

February 2023 Newsletter

FRIENDS OF KIBBUSE - IN FOR THE LONG HAUL

In many respects, life in Christ is not a single long-distance race, but a series of races – some hardly noticed by the public, but of great meaning in individual lives – others far more widely publicized and important in many lives. All, however, are of equal importance to the Lord, who initiates, underwrites and brings all these "races" to their conclusions.

Over six years ago we, with our Kibbuse Foundation Ugandan partners, initiated prayer and began planning construction of the new Good Samaritan Outpatient facility to serve the 20,000 people who live in the Kabasara region of Nyamarwa Subcounty. It took three years, but in April of 2021, after struggles with construction, with budget and with staffing, the Good Samaritan was fully opened. It is now serving hundreds of patients every month.

Then three years ago, prayers and initial plans were made to build essential student housing for the Kibbuse Vocational Training Center in Nyamarwa. The year before last, we committed to seeking funds for that project. During 2021, those funds came in, but construction was halted by an unexpected sad, and terrifying event.



Good Samaritan Clinic



Rev James & son

REV. JAMES'S ACCIDENT - FULL STOP

In late January last year, Rev. James was sideswiped one evening while driving a motorcycle through the busy town of Kakumiro. The injuries were life-threatening, but through quick action by bystanders and then by his son Albert, he survived the crash and a five-hour trip to Kampala, where emergency treatment and then a complicated series of procedures for head trauma and severe damage to his eyes and ears began.

Everything at Kibbuse came to a full stop. For a month, as his condition was being stabilized, the leadership of the Kibbuse Foundation prayed and watched and waited. The Dormitory project was put on indefinite hold, and a quartet of leaders, Kibbuse Board Chairman George Tusabomu, Treasurer, Peter Mali, KVTC Principal Richard Mugume, and Clinic In-charge Teddy Nalukima, worked more than double-time to keep the clinic and school in operation.

Because of their selfless efforts, students continued to take classes and prepare for national examinations, and patients continued to have babies delivered, their children immunized and their adult and childhood diseases treated.

DONORS RESPOND: We praise God for Rev. James' slow but steady recovery, and thank those of you who generously contributed to his medical expenses. You freed him and his family from financial distress during his year-long convalescence. Rev. James is much better, but still dealing with dizziness, balance issues and vision problems. Although his doctors anticipate an eventual full recovery, he is still in convalescent mode and cannot drive.

END OF YEAR FINANCIAL BLESSINGS

Additionally, we have very good news: FOK was one of four ministries, each of which received one-fourth of the proceeds from

the sale of a "dying" local congregation to a younger growing one. This, in addition to generous gifts from a local family foundation and many individuals, has more than doubled the money we received in 2021! Not only is the KVTC Boy's Dorm Project fully funded, there is a great deal to spare! We can now confidently urge the Kibbuse Foundation to move forward on one or two additional projects yet to be determined. As it is, the Kibbuse Board has informed us that they are READY TO GO on the dormitory project.



CUBICAL CUBICAL CUBICAL CUBICAL CUBICAL CUBICAL CUBICAL Schere Cubicac CUBICAL CUBICAL CUBICAL CUBICAL Schere Cubicac Cubic

AT THE STARTING GATE!

Kibbuse Foundation Chairman Tusabomu has sent us a detailed explanation of the recently completed bidding process, including details about the three Kibaale District approved contractors who submitted bids, all of them based on updated plans by Architectural Engineer Solomon Otugonza (the same man who gave oversight to the Good Samaritan project). They have carefully compared and evaluated the bids; one has been selected as the preferred candidate for the project, and the Kibbuse Foundation Board has requested a formal okay from FOK to start the project. For those of you who want to take the time, and would like to know about the quality of leadership our Ugandan partners are providing, we've attached the bid summary sent by Chairman Tusabomu for your perusal. (*Please click here to read.*)

GROUND FLOOR PLAN FOR DORMITORY

Friends, this means that we at FOK have the happy privilege of *opening* the starting gate! As soon as we say yes (hopefully very soon), they will finally be "off to the races" with the finish line promising a new 48 bed boy's dormitory! Once the contract is let, construction will begin within two months, the exact time depending on availability of supplies, day labor and housing for visiting workers.

OTHER PROJECTS BEING CONSIDERED: HOUSING FOR and CERTIFICATION OF FACULTY

An exciting plan is in the making to provide a path for *all* of KVTC's uncertified faculty to be enrolled for required courses during their vacation months. Most will be able to complete programs toward the equivalent of a Bachelor's degree in two to three years! Faculty certification is one of a number of major requirements that must be met not only to officially license the school, but to actually assure that the government will not close it.

Additionally, the Kibbuse Board has approved a plan to transform the presently unfinished and unused "Hill House" into a modern residence for eight to ten faculty members. This will not only give KVTC teachers the best living facilities they've ever had, it will eliminate increasingly expensive rentals of local "spare rooms" in various buildings around Nyamarwa village, many of which still have dirt floors and no electricity or decent sanitary facilities. The completed Hill House will assure each residing faculty member they will have these simple basics of healthy living, lacking in most rental facilities.

DO YOU WANT TO GET INVOVED "ON THE GROUND?" JOIN THE 2023 TEAM TRIP IN JUNE! (see below)



The "Hill House"

KVTC Faculty and Staff



Team Trip 2023

We have begun laying plans for a team trip for June 8-17, 2023. Our 2020 team (*left*) of 21 people, ranging in age from 13 to 80, not only had a wonderful time, they accomplished a great deal in a single week. New cookhouse and modern energy saving stoves that are friendly to the environment and human health, a new computer lab fully rewired, a 20X40 poured cement floor with oil change well in the Motor Vehicle shop, a VBS program in a nearby primary school, and a breed program for local cattle. And that's just the main stuff! Just like in 2020, there will be something for everyone to do, so if God has been nudging you toward a short-term mission adventure, please consider FRIENDS OF KIBBUSE!

Pictured Left - Team trip 2020 Pictured Below - Team trip 2020 activities

















Contact Us:

Email: Info@friendsofkibbuse.org
Postal: Friends of Kibbuse, PO Box 592, Jenison, MI 49429
Website: www.friendsofkibbuse.org

Click <u>unsubscribe</u> if you no longer want to receive this newsletter.

Donate