



Newsletter – Nov 2019

Restoration Schools: November marks the end of the school year in Uganda. Each year our primary 7 students (6th grade) sit for the national exam. Over the years, our students have performed exceptionally on this exam as they leave primary school and move on to secondary school. This year will also mark the first time we had high school students take the national exam. Our Senior 4 students (10th grade) are eagerly awaiting results, marking the academic progress of our Restoration High School.

High School Building: As you may recall, we acquired the land two years ago and finished raising the \$50,000 needed earlier this year to build the foundation and first floor...but we are currently in a “holding pattern” to begin construction. We are waiting on lawyers and city officials to release the proper permits to begin construction. It’s a long story, and things in Uganda move *much slower* than we are used to in America. The land is still ours, and the money is still there to build... we just need the Lord to get the lawyers and officials moving to complete the necessary paperwork and legal issues so we can begin construction. We are still hopeful that we will have something in place for the next school year of classes beginning around February 1st. Please pray for this!

Children’s Village: When I returned from Uganda in March, I sent an email asking for funds to help us install a basketball court at the village, and God provided through one of our sponsors! Two hoops have been installed and many quality Spalding outdoor basketballs were delivered to the orphanage earlier this year. This has been a huge blessing for all 20 of our orphans living there...especially the older teens when they come home from high school during the break.



The Need for a Wall: Over the past few years, we have discussed the goal of constructing a wall around the perimeter of our village land, with a secure gate. But in recent months, this desire has become a need. The new basketball courts have attracted attention, leading to some recent thefts of personal property. In addition, there is a safety issue of making sure kids don't slip out at night from time to time. We need to be able to secure the land at night with a locked gate. Two months ago, Pastor Frank told me the total cost would be about \$12,000. I prayed with them about it but have been so busy that I honestly haven't told anyone about this need until now. Still, God is faithful....and we recently received two unexpected donations of \$5000 and \$2000 that we have applied to the construction of the wall. Before I even had a chance to tell anyone, the need is more than halfway met! Still, we need an additional \$5000 to secure our orphanage. It will look similar to what you see in the picture below. If you would like to help, please write "village" or "wall" on the memo line of your special donation.



Our Next Trip: We are gearing up for another trip to Uganda in March 2020. This time my wife and I have the privilege of leading a mission team exclusively from Valleypoint Church in Spokane, where I have been the pastor for 5 years. We will be bringing about 8-10 "first-timers" who have never experienced Africa before, and we are thrilled! Mostly, we are excited

to share our ministry with people we love and serve alongside in our local church family. We plan to be in Uganda for 10 days, ministering to the church, orphanage, and mostly the children in our schools. I will get you thinking ahead now...March 2021 will be our next trip to Uganda and there will be an open invitation to all sponsors to join us... maybe you would you like to? ☺

2020 Uniform Project: Many people ask what Christmas gift they can provide for their student. My answer this year: Would you donate \$40 to buy your student a new school uniform kit? When students are sponsored in our schools, their tuition, supplies, and daily food are covered by sponsorship. Most families scrape up enough to purchase one uniform. Many of those uniforms get used daily as they become the regular clothing for the child. On recent trips, we have noticed many uniforms looking worn out...especially on the boys!



Three years ago, we raised \$13,000 in extra donations to supply your students with a mattress, blanket, sheets, mosquito nets, and soap. Two years ago, you gave over \$15,000 to supply your student's families with sugar, rice, beans, maize, and cooking oil. In both cases, we raised enough funds to give your student ALL of those items, and the rest of the kids in our school SOME of those items. But this year I am asking you to help me do something great for the Lord – **I want to provide every student in the school with a new uniform.** This will cost close to \$18,000 to accomplish.



This March, I would like to deliver a new uniform kit to your student as a personal gift from their sponsor. This gift will also impact the family, removing a financial burden. The complete kit includes a uniform, a sweater, and sportswear which costs about \$40. If you are able to give extra, then consider helping us meet our goal to provide a uniform for all 500+ students. Not every student will receive a sweater or sportswear, but we want *every student to receive a new uniform.*

As December is a collection month, you can include an extra gift with your sponsorship donation. The first \$40 above your regular donation will go towards purchasing a complete Uniform Kit for your student. Anything else will be given towards the Uniform Project.

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

**Restoration Uganda
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- Jim Shiner