

## **Student Sponsorship Newsletter – March 2013**

*Pastor Jim Shiner – Faith Community Church, Ocean Shores WA*

Where do I begin? God is so good... He is continuing to increase and improve this ministry in Uganda that you are a part of. I cannot overemphasize how *your continued support is making a huge difference!*



**Fall 2012 Trip** Five of us travelled to Uganda last fall from Ocean Shores to spend a week in the school – including a Dentist who provided exams to all students, performed 85 cleanings, 51 fillings, and 10 extractions. We gave out 1000 toothbrushes and taught oral hygiene. We also got to share the gospel with all the kids in school and give out gifts to every child.

**Easthaven Baptist Church:** This entire sponsorship program began in 2007 with this church in Kalispell, Montana. In 2009 our church from Ocean Shores got on board, and a year later came McKenzie Road Baptist Church in Olympia WA. God put on my heart the need for an administrator and liaison for this entire program to ensure integrity and follow-through for long-term success. Interestingly enough, the folks at Easthaven were praying for someone to come along and take over the administration of their program as well. I am working hard with Daniel Kibirige (pictures below interpreting for me as I share the gospel with the students) to ensure we have completely accurate information for the sponsors. **As of today we have about 175 students sponsored from these three churches....** Praise be to God!

**Returning so soon?:** With the addition of these new students, I wanted to get back as soon as possible to make personal contact with all 175 students. I will be in Uganda April 14-21 and also be bringing a computer to help the school set up an administration. If you have not yet “friended” me on facebook, then please do so you can see my daily pictures I post from the trip.



**Primary School:** The Restoration Primary School has 10 classes: Three preschool classes (baby, middle, top) and seven primary classes (Primary 1-7). The cost to sponsor a student in these classes is \$25 per month (tuition, books, uniform, daily meal). Once a student graduates they must take a national exam



in order to enter secondary school. The past two years, every student from RPS passed the national test... with 60% of the students scoring the highest grade!

**A Greater Impact:**

About 150 of our sponsored kids are in primary school. In truth it costs less than \$25

for one student...so your donation is having a far greater impact than just your child! There are over 200 kids in the school and all of them get daily meals, uniforms, books, and tuition. This program makes it possible for the school to scholarship dozens more ☺. Also, we built a new facility two years ago and are currently in the process of purchasing land next to the school with a hope to build a secondary school in the future.

**Secondary School:** We have about two dozen students in our program who are in secondary school. In truth it costs more than \$135 for one student, especially if they want a boarding school. Still, your donation makes it possible for secondary students to attend day school and receive an education, or helps their parents pay for about 50% of the cost of boarding school. These funds follow the student to their school of choice. In the future, I hope to gather more information on this part of our program.

**Come to Uganda!** My hope is to offer a mission trip to Uganda for any and all sponsors to join me in the fall of 2014 (October or November). This will give you a chance to see first hand the work of this school in Uganda and even meet your student in person! There is plenty of time to plan and prepare.... Be open as God may want you to come with us!

