



Happy Spring

April, 2013

I'd like to tell you a story about an amazing young Kenyan girl who came to us seeking help to attend high school in 2007. Her name is Lydiah Ambetsa Abuko.



Lydiah as an 8th grader in 2007

Lydia was born in 1992 to a poor family in Butere, Kenya. Like too many Kenyans her father was unable to find work to feed his family of three girls and one boy. On their small plot of land they grow vegetables in an attempt to feed the family. The family house is built up of grass and mud, which needs repair every year, which is impossible due to a lack of income.

As their existence has been one of barely surviving, the dream of going to high school was lost without help from some kind hearts. Throughout her primary school years she went to bed more often than not sleeping hungry and going to school without the required uniform. In spite of these hardships she persevered and successfully completed her primary school education.

In 2007 Lydia was one of 18 children chosen for a Joining Hearts and Hands high school scholarship. While attending high school Lydia helped at home with planting and fetching water and other chores necessary for life in Kenya.

Fast forward to today and we are happy to report that Lydia graduated with honors from Inaya High School, completed post-graduate information technology courses (I.T.) and is now working at Lufumbo Primary School (where she attended as a child) as a librarian and computer literacy instructor. She has trained all of the teachers and even the principal on all of the Microsoft packages, internet browsing and use of e-mail. Bill now has teachers at Lufumbo who are Facebook friends!



Lydia today (on right) at Lufumbo teaching Microsoft applications.

We could not be more proud of Lydia and her drive to succeed. The real story here is that Lydia would not be doing so well without you, our friends of Joining Hearts and Hands. Lydia is so grateful and appreciative as we are as well.....grateful to you for your compassion.

But the story doesn't end with Lydia. In 2007 we sent 18 kids to secondary school. Today there are:

177 students in our high school programs

30 young children in primary programs

72 students to date have graduated from high school of which the majority are working or in college (with government scholarships!)

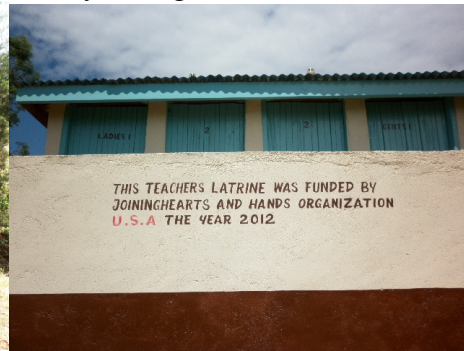
Great things happen when kind hearts are moved by love and compassion for the least of God's children!

Bulletin Board of Current Projects

New latrines have just been completed for teachers at Mbaka Oromo and the student latrines built by Joining Hearts and Hands 5 years ago have been refurbished.



Teachers' Latrines **BEFORE**



Teachers' Latrines **AFTER**



One of the two refurbished student latrines

Three new classrooms are under construction by JH&H at Usambara Girls' School in Korogwe, Tanzania. To date JH&H has built twelve (12) classrooms there.



Classrooms at Usambara under Construction

Western Presbyterian Water Project Nearing Completion. Thanks to the dynamite group from Western Presbyterian in Palmyra, this multi-phase, multi-year project is in its third and final stage. The water purification plant is under construction and will be completed within the next month or two.



Kongasis Water Treatment Plant Under Construction

Announcements

JHH Presentation at Church of the Resurrection

Wednesday, April 24th, at 7:00pm.

63 Mason Rd., Fairport, NY 14450



Hannah's Hope

Don't miss this opportunity to hear from Bill and Joanne Cala how Joining Hearts and Hands is promoting improved educational, health and economic conditions for African orphans and their communities.

Don't miss this theatrical event that will benefit our kids in Africa!

proudly presents

INTO THE WOODS



Music & Lyrics by STEPHEN SONDHEIM
Book by JAMES LAPINE

APRIL 18, 19 & 20 - 7:30 PM
Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Reformation
111 N. Chestnut Street, Rochester (on-site parking)

TICKETS: \$12 (general admission) & \$10 (students & senior citizens)
Available at showtix4u.com, by calling 1-866-967-8167, and at the door.

www.StageworksROC.org

Our 2013 Charity Partner - JOINING HEARTS AND HANDS

Thanks go out to:

Generations Early Care and Education Centers.

Children and staff have raised over \$400 in a recent bottle and can drive. Generations has now raised over \$5000 towards building an early childhood center in Africa! BRAVO!! (A Thumbs Up in last week's Democrat and Chronicle!!)

Thanks so much for your continued support!

1. On line.....it's easy! Go to this link:



2. Or you can send a check to: **Joining Hearts and Hands**
9 Fieldston Grove
Fairport, NY 14450

Peace!

Bill and Joanne Cala

www.joiningheartsandhands.org

Joining Hearts and Hands is a 501 (c) (3) All donations are tax-deductible