



ChristAid
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FEBRUARY 2020 ISSUE
BLESSING TO ALL IN THE NEW YEAR
From the ChristAid Staff and
Board of Directors



Right to left – Kent Stannard, Programs Manager, Michelle Chaffin, Bookkeeper, Maggie Van Dusseldorp, Sponsor Communications, and Pastor Bruce Van Dusseldorp, Executive Director

The 2019 annual ChristAid Fundraiser Banquet was held on October 25th at WaterStone Community Church. Thank you to the many people who made donations to both the live and silent auctions that were held.

Also, a BIG THANK YOU to the people who purchased the items which were offered!! The African buffet was delicious as always and there were SEVEN new sponsorships begun at the banquet! God was in the House!!

CHRISTAID OFFICE BUILDING INCHING TOWARDS SELF-SUSTAINABILITY!!

Excellent progress is being made on our ChristAid office building, which is being built to give us self-sustainability! Our own office staff will be moving in as soon as the terrazzo floors are complete. (The “dust is flying” as we speak as the floor material is ground down and polished.)

The next level up will be taking shape with I-beam construction – new to Uganda but common in the U.S. We are thrilled to see these cost savings and great progress. Shown here is Director Grace’s office near the large glass window and the side where the CA staff will be housed.



Right to left (in Ugandan outfits at the Banquet) Rick Hollis – Vice President, Nancy Hollis – Secretary, Marcee Martin – Education Specialist, Terry Oman – President, Darcy Oman – Treasurer and Kathy Hassell- Medical Specialist



THOUGHTS FROM PASTOR BRUCE –ON THE PASSING OF OUR CHRISTAID FOUNDER, DAVID MPORAMPORA



The sudden and unexpected death of David Mporampora has shocked and saddened all who knew him here in the U.S. and in Uganda. Few people will make the same impact on as many lives as David; however, ChristAid International, the ministry he founded and worked diligently to build, continues as a tribute to his faith and vision.

David's funeral service was held in Fort Portal, Uganda on January 2, 2020 and was attended by thousands of people. Numerous people spoke including government officials, the Bishop of the Episcopal Church in Fort Portal, students from the ChristAid Academy, and the current ChristAid Director, Grace Mugasa. All were thankful for the work that David did to improve the lives of the people of Kicuna and Fort Portal area.

Although the greatest tribute to David is ChristAid itself, which continues to flourish under the excellent leadership of Grace, there are other memorials which ensure that he is not forgotten. The first two were in place already before David's death. First, a plaque displaying a teacher, a student and an elderly Grandma was presented to David at the time of his retirement in 2017. The plaque stands at the entrance to the ChristAid Academy and commemorates the school, the Ahadi Kids program and the Grandmas for Jesus sponsorship programs.

The second was completed and given to David just before his death. A bench and plaque were placed by ChristAid on David's property at the place below the tree where the first classes of ChristAid Academy were held. The plaque reads, "Honoring ChristAid's Founder, David Mporampora, serving from 1995-2017. Philippians 1:6 – He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion..."

In addition to those, the District 5 Councilman announced that a road will be named "Mporampora Road" in his honor. That has been officially done and a signpost has been set marking the road that leads to ChristAid Academy.

All who spoke at David's funeral expressed appreciation for the great work that David had done to provide education for children, to provide support and housing for elderly Grandmas in the community, and to promote the numerous other projects that ChristAid has instituted to help the people of Fort Portal and the Kicuna region.

They also thanked our current Director, Grace, for the work that she is doing as well as all from the U.S. who make the ministry possible through donations. Finally, there were requests from local government that ChristAid continue to provide support for the area and to expand its ministries where possible. This is a testament to the excellent job Grace is doing to continue the work that has been begun with ChristAid.

A memorial service for David is being planned here in the U.S. by his three children who reside in Denver, the ChristAid staff and others in the community who knew and loved David. Although a date has not yet been set, it is expected to be in late February or March. We will make every attempt to share the details of the service with our "ChristAid community" when they become available.





LINNET KOBUSINGE

Since sponsorship of kids into school is the original heartbeat of ChristAid, here we highlight a five-year-old child who is desperate for assistance to attend school. Linnet has already endured some tough breaks in her short life. Her mother has been in a serious accident, is in constant pain and is disabled. Her father has abandoned her altogether.

A friend paid Linnet’s original tuition for our Preschool Program, but the friend is no longer able to help. We have been seeking a new sponsor for Linnet since March 2019.

Linnet’s job in the family is to fetch water, which often times in the village is a great distance from the home. If you are willing and able to help this child for \$40 a month, to receive life changing education, please contact the ChristAid offices.

There are other needy children and Grandmas on the ChristAid website that also need assistance. Please use this link to access those files....

[SPONSORSHIPS](#)

PROGRESS ON CHRISTAID SECONDARY SCHOOL

Detailed building plans and operating budgets for the ChristAid Secondary School are being finalized with construction to begin in February 2020. Pictured below is the formal “laying of the cornerstone” celebration to mark the construction site, attended by executives of the international ministry, Cunina, who is partnering with us to fund the physical school buildings. Although many of the students will be able to live at home in the nearby villages to attend this school, there will also be a limited amount of dormitory space built for students from other districts. See artist’s rendition of the proposed buildings below.

ChristAid will be responsible for maintaining the buildings, running the school and ensuring a profitable business plan to operate the school effectively in the years to come. ChristAid already owns the property on which the buildings are being constructed, which is within sight of the ChristAid Academy (primary school). This will provide a smooth transition for our primary students to continue their Christian education.

Once the buildings have been completed, ChristAid would love to have assistance from our donors to purchase the supplies and other start-up costs of the school. This would include such things as desks, chairs, teaching materials, bed frames and kitchen equipment. There is great excitement among area students for this incredible blessing of having a secondary school in this remote corner of the world!! If you have an interest in helping to get the school “ready to roll”, it would be a huge blessing to us and to the kids!! Please direct your gift through the ChristAid Website or send a check to the office with the appropriate designation if you would like to help. **Thank you and God bless you!**





SPONSOR COMMUNICATION UPDATE

By Maggie Van Dusseldorp (shown here with Bruce, at the equator crossing in Uganda)

Hello!! I am praying that God will fill all of our lives with His presence in a very special way in 2020!!

The following is an excerpt from a letter written by one of our young Ahadi Kids:

"I am in love with the letter "J" because of a man named Jesus, son of a man named Joseph, baptized by a man named John, in a river called Jordan, in a land called Jerusalem. Do you love Him, too? Because of our sins, he was handed over to die, He was raised to life and He made us righteous with His blood. Glory to God, the Most High."

Wow! What great thoughts and great love for God our Father! Your sponsorship means so much in the physical, spiritual and emotional life of the person whom you are helping. You are validating that they matter to God and to you. Your encouragement is priceless and makes such a difference in the life of your Ahadi Kid or Grandma – and it overflows into their family and the community.

When they receive a letter from you, it lets them know that you care and want to help them. Your letters fill them with happiness and puts a smile on their faces!! They love to hear from you. Just a word about you, your family, where you live, what you like to do, or anything you choose to write about will put joy in their hearts. They love to receive any communication that connects them to you!

Please take a few moments to write. You can send a letter through the ChristAid website or mail us a letter at the PO Box 1374 address at the top of this newsletter, and we will scan it to Uganda. It will brighten their day and give them hope.

You have the opportunity to be God's love in action. God bless you for being a sponsor and God bless you for the encouragement and hope that is given through the gift of a letter. You are helping to change lives and sharing hope. May God continue to work and bless many lives through ChristAid. We are blessed to be a blessing! Thank You!!

THE VERY BEST OF NEWS FROM CHRISTAID ACADEMY ON THE SUCCESS OF THIS YEAR'S PRIMARY SCHOOL GRADUATES AS THEY TAKE THEIR 7TH GRADE "LEAVING EXAMS" for proficiency in science, reading, math, English and Christian education !!!

Once again the results are in for our Primary 7 students taking the annual proficiency test. Our kids do amazingly well, ranked against all other schools in Uganda. Of our 51 students...50 received rankings at the highest level and one ranked at the second level. There are FOUR LEVELS!! (None of our kids were in the third or fourth level!). This makes us the 34th BEST SCHOOL IN THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA! PRETTY COOL!!

Enjoy these words paraphrased from the Facebook page of our Head Master, Richard, about the results:

"God is able! What great success for my 2019 Primary 7 students.....Bravo my teachers, bravo Director Grace, bravo my parents and BRAVO OUR CHRISTAID SPONSORS IN THE U.S. !! "