

# **EWCV Newsletter December 2012**



## **Another School Year Ends November 30th, 2012**

Students at Beth Pipe Nursery and Primary School as well as Eagles Wings High School completed their school year Friday, November 30th.

They will now have two months of holidays before resuming classes in February 2013. The Primary Seven students wrote their National Primary Leaving Exams earlier in November at a nearby school and began their holidays sooner. They will now await their exam results which will be issued in January 2013 and hopefully will enter Senior One at our Eagles Wings High School next school year.

The present Senior One students will hopefully enter Senior Two in our new two classroom building in February. Then the new Senior One students will take their schooling in the older temporary building which we will continue to use until there are funds to complete the new building from two rooms to ten rooms.

Our Maintenance Man, Paul, reminded me of the urgency to build a latrine over at the new school structure for the Senior Two students. Our Head Master for the High School, Apollo, has told us that many of these students will be spending time during their two months of holidays to learn how to make bricks which can be used to build a new latrine at the back of the school. They will also spend time in their school garden helping with the weeding. They have been working hard on the garden to try to head towards sustainability for feeding themselves at the High School. The students at the Primary School also have their school garden and are aiming towards sustainability with their feeding program. They all receive morning porridge at 10:30 am each day along with a lunch of Portio and Beans at 1 pm. The preparation of food is done in temporary kitchens and it is quite helpful for them that the water line has been extended from the upper 10,000 liter tank to provide water. These meals are prepared by our School Cook, Gaudencia, along with her assistant, Leuben Mutebi (Leuben is about to be married next month in January 2013 at a nearby church).

## **Another Wedding Held at Lubumba Community Church On Our Property**

Our Assistant Farm Manager, Ronald, was married to Agnes on Saturday, November 24th, 2012 at our church on the property. They had their Introduction Ceremony the

day before the wedding whereby Ronald introduced his family and close friends to Agnes' family. Gifts were presented to Agnes and her family. The wedding day turned out to be sunny and very pleasant. The reception was held in tents which were set up next to the church. The wedding was well attended by many of the children from Eagles Wings project and community people from around the site as well as guests from other areas of Uganda. We extend our best wishes to Ronald and Agnes.

## **A Guest Visits Eagles Wings from Greece**

What a privilege it was to have our dear friend, Paul Kline, arrive in Uganda to spend a week with us from Hellenic Ministries in Greece. We had invited him to come to join us as the Guest of Honor at our church at the property (Lubumba Community Church) for the Baptism of 19 candidates which was held last Sunday, November 25th. Besides helping with the baptizing of some of the candidates, Paul also shared a message with the congregation. He was hosted by the Macris Family during his stay. Paul works as a missionary along with his wife, Katherine Kline, in Athens, Greece with Hellenic Ministries. Paul and Katherine are originally from eastern USA. Bill & Ann worked with them in Greece at Hellenic Ministries back in 2001 and 2002 before coming to Uganda. We will attempt to email some pictures taken at the baptism to those of you whose sponsored child was baptized. It was a beautiful day. Our thanks goes out to Paul for his willingness to join us at short notice and to travel from Greece.

## **Bill & Ann Return To Canada On November 30th, 2012**

Many of our friends and family are not knowing our situation and so we will now send out this newsletter to update everyone.

After several meetings and tests with doctors in Kampala last week, we were told that it would be in Ann's best interests to return to Canada immediately to see doctors here and undergo further tests. Ann had been having discharge which included some small amounts of blood during a trip to Kampala to pick up Paul Kline in the morning at the airport. It was immediately decided to get Ann checked that afternoon. One doctor found that Ann had a lump on her cervix and they decided that she needs a biopsy. If there is anything which needs treatment the doctors said that there is better equipment here in Canada and she should avail herself of that equipment. Our medical insurance company in Canada got busy to arrange travel plans for both of us. Our little boy, Elisha, could not come on short notice due to the fact it takes so long to get a visa for him. He is now staying with our friends, Dr. Haris and Maria Macris and their family. We are so grateful to them for taking him. He was quite content with our explanation (although he couldn't understand what it meant). He gave us a cheerful farewell and we were on our way.

During our stay in Winnipeg, we can be contacted by phone through our daughter, Linda Vandenakker, if anyone wishes to call us or send a message by email. Linda and Ken's phone number is: 204-224-5696. We will attempt to keep everyone informed as soon as we know what is happening. We would appreciate your prayers at this time. Also, Ann turns 70 this Dec. 25th, Christmas Day. This means that our medical insurance company stops Ann's medical insurance. We are going to try to obtain further coverage, but with this medical situation it may be difficult to obtain. We cannot qualify for the Manitoba Provincial Health Care program because we need to be in Manitoba for at least six months. We have been away for nearly three years.

We came to Winnipeg wearing only light clothing, but Ken, Linda, and granddaughter, Jennifer, met us at the airport with our warm winter coats to be able to handle the much colder temperatures than we are used to. They also had a nice warm car for us to travel home in.

## **Christmas Gift Bag Program**

We appreciate so much the donations which have come in to provide for the children at the schools to receive a gift bag a few days before Christmas Day.

Our Human Resources Manager, Rachael, has been sorting out books so that she can put two books in each gift bag for the children to take home to keep. We are grateful for all the books that were supplied for our students. Rachael, along with our Accountant, Sam, and our driver, Elijah, have been doing bulk shopping for items for the gift bags. In a couple of weeks they will transfer everything out to the property to start organizing the bags for distribution on pick-up day. They wouldn't have been able to do the shopping without the generosity and caring shown by some of our supporters. What a difference this will make for many families nearby the property who wouldn't otherwise have a special Christmas meal, especially some of the elderly single folk. The last Sunday before Christmas will see the special meal provided by the church for the community after the service.

## **Prayers Needed**

For:

- 1) Ann as she prepares for further medical tests and possible treatment. Also, that she will somehow be able to obtain medical coverage to continue after her birthday Christmas Day.
- 2) Successful Christmas programs of Gift Bags as well as the three special feedings of up to around 500 people (mostly children) per meal during the Christmas week.

- 3) Provisions to complete Family #3 housing along with nearly 100 new sponsorships needed for children remaining without sponsorship. We still provide for the unsponsored children as well as the sponsored children.
- 4) Funding to complete the pit latrine for the new High School as well as new classrooms and laboratory rooms for the school.

## **Christmas Greetings**

We send our best wishes and greetings to everyone on behalf of the children and staff of EWCV. Christmas is the unforgettable message of love, redemption, and hope sent by God. May we all trust the Sender and open His message today. Here is a verse to share with you: "God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, has in these last days spoken to us by His Son." Hebrews 1: 1-2.

**Merry Christmas!**

