

June 2009

But Ruth replied, "Don't urge me to leave you or to turn back from you. Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God" (Ruth 1:16).

Partners in Ministry

We have been studying the Book of Ruth, and have been impressed with her servant's heart. Like Ruth, many people have come to serve with us and Rafiki in ministering to God's children. They don't have to do it, but God has laid it on their hearts and they are willing to follow His leading. These are partners like you! We want to acknowledge each partner and say thank you. This work needs many hands, hearts, and prayers.



MARY, ESTHER AND JANE WASHING SOCKS

Prayer and Financial Partners:

A boy lost both parents tragically. He was passed from home to home. He had no home of his own, and he did not know the love of family, nor did he know of a far greater love in Christ. This little boy looked wise beyond his years, yet there was no light in his eyes.



God brought him into a home filled with new brothers and sisters. He has a Rafiki Mother. His eyes are now filled with sparks of joy and mischief as he plays at the Village. This little boy is an answer to prayer

poured out from groups around the world who support this ministry through prayer. Each month

Rafiki Prayer Groups meet together and pray for specific Rafiki Village needs. Other partners provide financial support for orphans, Rafiki staff, and Village needs. Child sponsors receive updates three times a year and are able to exchange letters with their Rafiki Child. Rafiki Area Representatives are available to work with prayer groups to provide additional support. This is all deeply appreciated. The work couldn't continue without you.

Kenyan Partners:

Eight Kenyan teachers teach classical Christian education to seventy-nine orphans who live at Rafiki and fifty-three needy students who come in each day from the local community to attend the Rafiki School. Two retired teachers volunteer at our Village. Sylvia spends two hours each day helping the three-year-old class. Then she spends the next two hours tutoring several learning-challenged children. Zipporah volunteers several hours each day teaching music.



Recently, we were pleased to welcome Geoffrey Njoroge, who serves in assisting our hard working Village Director, Yeen-Lan Lam. We have Kenyan mothers, mothers' assistants, maintenance and service staff who care for the needs of our children and Village. Our *askari* (guards) patrol around the clock to keep us safe. We also have a gardener to provide produce to feed our resident and community school children.

ROS (Rafiki Overseas Staff) and MiniMissionary Partners:

There are nine ROS on our team who direct the ChildCare, Village, and education programs. We will be saying goodbye to Ann and Tim Cagwin in June as they leave to go back to the States with their children, Claire and Joe. We will miss them. Our new education director, Primrose Pennicooke, will join us in July after attending Enrichment at the new Home Office in Florida. Judy Stokes is coming to Kenya to oversee vocational arts. Dutch Bylsma volunteers at school each Tuesday and Thursday to help our learning-challenged children catch up. Rafiki Kenya also has had the privilege of hosting fifty-three short-term Rafiki partners at our Village since September 2008. Many of these also brought donations from you at home in the States and Singapore! Thank you. MiniMissionaries touch the lives of our children by showing Christ's love in a practical manner through serving Him at a Rafiki Village. God gives each of us skills to share with others. MiniMissions provide opportunities for teachers, medical and dental professionals, construction workers, artists, gardeners, caretakers, and individuals who can cook, sew, clean, or read a story. We would love to have you come to our Village and see the children yourselves.



REBECCA HELPING DOUG IN THE WORKSHOP

Nairobi Community Partners:

A dentist, Dr. Wala, who was trained by missionaries, provides free dental care for our seventy-nine children and mothers. A local business man, Reuben Kinyua, shows his thankfulness for God's provision by giving portions of his grain and flour. Recently, an optician, Lilian, donated her time to check the vision of our children over five years old. Two children received new glasses. Dr. Nesbitt, a local pediatrician, tithes by caring for any of our children who need care beyond what can be provided at our Rafiki Medical Clinic.

Praises:

- Kimanthi, who was having seizures, is doing well. He was transferred to an excellent home that cares for physically-challenged children.
- Doctors are coming to serve at our twentieth community clinic in September.
- Betsy Kreamer is training headmasters of local church schools in how to use the Rafiki Bible Study materials in their classrooms. This will give God's message to hundreds of Kenyan children daily.
- Part of our road is being repaired.
- Rebecca came to see and encourage us the last three weeks of May. She is doing well and will be a junior at Hardin-Simmons University in Abilene, Texas, this fall. Sarah is also on break.
- God has provided MiniMissionaries for GAMES in July.
- Several children were invited to the drama "The King and I" at Rosslyn Academy and had a great time.

Please Pray For:

- Roto Tank to replace a broken water storage tank quickly.
- A lab technician to come to volunteer at the community clinic in September.
- Lots of energy while Julie, Yeen-Lan, and Liz are gone for furlough this summer.
- More needed rain, even though the Kenyan weatherman says we are past the long rains.
- Energy for Rafiki Mother Lydia, who joins her hearing-impaired son in school for an hour daily, which has helped improve his handwriting and homework skills.
- Thorough understanding of what is needed to prepare students for national examinations in 2010.

Love,

Doug : Carry N Rebecca. Sarah

Carolyn, Doug, Rebecca, and Sarah Koepke

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ROS #: 102

If you would like to receive periodic updates by email; please contact Georgi Duwe who is filling in as prayer captain for us. georgi@georgiduwe.com