

Jubilee Ministries

Autumn 2008



EPISCOPAL DIOCESE
OF MASSACHUSETTS

Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts

The Mission of the Jubilee Ministry is two-fold:

To support programs in Africa that care for people who suffer from the effects of the AIDS epidemic and related medical and social challenges.

and

To support congregations that engage in mission opportunities and are developing relationships with our brothers and sisters in Africa.

Dear Friends of Jubilee,

Greetings and welcome to our autumn newsletter! This is an exciting time for Jubilee. Much of our work right now is focused on income-generating projects to provide economic stability and on providing medical care to children and their caregivers in East Africa.

Jubilee encourages a local doctor in Uganda in his work at the Bishop Masereka Christian Foundation by partially funding his salary. We have renewed our commitment to support Community Health Workers in the Maramba Deanery of the diocese of Tanga and are planning what we hope will be the first of many medical trips to Tanzania in June 2009.

Pediatrician and Jubilee Medical Coordinator Dr. Christiana Russ recently returned from Maseno, Kenya, where she continued the very successful deworming program. Missioner Dianne Smith left October 14th for a yearlong assignment in Maseno, working in the hospital and with the Comprehensive Care Clinic. *(See these and other stories below).*

Florence Oyosi, who works closely with the Mother's Union and leads an income generating project with the women of Maseno, is visiting the US for the first time. Handmade bead necklaces made by the women of the Tumaini Craft Shop will be available for sale at convention. They are quite beautiful and make great, inexpensive gifts. Pick some up for Christmas at the Jubilee table!

As we move forward into the seasons of Thanksgiving, Advent and Christmas, we give thanks for your continuing commitment, generosity and prayers. In this difficult economic

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In This Issue

Welcome

climate, those living in poverty need our support more than ever. May God be with you and those you hold dear.

Blessings,
Maggie and Elisabeth



A Story from Mwanzange Home for Old People, Mapinduzi, Tanzania

by Dr Karen Harvey-Wilkes

One of many stops made during last March's trip to Tanzania was the Mwanzange Home for Old People in the town of Mapinduzi, diocese of Tanga. The 40 elderly men and women living there are retired migrant workers, who because of the nature of their work, have lost all touch with their families. The conditions at the home are primitive - cement walls and floors, no lights at night, water and latrine some distance away, but the residents and staff were so welcoming and gracious, and even offered an impromptu concert. They were quite amused by our attempts to greet them in Swahili. Rev. Christopher Kiango estimated that making repairs to their water and electrical system, obtaining basic medications, and providing each resident with a cot, mattress, plate, bowl, mug and spoon would cost \$2,000. These funds have been raised by the members of Trinity Parish, Melrose, and forwarded to the Anglican Diocese of Tanga for this use. We are continuing to raise funds. They could use a basic wheelchair and motorcycle, and we would like to be able to send money quarterly to be used for medications, staff salaries, repairs, etc.



Medical Mission to Maseno by Dr. Christiana Russ

This past September I was able to return to western Kenya, having had to delay a planned 3 month trip last spring due to political violence there. It was incredibly heartening to be warmly greeted by the many people that we prayed so hard for last winter. I went with plans for several projects.

My brother Stephan and I worked together to make a video about infant care, which we hope to show daily to new mothers in the Maternity ward at Maseno Hospital. Several midwives and nursing staff helped us write an appropriate script for the video, including elements such as the importance of breastfeeding, safe food preparation, use of mosquito nets, early recognition and medical attention of illnesses, and vaccinations. Our friend Lordy, who is a social worker, found women who agreed to have

A Community of
Retired People in
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Fundraising News and
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Kate Cress
Uganda

us visit their homes and film them with their babies. We purchased a TV and DVD player with generous support from St. Christopher's Church in Chattham, MA. Our hope is to start showing the video by November.

During my last visit we measured and found that 45% of the AIDS orphans who are served by the Mother's Union Saturday program have intestinal worm infections. The World Health Organization recommends community wide de-worming every 6 months



when the prevalence is so high. The Mother's Union women distributed an initial dose six months ago, and I was eager to be present for the second dose. The experience is almost indescribable. The children would sing for us in greeting, after which they would each take five chewable tablets while closely observed by volunteers to ensure that they swallowed the full dose. In all, we de-wormed 3400 children! At several of the more remote parishes we found children with additional medical needs - including one boy with a fractured ankle and bone infection, and a girl with severe ulceration of the corneas of her eyes. Their stories remind me that acute medical care for these children is often unavailable or ineffective. We hope in the future to train some of the women in the Mother's Union as community health workers and pharmacists, so they can sell people quality over-the-counter medications for basic illnesses, and also screen for problems requiring referral to Maseno Hospital.

I bring back with me greetings to the Diocese of Massachusetts from many wonderful people in the Diocese of Maseno North, and particularly the Hardisons and members of the Mother's Union who appreciate the continued partnership with Jubilee.

Medical Mission Trip to Tanzania Dr. Colin Johnstone

A mission trip to our companion diocese of Tanga, in Tanzania, is planned for June, 2009. It will be led by the Reverend Maggie Geller and Dr. Colin Johnstone, of our Jubilee Ministry, and Dr.



Robert Lambe from Grace Church, North Attleboro. The trip will have a medical theme in that we will be visiting hospitals and health centers of various sizes and locations. However, we will also include other visits to orphan care programs as well as HIV/AIDS treatment and prevention programs supported by Jubilee. We will also visit church-supported schools and rural development programs run by the Anglican church in Tanzania.

An optional 4-day safari will be added on at the end. The dates are: June 5-13 with the optional safari from June 12-17. Please contact us if you are interested in learning more about the trip or you would like to sign up. mgeller@diomass.org (Maggie Geller) or drcjvet@aol.com (Dr Colin Johnstone).

Daniel Sambili: A God-given Gift to Uganda's BMCF Clinic
By Kate Cress



When visitors enter the Bishop Masereka Christian Foundation clinic in Kasese, Uganda, they notice the warm, inviting touches. Fresh curtains in the windows, friendly, caring staff, and a clinic-wide commitment to making patients feel loved. Since November of last year, the much-respected Dr. Daniel Sambili has played a key role in the clinic's development. Bishop Zebedee Masereka, the clinic's founder and director, describes Dr. Sambili quite simply as a "God-given gift."

Throughout Africa, clinics and hospitals suffer from a shortage of good doctors, especially in rural areas like Kasese. Fortunately Dr. Sambili and the BMCF Clinic have come together. The way Dr. Sambili tells it, BMCF's faith-based identity, and its newness, captured his imagination. When a physician colleague told him about BMCF, he says, "I wanted to be part of it and put my creativity to test."

Daniel Sambili has lived an interesting life. Born in Kinshasa, in the Democratic Republic of Congo, his childhood years were spent in Belgium and Switzerland. He attended high school in Goma, in the eastern part of the Democratic Republic of Congo, and finally, medical school at Makerere University in Uganda. Once, his third grade teacher asked the class what they wanted to be when they grew up. Dr. Sambili, always fascinated by planes, remembers answering, "a pilot and a doctor," so that he could fly to places to help people in need. Presently he holds a bachelors' degree in medicine and surgery and hopes to do a Masters degree in Obstetrics and Gynecology in the near future.

Dr. Sambili certainly helps people at the BMCF Clinic. He describes the greatest gratification coming from, "patients' appreciation of what we do for them despite the many challenges we face in terms of equipment." Bishop Masereka points out that "there is much in the way of equipment that we lack, such as a good min-theatre, a hematology analyzer, a biochemistry analyzer, an ultrasound scan, and a portable x-ray," items that would enable the clinic to deliver higher quality health services to the community.

Jubilee Ministry has assisted the BMCF Clinic in key ways since

its inception. Last year, Jubilee member Dr. Christiana Russ, of Children's Hospital, spent time working side by side with Dr. Sambili at the BMCF Clinic, and calls him an "extraordinarily talented physician." This year, Jubilee has made a contribution toward Dr. Sambili's salary, which she applauds. "By helping to pay his salary, Jubilee makes it a viable option for this exceptional person to dedicate time towards the building up of an organization in a small town in Uganda where quality medical care is lacking." For his part, Dr. Sambili also appreciates Jubilee funds last year that helped purchase delivery beds and other equipment for the birthing clinic, noting that the number of deliveries has doubled since then. He wants donors to know this: "I feel privileged to be part of this ministry as we reach out to the people of Kasese with the love of Christ."

Jubilee Fundraising News

Alewife Fall Walk



With God's beautiful weather blessing us, The Alewife walk/blade/bike took place on October 25th. Walkers gathered for a six mile journey along the Minuteman trail followed by a delicious luncheon and

worship prepared by the dedicated folks at the Alewife Deanery. Jubilee offered African crafts made by various Mothers Unions with the proceeds supporting our programs in Africa. A very sincere thank you to all who participated and to the Alewife deanery for accepting this very special outreach for Jubilee and Africa.

Holiday Fundraising

With the holidays right around the corner, is your parish having a holiday bazaar? What a special way to support our brothers and sisters in Africa by offering African crafts. All proceeds will benefit the Mothers Union. Jubilee will make the sales easy by providing you with everything you need to have a successful crafts display. Please contact [Chris Munro](#).

Calling all Outreach programs, deanery groups

Does your group have a passion for Africa? Can you envision your program sponsoring a fundraiser that will promote the works of Jubilee Ministries? We would love to work with you to develop fundraising ideas that will show your support for our brothers and Sisters.

Please contact [Chris Munro](#) at for further information.

Jubilee Merchandise is here!



Hot off the presses, our new Jubilee Logo bags are available at just 5.00. made from 100% cotton, these bags make great book totes, grocery bags, gym bags.... All proceeds to benefit Jubilee Ministries in Africa.



Hand Made necklaces, bracelets, and earrings from the Mothers Union in Maseno, Kenya. Necklaces are \$5.00, bracelets \$3.00, and earrings are \$5.00. These hand made paper and bead jewelry items make a meaningful holiday gift while supporting the Mothers Union Orphan Feeding Program in Kenya. No two pieces of jewelry are alike and all are made in Africa.

Order by sending a check made out to Jubilee Ministries. Please include \$1.00 for shipping and handling per item. Send to: Jubilee Ministries, c/o Chris Munro, 992 Drift Road, Westport, MA 02790. Please allow 5-7 days for delivery.

Thank You for your prayers and support!

Contact Information

For more information, please contact Jubilee

The Rev. Maggie Geller
138 Tremont St
Boston, MA 02111

617 482-4826 ext 351

mgeller@diomass.org

Elisabeth Keller
eliskeller@comcast.net

Jubilee Ministry Episcopal Diocese of MA • 138 Tremont St • Boston • MA • 02111

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