sizes and required a serious amount of sorting work before matching together well. In the third picture, it is possible to see three of the four levels paved and looking great!! The Academy teachers are thrilled with the result. Together with the recent addition of solar lights and the sanitary sewer system for the school installed on a previous mission trip.....our bush country village school is looking very big league!!

IN RECENT "7th GRADE NATIONAL EXAMS", 39 OF 47 CHRISTAID 7th GRADERS PLACED IN THE HIGHEST SCHOLASTIC DIVISION POSSIBLE AND 8 IN THE SECOND LEVEL—GIVING OUR CA SCHOOL THE SECOND BEST RATING IN THE ENTIRE DISTRICT! Thank you Jesus (and our sponsors) for the blessings this school is making possible in so many lives!!



The next project to be built (for which the funds have already been raised), is a preschool, for children ages three through five. The official ground breaking was held during this trip with great fanfare. The building will be built to accommodate a minimum of 150 children. Construction will begin early this spring and will take about six months.



Pictured at left, are the Uganda ChristAid staff members and others who turned out to welcome the mission team and accompany them to the events and work projects. They are (left to right) Dr. Moses, Resty Mutooro-Finance Manager, Emmanuel Isagara-Bookkeeper, Jennifer Komuhendo-Ahadi Kids, Director Grace, Beatrice Busingye-Grandmas for Jesus, Diana Kanyiginya-Housekeeping, Reverend Jennifer Busingye, and Maria-ChristAid Cook. Not pictured—Emah Kasaija-Construction Engineer. **We are blessed to have this awesome team in place in Uganda.**

Two Grandma houses were dedicated while the mission team was in Uganda...House #20 for Gertrude Kabege and House #21 for Maria Kabajungu. Both houses will be celebrated at our Annual Fundraiser Banquet which is being held this year on **Friday, October 26th**, in the same location as last year, WaterStone Community Church in Littleton.



Have you ever tried to tell a friend or acquaintance about ChristAid and found that there is so much to say, that you don't know where to start? The Board of Directors has created a tri-fold ChristAid brochure to help you, which we will update annually. It describes our Grandmas for Jesus ministry, the ChristAid Academy school system and our various infrastructure developments such as the Grandma houses, the recent Teacher Housing project and our newest dream of an office building to aid our long-term sustainability. With the mailing of this newsletter, we are also including a copy of this brochure for your enjoyment.

If you would like to have multiple copies to have on hand or to share with a group such as a Sunday School class (or a whole church!!), please let Kent, our Programs Manager know and he will send out any number that you would like.

Email christaid@christaidintl.org to order Brochures.

The best feature of the brochure is the back section (shown here to the right) that explains all the ways a person can get involved with ChristAid. Please share this information with any and all you meet! After all, we have an awesome story to tell according to our mission statement: **"PUTTING GOD'S LOVE INTO ACTION BY PROVIDING RELIEF, CHRISTIAN CARE AND EDUCATION TO CHILDREN AND FAMILIES IN UGANDA, FOR THE GLORY OF GOD"** (Can I get an AMEN??)

You can support ChristAid by:

1. Praying for the mission of ChristAid.
2. Sponsoring an "Ahadi Kid".... \$40 primary or \$70 per month for a secondary student.
3. Supporting and praying for a "Grandmas for Jesus" grandma..... \$35 per month
4. Making a financial donation toward a "Shelters in the Storm" house or other construction project... in any amount.
5. Volunteering for ChristAid.
6. Going on a ChristAid mission trip to Uganda. (happening twice a year)
7. Attending a ChristAid event...(This year's Annual Fundraiser Banquet— Oct. 26, 2018)
8. Sharing ChristAid's mission of love and hope with your friends, family and church.

On the subject of volunteering.....if you have interest in becoming involved in "hands-on" work for ChristAid, please know that we are putting together a team to fold, stuff, address and stamp newsletters on a quarterly basis. We would also love to have volunteers to help us locate and store items for our October Silent Auction on a year-round basis. There are probably some of you out there that have technology knowledge or other skills we DON'T EVEN KNOW WE COULD BENEFIT BY!! Please contact Executive Director, Bruce Van Dusseldorp at 866-933-7552 if you have skills or good advertising ideas to share with ChristAid! May God Bless Us One and All!