

RAINING HOPE

“And he will send showers of rain so every field becomes a lush pasture.” Zechariah 10:1

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Stateside:

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Update on Hope's Surgery

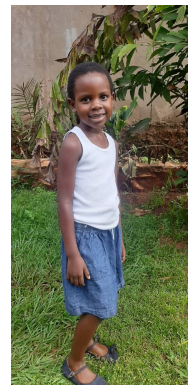


Praise the Lord! Hope's surgery was a success! Godfrey said that following the surgery it was good to see her open her eyes. Doctors said that she is very strong. She didn't shout or cry like other children when they first wake up from surgery. They are thanking God for the strength she is already exhibiting.

We were also blessed to have two doctors working on Hope. Because of the donation made to pay for her surgery in advance, it brought favor on our case. Godfrey said normally you only have one doctor yet we were blessed with two!

Irene is staying at the hospital the next three days with Hope so she is not alone. Godfrey is traveling back and forth from the hospital multiple times throughout the day. He needs to bring them food as the hospital doesn't provide meals.

THANK YOU for joining us in prayer for our precious Hope. Continue praying for her recovery and healing.





FROM MAMA KISAKYE

I recently found a devotional book called, **"Devotions for the Fall" by Stacy Edwards**. It has turned out to be a beautiful book filled with reminders of the **goodness of God in our lives**. In the forward Stacy says, "Grab some hot cocoa and enjoy!" When I write my updates on my trips to Uganda, I encourage you to "grab a cup of coffee or tea and find a nice comfy chair to settle into. Prepare to journey with me into a story of God's love for His children in a place called Raining Hope in a town called Jinja in Uganda on the continent of Africa." That first trip was almost 14 years ago. We have **countless testimonies and reasons to be thankful** for the many ways **God has blessed us**.

This year is definitely like no other. We are in an unprecedented time in history. There have been countless challenges, illnesses, losses, confusion and divisions. We are approaching the ninth month since the first worldwide lockdown. COVID-19 numbers seem to be growing instead of decreasing. Yet, there is a **comfort and peace** that comes as we put our **faith and trust in God** in these turbulent times.

One of the devotions from the book really spoke to my heart. **"Pumpkin of Thankfulness."** *"Oh, give thanks to the Lord, for He is good! For His mercy endures forever."* 1 Chronicles 16:34 "Gratitude should be a hallmark of God's people. If we were to consistently count our blessings, it would be a never-ending endeavor. Yet, too often, we **become distracted** and fail to acknowledge any of the gifts we've been given. Life becomes hectic, and countless gifts from the Father pass by us unnoticed. We **allow life to overwhelm us**, and our grumbling overshadows our gratitude.

A beautiful by-product of the fall season is the tendency to **reflect our hearts on thankfulness**. There is something about the cooler temperatures and approaching holidays that helps us refocus our hearts on what matters. We find ourselves pausing to reflect and take stock of **all that God has done in our lives**."

The author had a simple idea of creating a **pumpkin of thankfulness**. Everyday you write on a real pumpkin a blessing that God has given you. Maybe it is a person God has brought in your life or an answer to one of your prayers. Maybe it is as simple as a nice, sunny day. By Thanksgiving you should need to get another pumpkin to write those blessings on!

This year of 2020 has found each one of us facing our own unique set of challenges. "It is easy to get caught up with our trials and troubles and lose sight of our blessings. That is why we are told countless times in Scripture to remember what the Lord has done for us. You will discover that being grateful will guard our hearts against envy, bitterness, and all manner of unpleasantness in our lives. Counting our blessings reminds us of how much our heavenly Father cares for us."

The Raining Hope family is so **grateful for each one of you** for supporting us over the years in **prayer, words of encouragement, financial support and never-ending love**. God has taken care of **all our needs** this year in the midst of the world-wide pandemic. With rising food prices and shortages of food, our Raining Hope family had food on the table daily. In the midst of many illnesses, our Raining Hope family had the means to receive much needed medical attention, including the recent surgery for Hope. In the midst of the brakes on our van going out while Godfrey was driving, God protected him and no one was injured. In the midst of the lockdown, **God's Word was proclaimed** in a miraculous way through the **radio waves**. Raining Hope Ministries has continued to reach the community and the country for Christ all throughout the pandemic. This is due to **ALL OF YOU** not just this year but **throughout the 14 years** since I first stepped foot on Ugandan soil. God has used each one of you to make a difference in the Kingdom for Christ.

So this Thanksgiving, we would love if you would take a few moments and **respond to this email with a word of "Thanksgiving" for our Raining Hope family**. Instead of a pumpkin, I will take your words of Thanksgiving and share it with our family in Uganda. Will you join us in thanksgiving for all He had blessed us with in the midst of the uniqueness of 2020! You are deeply loved and appreciated!

"I will praise the name of God with a song and will magnify Him with Thanksgiving." Psalm 69:30.



In Loving Memory



Raining Hope would like to express our heartfelt sympathy to the following families at this time of loss in their families:



Heather Elkins, our Raining Hope secretary recently lost her grandfather, Glenn William Elkins, 84 of Oklahoma City. Mr. Elkins passed on October 19, 2020 due to complications of COVID-19. He married his high school sweetheart, Helen and were married 65 years until her passing in March 2020 of natural causes. Heather was able to arrive in Oklahoma before his passing. However, because of COVID-19 restrictions she was not able to see her grandfather but was there with the family. Our condolences and prayers are being extended tenderly to Karma & Ken Elkins (Heather's parents), Heather & her sister, Michelle, and all the extended family. You can find the full obituary honoring the life of Glenn Elkins at <https://www.mercer-adams.com/obituary/glenn-elkins>

Godfrey's wife, Irene lost her brother, Emmanuel who passed away on October 31, 2020. He lived only about 15 minutes from our house. There was a medical team that carried out the burial on November 2, 2020 because they determined he died of COVID-19. They only allow one witness to be present, fully protected in order to be sure that it is the right person being buried. The family has to watch from a distance. Please pray for Irene and the family at this time of loss .



We also received news an old friend of ours, **Annette** passed on November 11, 2020. We knew Annette from the days we lived in our first home in Wayange. She hosted the mission's events when we had partnered together with Cornerstone Church in Kakira at her school called Mr. Ararat. Her passing was due to lung failure and possible poisoning.

HEALTH PRAYER REQUESTS



Young Joanne

1. Pray for Godfrey's step-mom who lives in Kakira. She has been sick for quite some time. She is HIV positive and currently is paralyzed.
2. Pray for young Joanne who has a bacterial infection and Typhoid. She is now on a month treatment plan. She was in pretty bad shape this week.
3. Pray for older Joan who is going to have a root canal next week.



Oder Joan

PRAYER REQUESTS

Update:

1. **FOOD SUPPLY** - This is still a huge issue. **The prices are still very high which has increased our monthly budget.** For the last eight months we have been able to send Godfrey the **full budget at the beginning of each month** due to the generosity of all our supporters. Godfrey has said this has relieved so much pressure especially during the challenges of COVID. Pray for the **budget needs** that we will be able to continue sending the full amount at the start of the month.

Because of rising COVID cases and deaths they are facing a **possible lockdown**. Pray we will be prepared as this will affect the food supply.

2. **RADIO MINISTRY** - The radio ministry continues to have a **huge impact** on the local community and the nation. Through the gifts from three generous donors we have been able to cover the local radio program fees **through November 2020**. Continue to pray for the **monthly \$135 airtime fee for the local program . The National Radio program is at no charge.**

3. **SEWING PROJECT** - Now that we have the sewing machines, they have begun making some of their clothing. They are in need of **purchasing material** for their projects.

4. **COMPLIANCE** - COVID-19 also stopped the process of our coming under compliance to receive our official license. Please be in prayer for the needed funds to finish projects and pay fees.

5. **SCHOOL FEES** - Pray for the necessary school fee balance/boarding for the final third term of 2020.

6. **PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS** - Uganda will hold their presidential elections in January 2021. Pray as there has been a lot of civil unrest. Recently a presidential candidate was arrested because he was encouraging people to ignore the COVID-19 restrictions. People were injured and some killed in the incident. He was placed in the police station nearby us which was a little too close to home. Please join in prayer for their nation as they approach the elections in January 2021.

RADIO MINISTRY PRAISE REPORT

Thank you for your continued support of our radio ministry. We have seen God reach out to people in many ways. This period of Presidential elections in Uganda has been a major point of prayer.

Godfrey gave the following testimony of a gentleman who sent this message after he heard the radio program:

"Praise God Pastor. Thanks for the ministry and work of God. I had lost my job, my business and mostly my property to a debt. When you asked to pray with me through the radio, I believed God and prayed with you.

God has been so faithful to me since then. I was called back to my job, have paid part of my debt and now my life is getting better and better each day. Thank you for standing with me in prayers. I love God more than before. He is indeed a good God."

*"Trust in the Lord with all your heart,
And lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways
acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths"*
Proverbs 3:5-6 (NKJV)

HOW TO MAKE A DONATION

CHECKS: Mark your check with the area you would like the funds to go to such as SCHOOL FEES etc. or BUDGET and send to our stateside office. If multiple donations come in for a specific need, funds will be placed in the budget to cover the needs. If there is no designation it will go in budget to use at our discretion.

CREDIT CARD: You can also make credit card donations on our website - www.rainingshope.org.

TEXT TO GIVE: If you would like to send a text to give to Raining Hope by credit card, just send a text to 844-544-7171 and text RAININGHOPE. Follow the prompts and you will receive a receipt! **Text to Give has no additional charges.**

If you have any questions about ways to give, please contact Carol John - 805-377-7387

All donations are tax deductible. Raining Hope Incorporated is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization.

IMPORTANT UPDATE;
During COVID-19 virus restrictions and "shelter in place" orders in California, we requested checks be sent directly to our treasurer, Carol John to deposit. The mail sent to our office is harder to retrieve when the front office is not occupied.

**Carol John - 11832 Quince Mill Drive
North Potomac, MD 20878**

You can continue sending mail to her address or redirect back to the Raining Hope offices in Ventura.

COVID-19 PRAYER CONCERNS UPDATE - NOV 15, 2020

1. **In Uganda there are now 15,789 confirmed cases, 8038 recoveries, 144 deaths.**
2. Gatherings are allowed up to 200 people with standard operating procedures in place.
3. **Curfew** from 9:00 pm to 6:00 am will be maintained but boda boda movements must always end at 6:00 pm.
4. **Bars** shall remain closed.
5. **Hotels** will continue operating following the standard operating procedures agreed with the Ministry of Health.
6. **Restaurants** should continue to emphasize takeaways. Indoor dining services should be minimized and follow the standard operating procedures.
7. **Mass gatherings** are still prohibited.

GUIDELINES FOR OPENING OF PLACES OF WORSHIP

8. Prayers and fellowships **can not exceed 70 people** and have a detailed list of standard operating procedures which includes social distancing, masks, washing stations, sanitizers, and temperature checks.

Because of the limit of 70 people in one service, Godfrey decided to start with one service on Sunday and one on Friday night. With a pending lockdown, the **radio ministry continues to be the main avenue of church ministry.** Godfrey preaches on radio the hour before Sunday service at the home and one hour Sunday evening.

Because of the strict restrictions, the children’s ministry is still not yet able to gather. The radio ministry is vital to reach parents with children who won’t be able to attend as well as the more vulnerable such as the elderly. Godfrey’s decision to have one of the services on Friday night is to not wear the ministry team out by having three to four services on Sunday.



ANNUAL TAMALE FUNDRAISER

Unfortunately, with all that is going on in the world this year, we will **not be able to host the Annual Tamale Fundraiser.** With the state of California returning the “Purple Level” we decided not to hold the event which normally includes a time of fellowship, worship and open house to pick up tamales and browse the Christmas craft boutique.

We are putting our creative hats on and praying about safe alternatives for a virtual fundraiser for this year. Stay tuned for the December newsletter for ways you can pray!



Thank you so much for those who support us with Amazon Smile! For those that may not know, if you shop on Amazon Smile, you can support Raining Hope as one of the charities!

AmazonSmile is a website operated by Amazon with the same products, prices and shopping features as **amazon.com**. The difference is that when you shop on AmazonSmile, the Amazon Smile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to the charitable organization of your choice. Start at **smile.amazon.com** to support Raining Hope Incorporated. It will give you an option to look up your charity. Type in “Raining Hope Incorporated” and our organization in Ventura will pop up! Each time you order, the children at Raining Hope will benefit!

For more questions about the AmazonSmile program you can go to **smile.amazon.com**. There is a full page of information about their program.

This is another way the Lord is providing to meet the needs of the children!