



Peace!

Joining Hearts & Hands

www.joiningheartshands.org

8TH ANNUAL NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2012

Sponsor an Orphan's Education TODAY!

**It's Easy!
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AFRICAN HEROES!



My brother Eric has a Joining Hearts and Hands Scholarship!!

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We love Joining Hearts and Hands!

Over the past seven years we have been blessed to be able to work with some amazing people of Kenya and Tanzania. In the middle of the black hole of abject poverty are Africans with drive, vision and passion to make life better for their communities. In **Kongasis**, Professor **Adam Chepkwony** has had a vision for the Kacece school and the surrounding community that goes beyond teaching and learning. He has sacrificed personally to make sure that children and adults as well are taken care of physically, emotionally and spiritually.

Father Alfred Atemo has taken a barren piece of land in **Katito, Kenya** and turned it into an amazing oasis. We built **Hannah's Hope** on this land. Fr. Alfred has planted trees and crops and scores of goats and cattle are now grazing. Through his vision and persistence a beautiful church is slowly rising from the ground.

We met **Sr. Helen Pius** when she was the principal of St. Oda's School for the Blind in **Maseno, Kenya**. She takes care of the students we sponsor from that school long after they have graduated. Since leaving St. Oda's, Sr. Helen has taken charge of a school for special needs

children in **Madyani, Kenya**. Not unlike Fr. Alfred, she has taken a barren piece of land and transformed it into a productive campus providing much needed services for very challenged children.



African Hero, Sr. Helen

Peter "John" Mukolwe is our Joining Hearts and Hands **project coordinator** in Kenya and Tanzania. This tremendous young man organizes and monitors all of our on-the-ground projects as well as managing the scholarship program on the African side. John collects report cards and student letters to sponsors. He puts on countless miles visiting students and families making sure that they are safe and secure and that they are performing well.



Peter and his son Ed

Of course we must not fail to mention **William Kabbis**, the late principal of **Mbaka, Oromo Primary School**. William died at the young age of 44 in March. It was William who got us started in Africa and who worked tirelessly until his death fighting for the poor of the village of Maseno. William was small in stature but truly a giant of a man in God's eyes. We will miss him terribly.



Our late friend William Kabbis

These are but a few of the African heroes we have had the privilege to work with over the years. Thanks to your generosity these wonderful people have been motivated to do even more for the children of their communities.

Joanne and I wish you the best of the holidays.

Bill & Joanne

2012-MOVING FORWARD!



Lydiah (on right) instructing Lufumbo teacher on Microsoft Word



Adult Literacy students hard at work

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Board

Joanne Cala
William Cala
Margaret Cardona

Look at this year's progress!!

- ◆ We completed construction of two additional classrooms at Hannah's Hope and a huge vegetable garden.
- ◆ We ran an eye clinic in Butere, Kenya, serving over 1500 people, distributing 600 pairs of eye glasses and providing cataract surgery for 120 people.
- ◆ The water project funded by Western Presbyterian in Palmyra is on its way to completion.
- ◆ The Adult Literacy Program began in March. It is amazing to give senior citizens the opportunity to learn to read and write.
- ◆ We began a computer literacy program in Lufumbo. Lydiah Ambetsa, JHH computer teacher has trained all teachers at Lufumbo Primary school. 8th graders are next! (photo top left)
- ◆ We were able to add 50 new scholarship students! Currently we have 150 children on secondary scholarships.
- ◆ Projects of Hope, started by social worker Shanna Branciforte of Rochester will now be part of Joining Hearts and Hands. Projects of Hope has done wonderful work in Shikokho, Kenya.
- ◆ Joining Hearts and Hands just finished construction of new teacher latrines at Mbaka Oromo Primary School in Maseno, Kenya. (see photos below!)
- ◆ At Usambara Girls School in Tanzania JHH had 129 school desks and 160 chairs made; Provided 4 new scholarships for girls and finished a 3 classroom building.
- ◆ We had desks and chairs made for the entire school for special needs children at Madyani, Kenya. (see photos below).
- ◆ Joining Hearts and Hands has started two new micro-business with self-help groups in Maseno, Kenya and Homa Bay Kenya. The businesses consist of renting of chairs for events such as weddings and funerals.



Green Hill Group has micro-business renting chairs

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Students enjoying their new JHH desks at Madyani



Teacher latrines at Mbaka Oromo: Before and After!

WE NEED YOU!



Joining Hearts and Hands provides nearly 150 secondary scholarships to students throughout Kenya and Korogwe, Tanzania. Your kindness and generosity sent 50 new freshmen to School in Kenya and Tanzania this year. Secondary education is not free in Kenya or Tanzania as it is here in the United States. **The average Kenyan earns between one and two dollars a day, making educating their children an unaffordable luxury.** Each year we have grown our scholarship program. Quite simply, scholarships literally save lives. Please, help save a life today!

Sponsor an Orphan's Education TODAY!!

Save a Life!

Here is what only \$400 per year provides:

- ◆ A full year of High School Education
- ◆ Room and Board
- ◆ A life with hope!

Don't Delay! Send a check today and give Africa a bright future!



Bill and Joanne with Scholarship Student & Guardian from Timau, Kenya

May We Present to Your Group?

One of the four major goals of Joining Hearts and Hands is to bridge the cultural divide between the United States and Africa. We would like to do a multi-media presentation for your group! We are currently booking dates to speak to community groups, schools, church groups, organizations and civic clubs (Rotary, Kiwanis, Lions, Masons, etc.)

Having an educational focus, we love visiting schools and individual classrooms. There is no better way to educate our children about Africa than being able to engage in dialogue and see what most of the rest of the world is experiencing through crisp visuals that "keep it real."

If you would like to schedule an interactive presentation, please contact us:

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585-377-8298

wcala@rochester.rr.com

or

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Fairport, New York 14450



HERE'S HOW YOU CAN HELP!

**Tired of buying gifts that no one needs or wants for the holidays?? Why not consider a family donation?
It's a great way to share your love with children in Africa that have so little.**

We are changing the lives of the needy in Kenya and Tanzania because of YOU.... A result of your generosity. Without your financial commitment, we cannot make the kind of progress that we have made in less than four short years.

- ◆ Keep us and the people of Kenya and Tanzania in your prayers
- ◆ Organize a fundraiser. Everyone is not always able to contribute financially, however, we all have talents to share. Many people have come up with fundraising ideas and have run with them. Can you organize a run? A dance? A dinner? An auction? A Talent Show? There are so many possibilities! Kids have worked wonders with lemonade stands!!

- ◆ Talk to your employers. Since we are a 501 (c) (3) many companies will provide matching funds.
- ◆ Talk to your employer to be a corporate sponsor
- ◆ Set up a presentation with your club, church or group.
- ◆ Donate if possible. Any amount is appreciated.

We are now in the midst of our main annual fundraiser. If you do not have a copy of the brochure, e-mail us at wcala@rochester.rr.com or jcala@rochester.rr.com or call us at **585-377-8298** and we can e-mail or send you a copy. It is also available on-line at: www.joiningheartsandhands.org

Tax Deductible Donations

Checks can be sent to:

**Joining Hearts and Hands
9 Fieldston Grove
Fairport, NY 14450**

Joining Hearts and Hands is an IRS approved 501 (c) (3). There are no local personnel costs for **Joining Hearts and Hands**. Bill and Joanne Cala take no salaries and pay for all of their accommodations and travel expenses both here and in Africa. Your tax deductible gifts go directly to the children you see below!

