

What-a Year!



“Yes, just as you can identify a tree by its fruit, so you can identify people by their actions.” Matthew 7:20

Dare I say he's talking about YOU... we have the BEST...fruit and people! YOU! So today, before we get to the end of 2022 (phew, so fast!) we just want to take a moment to appreciate YOU...the people that make what we LOVE to do work and worthwhile. YOU are always there to fuel us, lift us, inspire us, and give us hope. Wanyala nabi...thank you very much, take a bow, pat yourselves on the back... and take a look at all the people you've empowered, invested in, gave hope, and put smiles on faces with your cheerful, generous, faithful, and sacrificial giving of your time and resources. **Thank YOU!**

Before you check out the numbers, stats and stories from this past year, we are excited to make this announcement of something very COOL and seriously LIFE-SAVING that we've been working on for the last 6 months or so. - CHECK OUT THE FOLLOWING -

We fly... So they Can't

You've heard us talk about the number of children we were burying each and every week who succumbed to malaria... a ridiculous, yet deadly parasite that much of the world has been rid of for many years. In our own footprint around Light Village, we've seen the numbers go from 3-5 deaths of infants EVERY. SINGLE. WEEK. to ZERO for the past 9 years because of education and quick treatment...but the rest of Uganda, and most of Africa really, is still sadly losing little ones from 0-5 years in horrific numbers. And it doesn't only impact the children. Adults lose productivity, money and their lives. We are honored to be partnering with the USF College of Public Health, and Dr. Benjamin Jacobs, to implement a malaria reduction scheme which identifies and eradicates the breeding areas of malaria-producing anopheles mosquitoes in an attempt to reduce the infection of all people. Dr. Jacobs has developed the drone program, “**Seek & Destroy**” that we will be putting to work the second quarter of 2023 in the villages all around Light Village! This is a GIANT prayer come true!



One Life for \$1 - We estimate that for every dollar we invest in this life-saving initiative, one case of malaria will be prevented! We have etched out a budget from our general funds to start this important work and we are believing grants and donations will help carry this program throughout the rest of Uganda... and then... the world! We invite and encourage everyone to be part of this **HISTORIC CAMPAIGN TO FINALLY PUT AN ABSOLUTE END TO THE COUNTLESS TRAGIC NUMBER OF DEATHS WORLD-WIDE.**

Hitting the ground in Uganda post COVID - We look back over the months we first arrived back in Uganda after COVID kept us away for over a year, and every day we have felt like we're 'God's favorite children'...I mean, He makes us all feel that way, doesn't He? He put everything in place to get the millhouse built, the best milling machines, the millhouse open...and then brought mamas from far and wide to have their harvest milled for dinner, collect their water, share their lives with us a bit and carry-on home with more time to work in their gardens and care for their families. When electric to the village shrunk to 2-3 days a week, He made a way through your generosity to purchase a BIG, and I mean BIG generator to keep things working!



Medical Diagnostics - He made the way for a crazy expensive (and exquisite) 3-D, full color ultrasound machine that we purchased in January to achieve the best diagnostics for miles around. If only you could see the mamas faces when they hear the heartbeat of their baby for the first time, see their baby's face and watch as tiny arms and legs are kicking; when they, for the first time, connect that this little human is growing right inside them! Talking them into prenatal care and better nutrition has become much easier thanks to this magical machine!

And it doesn't just work for new moms - This machine has been a lifesaver to many, including a man with his appendix about to burst and quickly receiving emergency surgery; it's found enlarged spleens, abnormal growths, issues with blood flow, abdominal concerns, and sadly many times too late, tumors that have proven to be later stage cancers.

Our ultrasound has worked wonders and alongside our high-power microscope donated by another ministry leaving Uganda, we're already able to diagnose more health concerns before patients are past the point of no return. Imagine how exciting this will be in our new **Sean Gilbert Memorial Medical Center** due to open early 2023!

How's that going, you ask? *So, So Incredibly well!* With a crew of 40 construction workers, we are nearly finished with the outside of the building, and a good deal of the inside construction! We expanded our welding crew, who fabricated every single roofing truss (not like we have a 'construction store' to go to and buy ready made anything!) and then got them all up...while our roofing team was on standby waiting for 30 million shillings (about \$8,000) worth of iron sheets to arrive! Shortages in everything (like the states) put us a bit behind schedule. The roof is now complete and gorgeous! And now they're working on fabricating every single door and window in this amazing building! This unbelievably magnificent, 4000 sq. ft. medical center is completely life-changing for eastern Uganda! With exam rooms, ultrasound room, fantastic lab, consultation rooms, pharmacy, and training center we feel so confident that YOU will be impacting more lives than any of us ever imagined! How can we thank YOU enough?



Little Lights – We are in full swing, meeting at Light Village every Saturday under the tutelage of our passionately faithful coordinator, Sam Waburoko. We wish you could see these precious kids up close and personal! They LOVE being at the LV CAMPUS... they're learning English, and more importantly how to read and write. Most of the kids even though they are 12 years and older are in government schools and have not been taught reading and writing. For Christmas they were each gifted their very own book of their choice and it was the sweetest day! Wait until you see their Christmas video to YOU! Lessons from the Bible are still their favorite and Teacher Rose incorporates the Word in her weekly teaching with the kids. Leadership training has been added to their curriculum and they are learning all aspects of beekeeping from constructing hives and gathering honey to selling honey and investing back into their businesses! The students

are really gaining confidence and a newly found mindset of value and worth. They are grateful to YOU for their snacks and small meals when at Light Village!



Weekly Medical Clinics - We have had the pleasure (and sometimes heartbreak) of serving over **4,500** patients this year. YOU have invested more than **\$45,000** in services and medications for our patients. They are JOYFUL in sharing the load a bit with a small payment for their care of about \$2.

Kids in nutrition programs – Food insecurity and high prices everywhere has had a BIG impact on the children...especially the population of children with Cerebral Palsy, Sickle Cell and HIV/Aids. That's typically because children that have such infirmaries are often fed whatever is left after the healthy family members eat. Sad, and a reality. We've been working with a num-

ber of families with malnourished children, but these three are close to home: Patience, 17...started out at 39 lbs., and is now at 55; Bridget is 13 years old and weighs about 50 lbs., and Hussein is 14 and weighs only 20 lbs. We're starting from scratch with him.



Watercarts and Empowerment Initiatives - We have graduated 90 students this year who we're believing will use their new knowledge in farming techniques to carry them through this extended hunger season. **You invested \$11,250!**

You have helped to;

- Plant two new churches
- Train 76 students in Ebola, HIV/Aids, Malaria and other diseases mitigation, treatment & protocols
- Provide 30 students Literacy classes, two days a week, plus Math and Business
- Provide 6 scholarships to well deserving students
- Celebrate 207 new believers in the church
- Serve over 4,000 people at "Cabrera's Ezekiel Millhouse" AND purchase a giant generator for \$26,000 to keep our families eating!
- Add new programs and partnerships; Justice for widows and orphans in land disputes, and continued training with the Statehouse Vocational Training Hub for the most vulnerable young adults in rural areas.



**EMPOWERMENT THROUGH EXCHANGE
OF KNOWLEDGE**



These are just the highlights! We remain in awe that God gives us the privilege of serving Him through OCM. And never forget, dear friends, that your prayers, encouragement, and financial support have been essential in helping us reach and teach, empower and change lives of the most vulnerable, giving God glory and priority. We thank God for YOU daily and praise Him for YOU...the people He drew near to us to make a difference!

This year we would like to invite you to give a special gift—above and beyond your generous giving. We know...it's a bold ask! Our general fund is the source for our work crews, construction, scholarships, running of Light Village and over 40 programs! As we continue to grow and expand services and programs, special year end gifts give our budget the boost it needs moving into the new year.

Every day, with your help, we get to work with an amazing team of people in Uganda to make this world a bit better of a place. **THANK YOU** for allowing us to continue improving lives in the villages we serve. Thank **YOU** for all **YOU** do...for all **YOU** sacrifice...for all your prayers, your encouragement, your resources. **YOU** make all the difference! As always, we are humbled by your devotion and the **Lord's** provision for One City Ministries, supplied through your friendship and sacrifice, as we serve **Him** together. May you and your family continue to be blessed and a blessing! Know that you are loved and appreciated. Thank you for keeping our collective work in your prayers.



**Our Little Lights
Music Conductor**

**MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR
FROM MIKE & DEB... TOGETHER WITH
THE ENTIRE OCM STAFF AND CREW
AROUND THE WORLD!**



P.S. We would be so honored if you would **mark your calendars for Friday, December 8, 2023** for our annual event celebrating **FIFTEEN** years of life on the mission field. 15! We hope to see you at the Jewish Community Center on N. Howard next year! We'll send lots of reminders!

Our Light Village Crew is now 139 Strong! Meet a few of our incredible team members



Bishop James Tukole
Spiritual Director and Vice Director



Galandi Tony Kiire
Corp. Lawyer and Director



Hellen Nasambu
Business Manager / Comptroller



Dr. Jude Munialo
OCM Medical Director



Michael Wangota
Welding Group Foreman



Robinson Wamono
OCM Architect



James Kutosi
Garden Team Leader



OCM Medical Team



Boniface Wakwale
Head Kitchen Foreman



The Most Amazing Team
OCM Team Heads



Silver Mukhama
OCM Driver and Drone Pilot