



# Agape in Action

LIFE. OPPORTUNITY. HOPE.

Newsletter 1

May 2007

## Bro. Joseph & Sis. Mary Odhiambo

Living in Nakuru, in the beautiful Rift Valley in Kenya, lives this couple who serves as the inspiration to start Agape in Action. While in Kenya, Bro James and Sister Deb Flint spent a lot of time with this family and grew very close to them. Despite the loss of two of their own children, battling chronic illnesses, poverty and unemployment, bro. Joseph and sis. Mary have adopted three children.

Brother Joseph is one of Agape in Actions local representatives who will oversee assistance to additional Christadelphians who have adopted children in need. Child sponsorship will allow willing families to take in desperately needy children who have been abandoned, abused and/or orphaned. These kids, perhaps for the first time ever, will have someone that loves and cares for them - a family to provide them food, clothing and shelter, and a knowledge of the truth.

It doesn't take much to radically change the life of one child. Sponsors who are supporting Christadelphian families in Kenya do just that, and in the process, are also supporting the next generation of Christadelphians in Kenya.



*Daina* – one of the children Bro. Joseph & Sis. Mary have adopted

## 2008 Calendars for Sale!

Calendars are \$10 each with all proceeds going to Agape in Action. The calendar features children from different mission fields around the world with a quote or Bible verse.

We have 1000 of these calendars to sell, so if you would like one or a few (they make great gifts!), can sell some at your ecclesia or a Bible school or can take some overseas for us from Canada please let us know! Some of the pictures are featured below:



## Needs a Sponsor

This is Mueni who just turned 13. She is being looked after by her grandparents. Her grandfather says, "I am an old man without much energy to work casually and feed them. I have very small shamba which is unproductive due to soil pollution." These children are destitute. This brother supports 8 children, 6 of whom are adopted.





# Agape in Action

LIFE. OPPORTUNITY. HOPE.

Newsletter 1

May 2007

## Bro. Justus & Sis. Annetti Mabuka

This outstanding couple has taken in more than 40 children, mostly orphans, into their home. Their village has been terribly affected by AIDS and the effects of severe poverty. Children turn up on Justus and Annetti's door daily and are never turned away. They may have more than 50 children at any one meal time, some then go, others stay for the night. They have nowhere else to go. Of course, like the majority of those in village settings in Kenya, Bro. Justus is unemployed, yet does what he can to support these children. Agape in Action is supporting bro Justus and these children through child sponsorship. Canadian and Australian sponsors are supporting 22 of these children, allowing Bro Justus to provide the proper care they need. Since we started working with Bro Justus, just a few months ago, over 20 additional children have been added



For all our activities in Kenya, we have been guided by the CBM in the UK. One of the link brethren - bro. Trevor Hughes, has a long standing relationship with Bro Justus, Sis Annetti and the children in their care. Bro. Trevor has raised funds to support the building of a structure to house some of these children. A safe place to sleep is especially important for the teen girls. In addition, the Meal A Day Fund based from the UK has agreed to pay a cook/matron to prepare the meals and assist in the care for these children.

Bro. Steve Johnson (Williamsburg Foundation) was just in Kenya and was able to get photos and video footage of these children that will be available soon.

*"Dear Sis Deb. Greetings in the one hope we share, Many thanks indeed for your email and informing me that you already got the forms. It is a joy to us and the children. May God bless your work. Please pass the love of the children to all that are standing with them." Bro Justus*



## Sponsors Needed!

We are looking for sponsors – please spread the word. The bulk of our sponsors are from Ontario, with a few from the United States and Australia, but we can accept sponsors from anywhere in the world.

Sponsorship is \$30 Canadian per month and provides the following basics

### For Health:

- ◆ annual medical check-up
- ◆ dental check-up
- ◆ sanitary supplies such as tooth-brush, toothpaste, soap, etc
- ◆ treated mosquito nets in areas where malaria and/or dengue are endemic
- ◆ vitamins
- ◆ food
- ◆ water purification and storage supplies (e.g. chlorine tablets and clay/plastic water containers)

### For Education:

- ◆ school bags for children
- ◆ school uniforms
- ◆ socks and shoes
- ◆ school books
- ◆ school fees in certain countries
- ◆ pencil cases with pens and pencils

Agape in Action is fully Christadelphian run and all the money goes to our brethren and sisters in need. We work closely with the various CBM's in their areas to identify children in the most need that meet our criteria.



# Agape in Action

LIFE. OPPORTUNITY. HOPE.

Newsletter 1

May 2007

## Bro. Sammy & Sis. Christine Mutunga



This couple lives in the coastal area of Kenya. Bro. Sammy is a school teacher and is therefore in touch with the kids and families in the surrounding villages. Bro. Sammy was personally supporting several orphans and had also encourage other Christadelphian families to do likewise. These Christadelphian families are already in desperate straights, in most cases without enough to feed their own families.

Yet, these brethren and sisters have taken in children who are desperate for somewhere to live. Most of our brethren and sisters in this area are unemployed and the small plots of land they own have become unproductive due to drought and bad soil.

Agape in Action received a package with more than 75 children for sponsorship from Bro. Sammy with more to come - page after page of heartbreaking situations. The good news coming from this is that all of these children are regular attendees of Christadelphian Sunday Schools and soon all will be sponsored through Agape in Action.



## Needs a Sponsor

This is 6-year-old Malonza. He is being cared for by his stepbrother. His mother died when he was young and then his stepmother ran away. His father who is very old cannot look after the children and no one in the family has employment. His stepbrother cares for 8 children, 5 of which are adopted.

## future plans

God-willing

- ✓ We have our forms in for registration as an official charity in Canada. Evidently, this process can take several months. However, once this happens, those paying from Canada will be able to receive tax receipts.
- ✓ We are waiting to receive the first forms for children in India, being coordinated through the ACBM and Sis. Sarah Galbraith.
- ✓ We have been asked by the CBM link people from the UK for Uganda to start Agape in Action for children in their country.
- ✓ We are very thankful to Bro. Ed Cabral from the Mississauga West ecclesia who has offered to do our web-site. While he is working on this, we have a temporary site up at [www.agapeinaction.com](http://www.agapeinaction.com)
- ✓ Bro. Nathanael Abel has offered to travel to Kenya God willing at the end of May to visit Agape in Action sponsored children in the coastal area and do some work there for us. It will be wonderful to get more pictures and video and first hand stories of the situations of the children there.





# Agape in Action

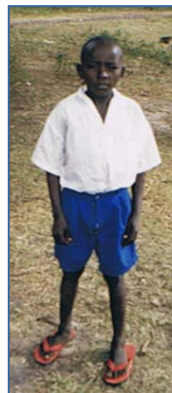
LIFE. OPPORTUNITY. HOPE.

Newsletter 1

May 2007

## Summary of key scriptural principles related to giving:

- ✦ Be generous – we need to open our hands wide to those in need (*Dt 15:8, 11*), because God opens His hands wide for us (*Ps 145:14-16*); with the same measure that we mete, it shall be measured against us (*Lk 6:38*)
- ✦ Give based on a persons need – by doing so, we demonstrate Gods love in us (*1 Jn 3:17*)
- ✦ Beware of thoughts that prevent generous giving (*Dt 15:9*), knowing that if we do not hear the cries of the poor, our own cries will not be heard (*Pr 21:12*)
- ✦ Thoughts are not enough; physical needs must be attended to (*Js 2:14-17*)
- ✦ Giving must be done freely and without grudge, for God loves a cheerful giver (*2 Cor 9:7*)
- ✦ Giving must be done discretely, without the seeking of attention of praise, for our Father, who see what is done in secret, will reward you (*Mt 6:2-4*)
- ✦ Giving must be done in faith, knowing God will bless us in all our works (*Dt 15:10*)



For more information, to make a donation or sponsor a child, please contact us:

E-mail: [agapeinaction@rogers.com](mailto:agapeinaction@rogers.com)

Snail mail:  
Agape in Action  
25 Carnaby Cres.  
Guelph, ON  
N1G 2R6  
Canada

Phone:  
+519-837-9094

Temporary Web site:  
[www.agapeinaction.com](http://www.agapeinaction.com)

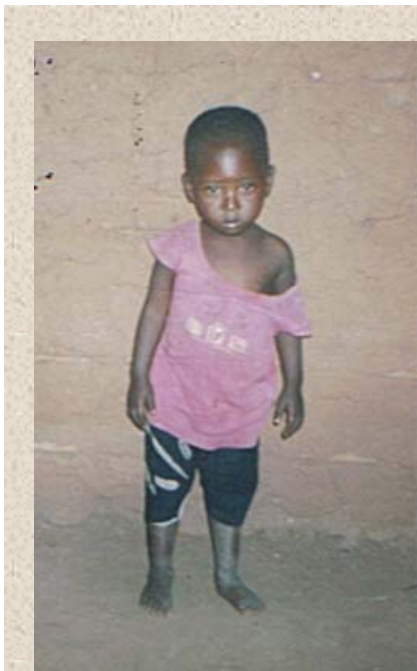


## Ecclesial Visits & Fundraisers

Currently we are trying to visit as many ecclesias in the area as possible to let them know about what we are doing. So far we have visited Shelburne, Orangeville, Ewen Road, Cambridge and have plans for more God willing.

If you can organize a visit for us to your ecclesia or a fundraiser, that would be great!

A small portion of the money received from fundraisers goes to the running expenses of Agape in Action, but the majority goes into funds that are used for medical needs of children in these countries or brethren and sisters. There is a lot that can be done in this area – the more funds, the more that can be done!



## Needs a Sponsor

This is 3 year old Muthama. His father died and his mother, Sis. Tabitha was deprived her 'right' by her husband's family (not in the truth) so she does not have a shamba or anything. She constructed a kilbanda on someone else's shamba and that's where she's trying to bring up the children under very difficult conditions. She looks after 6 children, one of which is an adopted orphan.