RAININGHOPE

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

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Raining Hope "Virtual" Golf Classic

For the past two years, the **Raining Hope Golf Classic** has been a huge success in raising funds for Raining
Hope Ministries. The first year we had 40 golfers. The word spread and the

second year increased to 58 golfers. We raised awareness and funds for the needs of the children of Raining Hope in Uganda. God provided through your generous participation making both years a resounding success.

In addition to the golf, there were contests, raffles and auctions. The total profit last year was close to \$7,500! Last year, through the generosity of supporters, school fees were paid for all of our children. Joan recently graduated from cosmetology school. Jonathan & Jesca are in nursing school. Sylvia just started broadcasting school. We took care of all medical needs including surgery for two students and one staff member. We set up a nursing station and official office at the house to complete the requirements to register as a Community Based Organization.

Last fall, the countries of Africa suffered from severe drought conditions. This led to widespread famine in the East African countries for the first time since 1944. There have been other famines such as in Ethiopia since that time. But this is the first time since I have been involved that it affected our area in Uganda. (continued on page 2)

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Raining Hope "Virtual Golf Classic" (cont. from page 1)

Through the generosity of our donors, our children remained fed. We were mainly affected by the rising cost of food. **But our children wanted to help others.** At Christmas, we were able to provide food for 28 families. These were families of our children plus our neighbors. We also had a meal at our home to celebrate Christmas. Those who joined us that Sunday morning for worship were also treated to a Christmas feast.

These are just a few ways that God is changing the world by changing the lives of the Raining Hope kids. As you have invested in their lives, they are now investing their lives to help others. **Raining Hope has become a Beacon of Light to the neighboring community.** On Sunday mornings we have an average of over 120 people joining us for praise and worship services. On Friday nights there are over 60 people who come for Bible study.

One of the greatest successes for me the past two years with the Raining Hope Golf Classic were **the relationships built and the communication of the Raining Hope story and vision.** We were looking forward seeing you again at our **3rd Annual event. Unfortunately, due to time constraints of the golf tournament organizers, we were not able to hold the Golf Classic this year.** The timing of the Raining Hope Golf Classic has helped us cover the costs of school fees which are currently due. The second term is approximately \$3885.

I am not a golfer. So I went online to check out some "golf lingo." I discovered that a "Ranger" is the golf course staff member who provides player assistance on the golf course and who is responsible for keeping the overall pace of play. So even though we are not physically at the San Dimas Canyon Golf Course this year, I want to **maintain the pace** of play!

Last year, registration for an individual was \$125-\$150 depending on when you signed up. If you would consider participating in this "virtual golf tournament" we can keep the ball in play. Your donation would be a "hole-in-one" or an ace and a win for the kids of Raining Hope.

Some chose to also become **Tee Box Sponsors** for \$100 adding their name or company to a tee sign. That would be like scoring a **"birdie"** or one less than par.

Others contributed during the auction and raffle winning tremendous gifts! Think of that as scoring an "eagle" or two under par!

I learned that an "albatross or double eagle was a score of three less than par – as you can imagine, a very rare occurrence!" The sky is the limit!

Here is your chance to score that hole-in-one, birdie, eagle or even an albatross!

We already have our **first golfer who scored an albatross this week!** This year will you join us in a unique way to help the children of Raining Hope Uganda? If you would like to "register" and "play" you can send a check to our stateside office, make a credit card donation on our website, or contact Carol John at 805-377-7387 or <u>carol@raininghope.org</u>. You are part of something different. Each of our children have a story to tell. We look forward to launching each one into their careers. Your support helps them to get one step closer to their dreams. They are a Beacon of Hope in the community, changing lives one person at a time.

Let's stay in the "zone" and play well.

"Ranger" Mama Eydie Kisakye



Mission Week Strategy

May 8-14. 2017: We had one week of prayer and preparation which ended well and empowered our children.

May 15-17, 2017: Reaching the community around us preaching the gospel. In these three days we had 77 encounters, 38 people gave their lives to Christ and 15 renewed their relationship with Christ! All were invited to join us for Love Sunday. I was glad in the spirit to see even the most fearful reach out to the lost. To me that was a breakthrough. Nothing was as interesting to me as to watch our children speak to people about the love of Christ and share their testimonies.

May 18-19, 2017: Follow up for those who gave their lives to Jesus. We were able to follow up with 20 people. Eleven of those came to our Bible study on Friday night. Many others promised to attend Love Sunday.

May 20, 2017: We committed this Saturday to pray for those who gave their lives to Christ and for those who we found with problems during the outreach. We also prayed in preparation for Love Sunday.

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LOVE SUNDAY UPDATE

May 21, 2017 - We had a great Love Sunday worship. After gathering the day's data, we had in total 227 in attendance including our children and the children Sunday school. We had one person come to Christ, 5 recommit their lives to Christ. There is a newly elected leader who came in attendance and thanked God for the ministry and all the Lord is doing. Rebecca (a friend of Raining Hope who owns a local petrol station) came by as well. She said what she was told is not compared to what she has seen. Most of the people that were reached during the mission's week turned up for Sunday Love Service. In summary therefore, we had 187 adults and 40 children in the Sunday school. Our choir ministered in a praise and worship songs and also sung two special songs. Hillary was on program as usual interpreted by Sylvia. Here are just a few testimonies

Emma and Claire: We came at the Raining Hope Ministries when our marriage was almost failing. When we stepped here, the first thing that welcomed us was the love and life that was in this place. We felt love like never before and we realized that this is the place the Lord wants to help us from. We experienced worship that comes from the throne grace of God using these young boys and girls. When it came to the Word, we felt God speak to us. Through the sessions we had with you (Godfrey) our marriage is back to life. During the Love Sunday, we felt the union of the family like we never found anywhere else. The reasons we come back on Sundays is because we enjoy the fellowship and the love at the ministry premises. We would therefore want to thank God for His mercy and goodness.

Betty: I want to thank the grace of our Lord that enabled us to reach the unreached with the gospel of our Lord Jesus during the Mission's Week. I was praying to God to connect me with my daughter who had disappeared for a period of time. I left her while she was very young because of what I was going through. I was praying for this particular situation that I may happen to see my daughter again. On Saturday before the Love Sunday, she came to me while I was at work and called me Mum. I turned and thought she wanted to buy food spices then she called "Mum, I am your daughter Jane, I have been looking for you." I couldn't believe when I realized that she was my daughter that I was praying to see some day. It was so emotional and I realized that God answered my prayers during the Mission Week. That is the girl I presented to the church on the Love Sunday. She is answered prayer just as the Lord said He will teach to pray this year. I am seeing answered prayers to the faithfulness of the Lord through this ministry. (continued on page 3)



Happy Birthday

Raining Hope Ministries would like to wish Mr.
Abraham Ng a Happy
70th Birthday! A special donation was made in honor of this exciting occasion by a dear friend.
Happy Birthday, Mr. Ng!

Pray for continued renovation

- 1. New Roof \$4974
- 2. Electrical repairs \$366
- 3. Plumbing \$1318
- 4. Rain Water Harvest Tank -
- \$1,068 5. Painting Boy's Quarters -
- \$1,026 6. Painting Main House Waiting on estimate
- 7. Guitars \$535 (These are on loan from the crusade. The shop owner is allowing us to make payments on the guitars so we can keep using them.

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One more testimony from Love Sunday: (cont. from page 2)

Brenda: When I came here, I was a short tempered person. I had spent time without going to church because I thought that as well cannot help. My brother kept telling me about the Raining Hope Ministries. Love Sunday is my first Sunday to attend church after many years. Part of this is because of the nature of my job that kept me working even during Sundays. My children who worship here compelled me to come. As I entered the gate, I felt the love of God welcome me. I had taken a while without finding true Love but God just did it for me when I stepped in this place. I was encouraged by the message and the worship team. Pray for me that as I approach my bosses, they will at least allow me to have Sunday worship here.

These are some of the testimonies of what the Lord is doing in the lives of people here. Thank you all for your prayers and your support! We appreciate your prayers during Mission's Week & Love Sunday!

Pastor Godfrey & Raining Hope

"We are going DEEP not WIDE in a Movement going in the RIGHT direction living with highest integrity!" Thank you for joining us with your prayers & support!

Mama Eydie Kisakye

Important Farming Update:

Everything is different in Africa is an understatement. We were all set to move ahead with plans to do improvements on the farm land across Lake Victoria. But complications arose which made it impossible to move ahead with our plans. We are now moving in a new direction. We made a decision to sell the land and seek other land that is closer to the house. This will help us to move ahead toward becoming self-sustaining.

Please keep praying for God to direct and provide as He works out all of the details.