



Newsletter – Nov 2020

Dear Sponsor -

This year has brought many challenges to our ministry in Uganda. We worked hard to have everything set for 10 people and over 1000 pounds of supplies to travel to Uganda on March 19th, but then COVID shut down the borders of Uganda. We still have those boxes (including your gifts) packed and are praying that we can return to Uganda next year. My hope would be to perhaps travel to Uganda on a brief solo trip in the spring, to see first-hand all the work that has been done and report back to you. Then perhaps a year from now we may reschedule our mission trip and bring the supplies in the fall of 2021. Of course, it is difficult to plan anything right now, so we are waiting and praying.

Uganda Schools: Uganda has three terms of school each year, that always begin in January. However, there is a new system in place due to COVID. The

	Jan - Mar	May - Jul	Sep - Nov
2019	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3
2020	Term 1	CANX	Term 2 P7, S1, S4
2021	Term 3	Term 1	Term 2
2022	Term 3	Term 1	Term 2

entire country went on lockdown in March, just as the first term was about to end. Schools were allowed to reopen in October for term two, but only with strict government standards that had to be met by November 20th. Additionally, only “candidate” grade levels are allowed back in school now. These are students that must take national exams to promote (Primary

7, Senior 4, and Senior 6). If our school meets all the requirements by November 20th, we will be allowed to start the third term for ALL students in ALL grades in January 2021. (The students coming back in January will skip the second term of education but will still be allowed to promote in May). However, if our school does not meet standards, we will be closed later this month. Students will not be allowed to return until May 2021, and they will enter *the same grade level* they began in January, truly making this a dead year. I have been told that the majority of schools in Uganda do not have the funding to meet these requirements and are closed.

When I sent you the urgent email around October 1st, I did not fully understand everything I just described for you! In fact, our offering was not enough to keep us open. But let me tell you what the Lord has done for us thus far!



OUR RESTORATION SCHOOLS: Back in October I sent you an urgent email telling you we needed \$15,000 to reopen our schools and you provided! But what I didn't understand was that some items Daniel listed that I understood to be "optional" were essential. We really needed closer to \$30,000 to pass all the requirements by November 20th. If they didn't come up with the funds, our schools would be shut down until May.



I did not want to send another email to all the sponsors asking once again for support – you have been so generous in responding but I did not want to keep asking for more. So I prayed earnestly and then contacted three families with this need... and God came through once again! One of those families was in the midst of selling a house and was looking to donate some money. They have pledged the full \$15,000 needed, so I just wired the needed funds to Uganda at the beginning of this week.



Still – *please pray that all will be done to pass the inspection on November 20th, and that our schools will be allowed to reopen completely in January.*

I have included some Uganda quality photos of much of what has been done in the past 6 weeks... An upgraded toilet system for 500 students, a completed perimeter wall, a huge water tank, temperature guns, sanitizing stations, and much more.



COVID RELIEF: In addition to keeping our schools open, this year we have been able to send close to **\$40,000 in COVID RELIEF Funds** to help provide life for



hundreds of people connected to our schools, church, and orphanage who were without basic needs. I cannot begin to thank you all enough for this. I hope you all saw the five minute video on YouTube of appreciation!

If not, search on Youtube for “Uganda22” and you will see the one video entitled

“Restoration Uganda Covid Relief Appreciation”.



Children’s Village: We were able to see the completion of the wall around our orphanage north of Kampala. The project ended up costing \$13,000 (about \$1000 more than projected) with additional costs due to the shutdown.

I know this year has been a challenge to us all, but I want to thank you again for your heart to continue to give to our students, orphans, and ministry on the other side of the world who are also deeply impacted by the events of 2020.

Thank you again for all you are doing to make a HUGE difference!

- Jim Shiner



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