



CHRISTMAS NEWSLETTER 2009



... holy is His name. He has filled the hungry with good things ...

Luke 1 v49 & 53

Dear Friends

We thank God for the good year we have had and are grateful for all your prayers and support. Your help has made such a difference in the lives of the orphans, widows and the needy we support.

Ten weeks ago, we had an opportunity to visit Uganda. Some of you may have watched the report about the drought in Ethiopia. The newspapers reported that some 23 million people in seven east African nations were affected by this new drought. It was very upsetting, as we witnessed animals dying, plants dried to the ground and people starving.

MOTHER JANET UPDATE

The children and staff at mother Janet have had such a great year due to the countless blessings they have received. While there was starvation in the country due to the long drought, they managed to have a meal a day. 17 computers were donated to them from the UK. They were so grateful for this donation. Their classes, dormitories and dining room were painted and school furniture repaired using the funds raised from the Charity Walk in the Torfaen area of South Wales. Various donations and fundraising enabled the provision of food, purchasing of medicines, mosquito nets and the transporting of the computers from UK to the orphanage. The younger orphans benefited from the donated knitted blankets and vest-jumpers and were very happy.

In addition, the children loved the sports equipment donated, including the balls and skipping ropes that even the girls got a chance to play with. 36 children sat their primary leaving exams this month, 21 of whom do not have help to carry on to the vocation/secondary education. Please pray that these children will be helped and gain a skill in order to get work in the future and earn a living.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S WORK – HOPE CHRISTIAN CLUBS

On 31 October the youth gathering was held, organised by Jonah. Young people came and enjoyed the fellowship themselves – praising, sharing and listening to the word of God. As a result, over 500 young people came out for salvation. It is awesome how God works. ALLHIM supports Jonah as



he continues to carry out the amazing work (during Michael's absence) of serving the young people in schools and colleges, pastoring and mentoring them.

On his trip to Uganda, Ray James from Torfaen, South Wales, visited the schools and

colleges and, together with Jonah and Andrew, he shared and encouraged the young people, as well as donating sports' equipments. The children have sports events organised by Jonah and they love people to go out and teach them and share with them.

MAKE THEIR CHRISTMAS SPECIAL BY PROVIDING A PLATE OF FOOD

As it is our practice every Christmas to make it special for the orphans in Mother Janet orphanage and the very poor families in the surrounding villages, we are appealing for food on Christmas day. Over the years, we have been feeding over 300 people at Christmas and would like to be able to do the same this year. A plate of food costs roughly £3.00.



TYPICAL LIFE SITUATIONS FACED BY THOSE SUPPORTED BY ALLHIM



Juliet's father died of aids and her mother is nearly dying. The mother lost her job because she worked in the same company as her husband and, after the funeral, she did not return to work very quickly. She is very ill but tries to sell sweets on the roadside, sitting in baking sun all day, to help find food. Her children could not go to school and she found it difficult to feed them or even find money for her medicine to keep her going. Juliet and her brother were brought into Mother Janet Orphanage in April and desperately needed help to provide them with basic needs of clothing, education, food and medication.

Teenagers like Juliet have gone over the stage of education Mother Janet Orphanage school provides. The only hope for these children is to have a vocation/secondary schooling so they can gain skills to help them get jobs and become self-sustaining. All over the country many families are caught up in such dilemmas and yearn for help.

Meet Christine who was nearly dying. She could not afford to have an operation. She has only one child, a daughter who has special needs. After identifying her need, a donation was made for her to have an operation. The operation was successful but she has to stay on strong medication for the rest of her life. The UK family regularly send out funds to help Christine to buy the medication and food for herself and her daughter. We thank God for His provision.



REFLECTIONS ON MY TRIP TO UGANDA

By Sheila Powell

Work with them. What did I do? First, Rev John, took me around all the classes, all seven of them, and introduced me. The children were invited to ask me questions about my life and the UK. One little girl asked why do white women like to wear trousers? As I wear only trousers these days, I could tell her truthfully that they were comfortable, convenient and easy to wear - why should the men have all the benefits? Ladies hardly ever wear trousers in Uganda. It is not surprising, because their traditional dress is so pretty, but is kept for more formal occasions. Another class absolutely foxed me, because they were having Religious Studies and they asked me obtuse biblical questions and had to be reminded that they were supposed to be asking about the UK! I couldn't remember the names of the two sons of Isaiah anyway - can you?

I played Ping Pong (they were tickled with this name for table tennis) and Scrabble with the older children and generally talked to them. The little ones, especially Alex, who was the next youngest to Elijah, liked to touch my skin, squeeze my arm very gently and pull the hairs on my arms and touch my hair. Talking to the children and holding their hands was very touching. They just loved to be as close to you as possible.

The children asked how I did my washing, because Efrance helped me at Mother Janet. I told them I had a machine that washed the clothes. How about cooking, did I have a wood fire in the kitchen? I had a gas cooker and microwave and did not have to carry wood or chop it up. Also, I had a Hoover to clean the carpets and floors. Water was piped into the house, hot and cold and I didn't have to carry it from a well or stand pipe. After some thought a little boy asked what I did then, as I had no work, because the machines did it for me!! This concept really made me laugh, but you can see the way his mind was working.

All too soon, the three weeks were up and it was time to come home. I loved my time at the orphanage. I loved the children and as much as I longed to be home to have a bath and to be with my own girls, I was sad to be leaving Rev John, Margaret and all those happy-go-lucky youngsters.

Lots of love 'n hugs
God Bless you all
Sheila xx



We thank God for His provision.

- Children have received food, despite the drought and they look healthy.
- Water is life: how good is our God!! The children at Mother Janet can have water all year round. We thank God for the donation of the manual borehole, which will supply water to all, even in drought seasons.
- We thank God for the sponsors who are supporting the orphans and needy children in the Mother Janet orphanage. Please pray for more sponsors for the biggest number of children do not have sponsors.
- We thank God for the successful mission trips in the last two years. Please pray that more people will go to Uganda and help where there is great need.

- We praise God for the 36 children who have completed their 7 years in the primary school at the orphanage. Please pray that 21 of these children will get support and gain a skill to help them earn a living.
- We praise God for all the good gifts given to the orphans, including computers, clothing, stationery, blankets, balls, skipping ropes, etc. May God bless the givers.
- Please continue to pray for (1) the provision to establish the Skills' Centre that will provide skills for the orphans and needy young people, thereby supporting them to be able to earn a living; and (2) the provision of a new roof for the young orphans' dormitory, the approximate cost of which will be £2,900.

When you help the poor you are lending to the Lord – and He pays wonderful interest on your loan! (Proverbs 19:17)



Happy is the generous man, the one who feeds the poor.
(Proverbs 22:9)

For if you give, you will get! Your gift will return to you in full and overflowing measure, pressed down, shaken together to make room for more, and running over. Whatever measure you use to give – large or small – will be used to measure what is given back to you. (Luke 6:38)

We want to thank all who are supporting us. We have had a good year and, with your support, people's lives have been changed in a positive way. Our goal is to bring hope to individuals who are in distress – to children and adults alike, who suffer because of poverty, disease and civil war. We aim to provide material and spiritual support in response to their needs.

We have helped orphans and the needy, regardless of their faith or creed, because we believe that Christians should treat all people with love and compassion. Our heartfelt thanks go to you all.

In Christ - with love
Roger & Rebecca Elver
ALLHIM

For further information, or to make a donation, please contact – by telephone: 01495 790954/07790 051531 or, in writing – 14 Burford Street, Blaenavon, Torfaen, NP4 9PY or email allhimcharity@aol.co.uk

**MERRY CHRISTMAS
and
HAPPY NEW YEAR
TO YOU ALL**

