

# AMAKA\*

The Newsletter of Africa Renewal Ministries

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## July Medical Mission Focuses on Total Village Health

While ARM's child sponsorship program continues to grow, it has become apparent the child cannot be separated from the family, and the family cannot be separated from the community when examining health issues. As ARM begins to expand into the realm of medical care, the focus has become the health of the village versus that of the individual child.

Approximately one year ago, ARM staff met with Mubende district leaders to examine health aspects of village life and discovered that the people were suffering unnecessarily from unsanitary water sources, absence of vital vaccinations and a general lack of basic hygiene. In fact, no physician had visited the area in three years.



*A student in Gaba receives glasses from Into Focus*

This July, ARM began to tackle these issues in partnership with the Wentz Medical Clinic of Gaba. U.S. ARM staff plus medical professionals from Rocky Peak Church in Simi Valley, CA and throughout other parts of the U.S., left for Uganda with a mission to accomplish. First, they met with the Ugandan Ministry of Health to discuss their community outreach program

which includes distribution of mosquito nets. Finally, upon arrival in Mulete, the village in Mubende district, they joined up with eight healthcare professionals from Uganda, and the medical mission clinic was underway. Between the U.S. convoy and the doctors under the leadership of Wentz Clinic, the outreach team offered free services such as vaccinations, physical exams, dental care, eye care, plus information on family planning and proper hygiene.

The team was met with smiles, gratitude and even tears from thankful villagers who walked many miles, some for days, to receive the medical services. Volunteer Vivian Baughman who served on the vision team recalls, "I was not surprised by the poverty. What was

surprising was the graciousness of the people. Over and over we heard 'You are welcome here', and it truly blessed me. The children were so grateful and so brave in the face of painful procedures, bad tasting medicines and crowded conditions."

Registered Nurse Leslie Heimbuch had been working behind the scenes for nine months prior to the July medical trip in an effort to organize the whole operation. During the trip, she treated patients, set up the pharmacy and helped to familiarize everyone with their roles. Leslie explains, "I really understood the overwhelming need in the region, but what surprised me was the number of people who showed up in Gaba and Mulete – 2,500 people in just four days. The sense of cooperation and kindness



*Dr. Martin of Wentz Clinic (center) and Leslie Heimbuch of Children's Hunger Fund consult with a patient*

among volunteers, along with the excitement is what makes most of us want to return." She adds, "It's hardcore and overwhelming, and there are no diagnostics. You have to go back to the basics. So much is preventable and so easily treated."

Together the team performed 530 medical evaluations in the primary school, administered over 200 immunizations,

provided de-worming medicines to all children and adults and saw approximately 1,000 patients during their stay in Mulete alone. Doctor John Gililland, a volunteer physician from California reflects, "The overwhelming thing is that the need is so incredible. When villagers hear of free medical clinics, they come in droves and there is never



*Carol Gililland and Gary Baughman of California extract a tooth in Mulete*

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\* AMAKA means "family" in Luganda, the tribal language used in Gaba, Uganda, where ARM is headquartered.

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## Wentz Medical Center: A Model for the Future



Pastor Peter Kasirivu  
President and  
Founder  
ARM-Uganda

A few years ago the Lord put an idea on our hearts to start a clinic in Gaba. We rented a house and hired a nurse and now, just a short time later, our dreams have become the medical center that is now serving the entire Gaba community. We realize through reading of the Gospel that Jesus' ministry was teaching, preaching and healing. Likewise ARM's medical department, in cooperation with Gaba's Wentz Medical Center, fulfills His ministry goals.

Our vision is to see the Wentz Medical Center as a model for future medical intervention in other parts of the country where we are assisting children and planting churches. Through kind hands of missionary friends, we've already begun construction of a clinic in Bethany Village. It is my hope that God will speak to

your hearts, both in Uganda and abroad, to help reach out with loving hands for this cause.

We are so grateful to those who have already given of their time, finances and effort toward meeting our goals. Many groups have responded to this call by volunteering for medical missions, eye clinics and general health checkups. While expensive, this type of outreach is vital to our efforts in Uganda since conditions like malnutrition, AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis and common epidemics are widespread and have claimed many lives, especially those of our children.

We look forward to witnessing the goodness of the Lord in this venture. You too can be a part of making this dream a reality by praying for and supporting our medical program.

### ARM Health Program Prayer Requests

#### Please pray that God will:

- Use the Wentz Medical Center to meet the physical and spiritual needs of the community, as Christ demonstrated.
- Draw spirit-filled Christian physicians and nurses to the clinic staff and the community outreach ministry.
- Supply the medical, dental, ophthalmological needs in support of the community outreach ministry.
- Protect Dr. Martin and his staff as they provide medical care in difficult areas.
- Provide Dr. Martin and the Wentz Board of Directors with wisdom and guidance as they establish the strategic direction for the clinic.
- Move American healthcare workers of all kinds to heed a call to Uganda to participate in short-term mission projects.

## From California To Uganda, Again & Again!

Mike and Marilyn Fry are an inspiring couple that God has used to accomplish great things in Uganda. They are a true picture of Christ's love as they volunteer endlessly to make dreams a reality.

Mike has the ability to "capture the moment" in video and help ARM tell the Uganda story to many thousands in America through his efforts in media production. Together they supported the original AWANAs program in Gaba. They rallied the building and sponsorship of Grace Home Orphanage in Bethany Village and encouraged others to sponsor two additional homes.

Mike and Marilyn have provided hospitality in their home to many visitors from Uganda as well as opened their home to meetings, share groups and others who want to know more about ARM. They have also led mission teams to Uganda to show others the ministry and help them catch the vision of ARM. Additionally they have been involved in various fundraisers for special projects and have personally funded projects in Uganda. They are amazing ambassadors for ARM, telling the story whenever they get a chance.

If you are interested in following the Fry's example and volunteering with ARM, be sure to let us know by calling our office at 210-979-7441 or through the [Contact Us page](#) at [www.africarenewal.org](http://www.africarenewal.org).

*"What we have done for the Lord in Uganda is nothing compared to what He has done for us through Uganda ... And since our first trip, there has been no going back to business as usual. I love telling the story and Mike loves filming the story. We just can't seem to stop. If we can do this, anyone can."*

— Marilyn Fry



Marilyn Fry on a  
"boda boda" taxi in  
Bethany Village



Mike Fry, his  
trusty video  
camera and  
children from  
Bethany Village

## ARM Meets the Physical & Spiritual Needs of the Village

ARM's mission is to "enhance the holistic development of the child, church and community through support systems that will ensure Next-Generation Christian leaders." One of the biggest challenges facing any Christian ministry is determining how to fulfill our mission without going too far afield from the mission statement.

Working through the village churches, we've seen that the health of the child, family and community are all interwoven. We've come to understand that without a healthy environment in the community, much of our spiritual work bears little fruit. Christ gives us many examples of his meeting human needs first before spiritual transformation of the heart begins. For ARM, this translates into villages having access to clean drinking water, nutritious food and medical care, plus the community as a whole understanding the basic need for hygiene and cooperation in battling malaria and other preventable diseases.



Drinking water before a well was dug

Last year, several ARM volunteers began focusing on healthcare and the need for clean drinking water in communities where ARM has schools. Preliminary village evaluations revealed polluted drinking water shared with the animals, poor sanitation, absence of any medical care and a high death rate for children under one year. Through the efforts of these volunteers and financial support of many others, three wells have been drilled providing clean drinking water to hundreds.

Working through local churches and the District and National Health System, ARM's goal is to express the love of God by providing a permanent and sustainable improvement in the health of the communities we serve. To that end, we will continue to assemble and send to Uganda medical and health education teams, under the direction of Dr. Martin Nkundeki and the Wentz Medical Center in Gaba. The first team arrived only this past July to assist the Mubende district. Our cover article highlights the impact they had on the peoples of this region. Please visit our website at [www.africarenewal.org](http://www.africarenewal.org) to discover how you can be a part of this fulfilling and critical ministry.



Don Jones  
Executive Director  
ARM-USA



Clean water for ARM's school and the local community.

For more information on helping provide clean water to other communities, visit our website at [africarenewal.org](http://africarenewal.org)

## Plant a Church and Watch it Grow!

Approximately two years ago, Mwangaza toured at Castle Hills First Baptist Church in San Antonio. After being touched by their concert and praying with Pastor Peter Kasirivu, Castle Hills' Missions Pastor Donnie Anthony felt the call to plant a church in Uganda, despite the overwhelming complexities of orchestrating such an endeavor. Just recently, he has returned home from a week-long Ugandan church planting crusade where he saw God move and complete the vision for which he and his home church had invested so much time.



Donnie Anthony and new church members pray over Pastor Enoch

Donnie and his ministry team traveled to the community of Luzira, where under the training and leadership of Pastor Enoch and Pastor Peter, they were instructed to make as many face-to-face contacts within the community as possible, prior to the first church service scheduled for the following Sunday. On Monday, Donnie and his team began holding assemblies in as many private schools as would allow. The praise and worship team ministered in song while Donnie preached. At a college, Donnie was able to preach to 1500 teenagers and 200 students came to know

Christ. They also ministered in the markets, witnessed on the streets and held evening crusades that brought many Luzira villagers to Christ. On the seventh and last day of the trip, the doors of the Luzira Community Church opened for the first time. Pastors Donnie and Enoch watched as 183 members of the community filed in for Sunday morning service!



Tish Hicks of Castle Hills First Baptist and a new believer at Luzira Community Church

This trip involved extensive planning. Castle Hills Mission Board committed early on to provide ongoing support for their new church plant in Luzira. Pastor Donnie explains, "The days of going into the mission field and then leaving are gone. The mission doesn't stop when you return home. To reach generation after generation, you must partner with a church that has the vision to plant other churches." If you would like more information about planting a church, please visit our website at [www.africarenewal.org](http://www.africarenewal.org).

# Students Taught to Share Knowledge & Blessings

Meet Kim Wynott, a kindergarten teacher from California who is recently back from ARM's summer trip to Uganda, her first! Working primarily with Ugandan teachers and interacting with the children, she returns home with many wonderful stories of generosity and kindness. Come along now as she takes us on a visit to a 5th grade class in Gaba.

Because my first visit with the 5th graders had ended with much silliness and laughter, I felt it necessary to visit them again. I climbed to their third floor room and as I entered the class, the students all stood and greeted me with a Classroom Welcome in unison. Judging by the notes on the board, I had clearly interrupted their teacher's lesson. Without reliving specific details of yesterday's antics I simply said, "I had such an enjoyable time getting to know your class yesterday afternoon, I was hoping to visit again today." The teacher introduced himself as Geoffrey and asked me to

death for these children. In fact, most of these kids know someone personally who has been infected with HIV or malaria. One Ugandan teacher told me, "In Uganda, few are infected with diseases but all are affected by them."



Blackboard health lessons at Maranatha Christian School



Teachers Geoffrey and Kim Wynott

As I listened, one of the students seated in the middle of the class looked over at me and then made his way to the front of the room. As Geoffrey continued his lesson, this young man lifted the teacher's chair over his head and found his way back to me. What a gentleman! A few of the students saw my reaction, which caused them to smile. The lecture continued and this small act of kindness appeared to be normal behavior.

Geoffrey asked the students how one could acquire malaria. Hands went up, "Mosquito bites." Geoffrey then asked, "But how does the mosquito contract the disease?" Fewer hands went up but eventually the desired answer was found – "By stagnant water and waste that has been contaminated." The next question really got the students thinking – "Is there anything we could do to eliminate such sources?" Not a single hand went up; Geoffrey allowed a short pause as curiosities began to peak (mine included). He then discussed some simple solutions – using lavatories and proper disposal of trash and waste materials. (There is no Department of Sanitation in Uganda.) Students were encouraged to burn their trash and bury refuse away from areas where people live. The importance of immunization was also discussed. Then Geoffrey asked, "What about the people who live in remote areas who don't have the privilege to go to school or to hear the news through television or newspapers?" The answer came from

*Continued on page 5*

stay for as long as I wished. I worked my way to the back of the classroom, smiling at students as I went.

As I stood and listened to Geoffrey give a health lesson, I was quickly drawn in. He was speaking to these children on areas of first aid, diseases and family planning. How much more valuable this lesson must be to these kids compared to 5th graders in the U.S. He wasn't just presenting interesting facts that may or may not be covered on an upcoming quiz. The lesson could mean life or



### 3rd Quarter Sponsorship Stats

Sponsorships Added 147  
Total Sponsorships approx. 5,350

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electronically at  
[www.africarenewal.org](http://www.africarenewal.org)!

## Pastor Fred Sekyewa on Slowing the Spread of AIDS

For more than 25 years, HIV/AIDS has been a scourge on the people of Africa with only minimal progress in treatment methods and no end to the epidemic in sight. In its effort to tackle the many challenges related to the spread of HIV, ARM has focused a great deal of energy on the children affected by the disease – many orphaned, others with parents already infected, facing extreme economic hardship.

In Uganda, the virus has killed thousands leaving untold numbers of children orphaned with little hope for the future. Some are abandoned to the streets and many simply scatter, being swallowed up by their communities. Young orphaned girls sometimes are forced into emotionally detrimental, cross generation sexual relationships. Young boys do not fair any better; they are guided into destructive sexual behavior with far reaching and dire consequences. In a quest for survival, their promiscuity ultimately leads to HIV infection and further spread of the disease. It is not uncommon to have both child and parent HIV positive. In Kakuuto, child development centers report that 30% of the guardians of their children are HIV positive. And in the Gaba area alone, there are close to 150 parents or guardians struggling with the disease.

Through education, ARM believes it is the youth of Uganda who can begin to slow the disease's progress and prevent further infection. Our churches and the ministries of ARM do not shy away from the realities of the virus. We are doing youth camps where AIDS issues are discussed openly with the young people, and pastors equip their

congregations and couples about prevention and after care should infection occur.

We continue to appeal to all our partnership ministries for assistance in this battle. Knowledge is our best defense and through these programs, thousands of children are reached. The bottom line is HIV/AIDS is still with us, yet its adverse effects need not be so pervasive or damaging to the lives of our people.



*Pastor Fred Sekyewa,  
Executive Director,  
ARM-Uganda*

### Support ARM's Christmas Gift & Youth Camp Funds!

The holidays will soon be here ... the **Christmas Gift Fund** is the best way to get a gift to a sponsored child.

**Annual Youth Camps** are a special treat for sponsored children with many coming to Christ at camp each year. But camp is costly and requires extra funding.

**Help make Christmas and Camp a great time for all our kids!** Send your donation by check marked "Christmas" and/or "Camp" in the enclosed envelope or go to [africarenewal.org](http://africarenewal.org). 100% of donations go directly to the benefit of the children.



*Students at Camp in  
Bethany Village*

*Students, continued from page 4*

the same student who brought me the chair, "We need to go and teach those less fortunate and bring them vaccines." Geoffrey was equipping his class to go out and change not only their circumstances but also their neighbors. I realized now what is meant by the hope of a new generation.



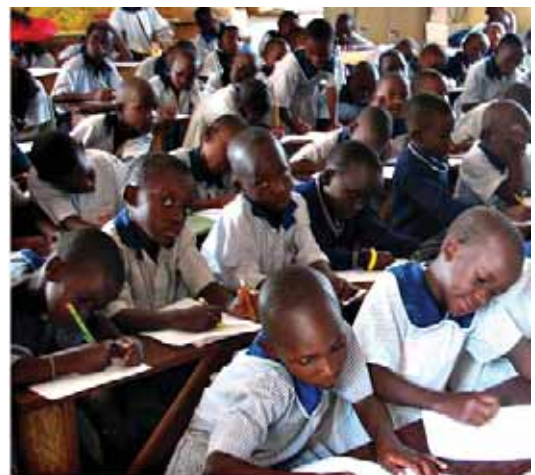
*Maranatha Christian School in Gaba*

These kids are blessed and they know it. As sponsored children themselves, these 70 students are becoming people who have a deep desire to reach out and help others because someone once reached out to help them. An incredible peace came over me and I was able to see hope for this country

through children ready to make a difference in the lives of their people.

The last night of our trip, the team was invited to have dinner with Pastor Peter (ARM's founder) and his family at their home in Gaba. I expressed my hopefulness in the

sponsorship program and Peter explained Uganda's goal to be self-sufficient, no longer relying on American aid. This is his vision for his country. After what I've witnessed in their teachers and children, I truly believe his dream can be achieved!



*5th Graders at Maranatha Christian School*



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## Mwangaza Heads to Holland!

**M**wangaza is heading to Holland in September! The touring choir (pictured to the right) has been rehearsing and preparing for months. Sponsored by the Uganda Child Care Foundation in Holland, the children will tour for six weeks. We hear that there's even a stadium concert on the agenda!

Please pray for the children in the choir, their leaders and for the message of the Gospel to shine forth through each concert!



*Mission Trip, continued from page 1*



*Sherry Grigsby of Eyes on Africa conducts an eye test for reading glasses.*

enough time to meet all the needs.” Two eye teams along on this trip dispensed over 900 pairs of glasses. “Eyes On Africa”, led by Sherry Grigsby, gave out hundreds of pairs of reading glasses, while “Into Focus”, led by Rocky Peak’s Margarita Savoie and Vivian Parcels provided eye exams and prescription glasses to several hundred people.

Additionally, July’s medical mission offered community health training seminars to raise public awareness on the importance of family planning, hygiene and vaccinations. In association with the medical team, Pastor Stan Lubeck also led a conference for twenty village pastors in the Mulete area.

Go online to [www.africarenewal.org](http://www.africarenewal.org) to find out more about this mission trip and how you can become an integral part of the next medical mission to Uganda!



*Vivian Baughman and Barbara Cameron test Pastor Wilson's eyesight in Mubende.*



*Dr. Martin of Wentz Clinic and nurse Katherine Peterson of CA examine patients during the free clinic in Mulete.*