Bob Hayes

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Subject: Uganda Update, Sunday, August 4

Three major events to report on in this update.

The first is our visit to the New Bethel House orphanage that is still under construction yet already occupied. I always visit here and it is neat to see the progress that is being made. Rashid and Joy made a strategic decision and moved the maternity home they run (return to Bethel) to the top floor of the orphanage. At this time, they only had one young lady in the home but they have had as many as eight in the past and I am sure that number will be seen again. At this point, not only does it save the rent on the old home, it gives and extra hand to help with the children and to learn some skills a mother to be will need.

A kitchen is under construction and in the photos below the new high efficiency oven is pictured. Due to its construction, the is much more efficient use of firewood which saves funds and helps also with the issue of deforestation in Uganda.

With over twenty small children, the issue of education has arisen and to help with the high cost of school fees, they have started a small school on the top floor as well. Joy and a number of other ladies are helping teach the children.

The second event was our door to door evangelism yesterday. We had two men confess Christ and two Muslims express interest. Both promised to come with our team to church today to learn more. One actually showed up and we are grateful for that. Only God knows where this will lead. We are going back to the same area tomorrow for more evangelism.

The third event was church today. Our team split up and covered worship in three different churches. The group lead by Dr. JD Bonner went to a new church plant and found an enthusiastic group of people. We were to meet back together at 1:00 p.m. but due to a break down in Kefa Sempangi's car, that took place at 4:00 p.m. All teams reported a wonderful time of worship.

The interesting things where I preached (Seeta Nazigo) was it they had not had communion before (no ordained pastor there yet) so they asked me to do it today. After I preached, I looked at the church leaders and said they could set up communion now and they said they had never done that and thought I was going to do so. They gave me a loaf of bread and a bottle of Ugandan wine. I had no way to open the bottle so I let one of the others do that. There was no tray for the bread so I passed it out on slice at a time for people to break off a piece as it was passed down the row. There was a traditional serving tray for the cups, but it was impossible to poor from the bottle without spilling some into the tray. In time, we finished and it was a great time of joy for the church.

Additionally I gave out two more "Light a Hut" lights, again to people selected by the congregation. One was an elderly man (see photo below) who was so happy he gave me a hug and then danced in front of the pulpit. When I got back to the guest house, I gave another light to my favorite driver, Kamanda, as his family lives in a remote area with now electric power. I hope to have more lights for next Sunday.

Tomorrow Dr. Bonner will travel to Bundibugyo with Basime Godfrey. His eyesight is minimal and Dr. Bonner brought him to the US a couple of years ago for special surgery. Now he is helping Godfrey set up a pigery so he can provide for himself. Even though he has a college degree, the prospects for his employment are minimal.

Please remember all my updates plus those of Dr. Bonner are at http://ugandamission.net/reports/list.html

Thanks for your continued prayers.

Bethel House still under construction

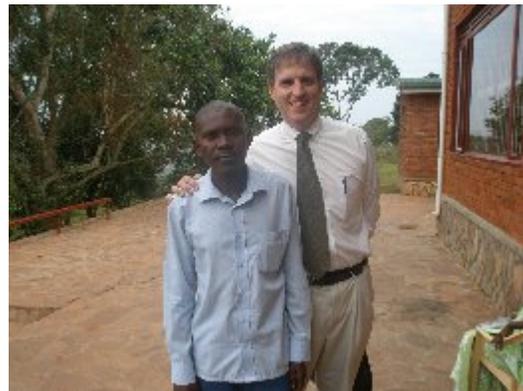One wall of the school room

Another view of school room

New ovens

Current kitchen

Dr JD Bonner with Basime Godfrey

The two recipients at Seeta Nazigo today

The dancing elderly man

Kamanda and his light

It unusually cool here now and Rashid's coat show the typical Ugandan's response to 65 degree weather