



### Summary of hope milestones January—June 2021

- 60 children returned to school and taught March–June with government partial reopening.
- 158 children reached from homes awaiting full government opening
- 108 families active and reached through our Kiwale Suubi Village Savings and Loans Association with skills in making liquid soap, positive parenting etc.
- Trained 15 youths in making Interlocking bricks with the machine procured from Feb-date.
- 2 new buildings Constructed school kitchen, computer lab & new teachers apartments still under construction using interlocking blocks

## Kisima junior school

JAN - JULY 2021 ISSUE

28TH JULY 2021

# A Year of Rebuilding Hope

This is such a special time for me to get the opportunity to share with you our friends and prayer partners how we are 'coping' during these unfamiliar times.

Praise be to God who has sustained you and us to this day. As we enter the second half of 2021, Uganda is in a second national-wide total lockdown while still recovering from a violent political season of presidential, parliamentary and local government elections. But much as these lockdowns and the effects of the COVID virus are immense, they are momentary events that cannot

make God's eternal purposes obsolete. God is redeeming a people unto Himself and He is preparing the church for the glorious return of Jesus Christ to collect His bride. As we reach out to children and

families we are intentional to prepare them for that ultimate day of victory even as we empower them for daily victories.

In this newsletter, you will find some of the stories of what our children and families are overcoming by the grace of God. Take these as testimonies to encourage you too in your course that Christ may be glorified in your victories.

This is a year of rebuilding hope among children and families and we are humbled to be a part of what God is doing and is going to do.



Some of our faces of hope.

**Christ in you, the hope of glory...**

**Patrick & Ritah Bongole**

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# Rebuilding Hope through Discipleship

Malachi 4:5 Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the great and terrible day of the LORD comes. 6 He will turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers, lest I come and strike the earth with a curse."

During the 2020 March lockdown we observed with sadness a 13 year old boy leave his father's home and not want to return back. When asked for the reason of this decision he was quick to tell me "I don't like what dad is doing at home and I want to be away from his home so that I don't get to see this! Am tired!"

This young man's story would lead back to the battle we have for long wondered how it could be won. Our children come from families that are struggling primarily because the parents have become angry at God and would not give their children a chance to know God. As I write this, the young man reiterated his decision not to return home even

when living with his friends presents him with more challenges! He is struggling with shame for the unpleasant ways his dad is living. I've asked myself over and over why he hates his home and it is now clear he does love his home but is bitter with his dad because he feels betrayed by their dad. On the Christmas eve of 2020 when I drove his dad back home from hospital after an attempted suicide, this young boy was not home to welcome him back. I was able to meet him and shared with him the need for him to return to his father's home to forgive and love his dad with grace. Yes the boy attends church but he needs more than a church service. He needs

someone to walk alongside him in this hard journey to forgiveness and reconciliation with his dad.

We are cultivating long term relationships with our children to know their unique story and seek God in prayer to enable them bring it all to God. It is not always true that when we sing a hallelujah in the crowd, every child is celebrating the grace of God. Many have not understood the free gift of forgiveness that God gives in Christ and they are walking in anger, shame and pain.

Real healing is going to come with sons forgiving their fathers and likewise the fathers being intentional to reconcile with their sons.

We pray for total reconciliation among fathers and sons, mothers and daughters in Jesus' name.

"We are cultivating long term relationships with our children to know their unique story and seek God in prayer to enable them bring it all to God."

1. **Hope Chapel:** We invite and welcome children and their families for Sunday services 10am to midday. We host them for breakfast from 9:30am and afterwards service begins. This has given opportunity for us to start building friendships.
2. **We host a weekly chapel service at school** 11:40am to 1:00pm with children participating in leading worship, reading the word and testimonies
3. **Scripture Engagement:** We've been able to distribute 400 new testament bibles within our community.
4. **Cell group meetings:** These happen in different locations on Wednesdays (during school breaks) and Saturdays when school is in session. We are equipping children to go out and influence other children with the love of Christ.

Romans 10:10

For with the heart, one believes unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

<https://ugandablessing.org>

## The “Jesus Water Fountain” Well Project



“120 meters under our hill is a miracle of a clean water table flowing that we want to tap into to provide constant clean and safe water for our school and community. We invite you to invest in this project to drill a production well that will pump 30,000 liters of water daily.” Visit <https://ugandablessing.org> to give.

Jesus is the foundation of Living water. Even though this blessing is manifest more in the spirit, I believe it has serious implications for the quality of physical water that Jesus’ followers consume. This is so because Jesus cares for our physical bodies just as He cares for our souls. He wants us to receive and enjoy abundant life and that’s the reason He gave His life and body as a living sacrifice for our sake.

Jesus cares for our physical bodies because they are the temple of the Holy Spirit. Does Jesus care when we nourish our bodies with contaminated water? Indeed he does. Because then this contaminated water causes disease to the body costing us precious hour of no work and unending hospital bills.

### The need

Over the years we have grappled with the challenge of access to safe and clean water for the children and families. We have had to rely on an water from an open shallow swamp that is vulnerable to pollution from animals and people. Besides that, making daily journeys to this swamp has been time consuming and limiting our capacity to expand our activities at school and farm.

### What impact will the well make on our ministry and greater community?

The well will provide constant supply of safe and clean water which will be used for preparing meals for children at school, sustain and enable expansion of our farming activities to produce food.

Over 300 families in their community will be given water for preparing meals and washing to save on the time and risk children encounter when they make long trips to the well.

**Phase 1:** Conducting a Geological survey to pinpoint the most suitable point to drill to the water table

**Phase 2:** Drilling and casing the well approximately 120 metres deep.

**Phase 3:** Installing 30,000 liters’-capacity water tanks on a concrete tower to store and distribute the water

*“We invite you to invest in the drilling of this well to provide constant supply of clean water.”*



# Our next Decade Dream July 2021— July 2031

As we visualize and pray for the next decade, we invite you to pray for God’s leading and blessing over Hope Chapel and Kisima Junior School. We have set specific goals for the next ten years of the school and church. These goals and activities are intended to grow our ministry’s character in Christ, build our capacity to serve children and families and maximise/ deepen our impact in the community and nation.

Being aware that the ministry’s growth needs keep expanding, we have to focus on maximizing the value of our current resources to build an ecosystem that is self sustaining.

**Education:** Increase our intake from 200 to 500 children starting 2022.

**Sustainability Projects:** For our ministry to survive and thrive 10 years and beyond, we are launching our first Sustainability Project : **The Jesus Water Fountain Well Project**. This project will provide constant supply of water to the school for meals, construction activities such as brick making. Farming activities such as animal rearing and irrigation of food crops

There are specific Farming activities we hope can be scaled up to improve the diet of children and earn income for the school. More on these will be shared in the upcoming newsletters. A snapshot Increase our piggery from 16 to 100. Increase our Poultry to 10,000 birds. 100 diary cattle.

*The Interlocking bricks machine has empowered us to train 10 young people, offered jobs to them and improved our buildings. Quality and strength. The bricks require less water, no baking with fire and are bigger in size compared to ordinary backed bricks.*

## Testimonies: Interlocking Bricks

Rashid is among the young men who were laid off from work at a local garage in Kampala where he was working to learn mechanics. When we received a generous donation to buy an interlocking machine, Rashid and 9 other young men got opportunity to constitute the team that started laying Interlocking bricks for our construction projects since March 2020. Besides

acquiring the skills of making bricks and building with this new technology, Rashid and his colleagues each earn an equivalent of \$5 every day that they serve with our team.

Having come from a Muslim family, Rashid had not yet heard the gospel and right now he gets the opportunity to pray and listen to the word and ask questions. We pray that Rashid and his friends will one

day soon come to saving faith in Jesus Christ.



A pit latrine built with Interlocking bricks



Rashid serving our lead builder bricks



Praying over the Creative & Design Lab



### Buildings added to the School with Interlocking Blocks Technology

1. A pit latrine at the Teacher's residential quarters
2. School kitchen
3. The Creative & Design Lab to host a carpentry, recycling, computer and electronics sections. Awaiting roofing.
4. Teachers' quarters still under construction
5. The Perimeter (security wall) around the school is in



## Child Protection During a Pandemic

The last 16 months children have spent more time at home and in the community working in gardens than they did spend at school. In these environment children are at greater risk of abuse from wrong elements in the community and in some cases from family members. We therefore set up a child protection team of parents, teachers, local leaders and working closely with the Police. Through this collaborative effort Hope Chapel and Kisima Junior School have been

able to sensitise children to be alert to report any acts of violence against children. The most common cases we have responded to have been of sexual and physical abuse. 4 girls aged between 6 and 13 years were sexually abused. Working together with leaders, the abusers were arrested and children given medical attention.

We thank God for various partners to whom we have reached out for expert help

and resources in following up on some of these victims. Notable of these partners is The Remnant Generation who have helped host a teenage pregnancy girl and her baby from our community and treating a 6 year old defilement victim.

We continue to coordinate prevention measures mainly through sensitization of children and parents as well as response to take children for medical attention and advise on case handling.

# Closing the Child-Family-Church Collaborative Project with CRANE Network

We thank God for the 30+ families that took part in a three year CFCC (Child-Family-Church-Collaborative) project which ended in March 2021. CRANE Network, the implementing partners of this project invited us on board with an initial focus of 15 families which we assessed in their vulnerabilities and piloted a series of activities and trainings to improve the welfare of these families. The main goal of this project was to ensure that these families are empowered to become model families that are safe, nurturing and economically stable.

As the project name states, we had a partnership between the child, the family and the church working collaboratively to make our community safer for children and supportive of the holistic development needs of every child.

As we reflect on the many lessons we have learnt from this journey, we share some of the milestones achieved.

1. 30+ families were trained in financial literacy and on how to run a village savings and loans association. This association has since grown to include families, meet twice a month and shared a variety of skills and knowledge.
2. 4 of our staff were trained in child protection and safe guarding practices. This knowledge has propelled us over the years in our efforts to curb violence against children in our 7 target villages.
3. Three of our staff members were supported financially during the process of executing project activities for the entire time the project.
4. 15 families were supported with food aide packages during the April/May 2020 lockdown.
5. Dozens of print and digital materials on various topics were donated to our staff to facilitate ongoing learning beyond the project time.
6. 10 child ambassadors were trained and have been active in helping other children know how they can stay safe from violence.

**“The CFCC project has strengthened our child advocacy and protection ministry”**

## Donate \$25 to buy food items for a family

We are reaching out to assist 100 families recover from the lockdown which saw businesses and schools closed leading to many children to return home. In our village several grand mothers received grand children from their sons and daughters who have been laid off from work. They have spent the food they had in the gardens.



<https://www.ugandablessing.org>

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**Vison:** Children and youth empowered onto a pathway of continuous transformation and to equipped to overcome their vulnerabilities to become all that God intends for them to be.

**Motto:** The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.



## Thanksgiving

Friends we take this opportunity to thank you for praying for and with us. Your diligent prayers have accomplished much and encouraged us. We also appreciate your continued financial support that has enabled us pay staff salaries, finance construction and feeding of the children. You have also sent personal support to us as a family that has gone a long way to ensure our physical needs are taken care of giving us time to concentrate on the ministry activities.

We pray for God's special blessing upon your lives. May His peace and presence always abide with you. We lift up the sick in Abba's hands that He may heal you in Jesus' name.

**Patrick & Ritah Bongole**