

RAINING HOPE

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

Inside this edition:

Raining Hope Radio Ministry

Radio Testimonies

COVID-19 Updates

Floods, Locusts & Floating Islands

Stateside:

Raining Hope Inc.

c/o Poinsettia Pavilion
3451 Foothill Road #206
Ventura, CA 93003

Eydie Miskel

Executive Director

805-340-7612
eydie@raininghope.org

Carol John - Treasurer

805-377-7387
carol@raininghope.org

Heather Elkins - Secretary

805-766-4087
heather@raininghope.org



A Message from Raining Hope

For most of us it has been over three months since we entered into a lockdown situation. We are humbled that you have gone **above and beyond** to meet our basic needs. You have supported us financially so we have **food to eat**. You have **prayed for us which has given us strength**.

Because of your prayers and support, we were able to send the budget for the **whole month of June** at the beginning of the month! This act of love means more than we can fully express. Godfrey said,

“Having budget money all at once earlier in the month has allowed us to stay safely inside.” He only has to go out for emergencies, pay bills that he can’t pay online and purchase food. Godfrey expresses his thanks for standing with them to stay safe in such a trying moment.

Our regular monthly budget is approximately \$1,700. **Things continue to increase daily and will continue to affect our overall budget.** On page 4 you will see other issues that are effecting the rising cost of food and **possible food shortage**. Godfrey and the family remain overwhelmed with the outpouring of support and love. There is a great amount of uncertainty in the months ahead. We appreciate your continued prayers that our rising budget needs will be met.

We are grateful for the sacrifices you continue to make to not only help our Raining Hope family but also those in your own communities.

The Raining Hope family is safe and healthy. They continue to stay within the compound even though some quarantine restrictions are slowly being lifted. Godfrey said some people are not being as careful and COVID-19 numbers are rising. So we will continue to proceed with caution until things are safer.

Inside you will read amazing testimonies of how God is using the radio ministry in powerful ways. One of the reasons Godfrey believes people are drawn to our radio ministry is he **doesn’t ask for any type of donations while on the air**. Prosperity gospel preaching and false prophets are on the rise. They all ask for people to call in and give them money to stay on the air. **We are standing out as different**. Even the radio station asks Godfrey why he never asks for donations. Godfrey has replied multiple times that we are on the air for people to join in and just listen about GOD. He has been told his preaching is **OUTSTANDING -SHARING TRUTH FROM GOD’S WORD**. This is causing people to stop and listen. God is so good. To Him be all the glory.



RAINING HOPE RADIO MINISTRIES

Raining Hope Radio Ministry is continuing to touch lives in amazing ways! As America starts to lift the quarantine and churches are slowly opening their doors to attend services in person, Uganda is still locked down to public gatherings which **includes church gatherings**. With all the restrictions to re-open, we may not be able to conduct services at the compound until late fall. **This will be a long term issue.**

Raining Hope Ministries began to minister and proclaim the Word of God by radio to those in our **church and surrounding community** who are in need of a **strong message of HOPE**. This has turned out to be a valuable and necessary resource.

The Sunday radio program is beginning to **reach far and wide**. Due to two generous donations, we continue to have 40 minutes every Sunday morning and 1 hour on Sunday nights! Praise the Lord!

Raining Hope Ministries is fighting the issue of hunger, loss, struggles and uncertainty by **FEEDING PEOPLE HOPE through the RADIO MINISTRY**.

More pastors are calling in to thank Raining Hope for having the program on the air. Most churches have no way to have a radio program or reach their members with weekly teaching and preaching. **More churches are directing their church members to listen to our radio program**. The radio station receives calls each week with testimonies of healing both physically and spiritually as the Good News of Jesus Christ is being proclaimed.

Here are just a few of the recent testimonies from listeners who have been strengthened through this program:

1. There is a particular man named James who lives 3 hours away from Jinja. He called after listening to the radio program and prayed with us the following day. He said that he had a tumor on his back for a long time. He couldn't work because of the tumor. After praying for him the man said his tumor was healed. He felt no pain and was able to resume his farming work. God is good.
2. Godfrey received a call from a man named Deogratious. He lives on one of the islands on Lake Victoria called Buvuumu. He said they are depending on the Raining Hope Sunday Radio Ministry for worship and the Word. Many people on the island have been encouraged. He would like to have us hold a **gospel crusade and possibly open a church** there when public gatherings are finally allowed. This was a great encouragement to Godfrey!
3. There is a pastor called Andrew from a village an hour away from Jinja. He is so thankful for the radio ministry. He said he was spiritually low and discouraged most especially concerning his flock. He didn't know what station to turn to to hear the Word of God most especially at this time because there are many false teachers and false prophets. He depended on God to guide him how to proceed as a pastor. One day he tuned to our program on the radio and waited for a few minutes before he turned to another station as he normally does. To his surprise, he felt the peace of God as he was listening to me (Godfrey) preach so he decided to keep on. He says since then he has been **following our program weekly**. According to Pastor Andrew, he has been encouraged so much that he also **referred his congregation to follow our program**. In his words he says that he didn't know what to do with his congregation in this lock down. Through the radio ministry he has regained strength and he follows every single Sunday as we minister to the people of God. He said he was thankful for how God is using the teaching to encourage him and his entire church. This testimony was so encouraging to me and gave me strength as well to keep on reaching out to the community.
4. There is a man called Nathan from Kamuli which is about one hour away. He has been having physical issues and bad dreams that manifested into spiritual attacks. This has been going on for awhile. He said he went to the hospital and they could find nothing wrong with him. The family gave up on him because he refused to go to shrines to visit witch doctors. Through the preaching and prayers of the radio ministry, God touched him and he is now healed and doing well. We are thankful to God for all he is doing in the lives of His people.



RAINING HOPE RADIO MINISTRIES



On May 31, 2020, Godfrey preached a message on the topic of “**Why We Need a Savior**.” It was powerful. Many tuned in needing understanding and hope. Godfrey pointed people to the answer in the midst of the storm ... **JESUS!**

“When you look at the world around us, we can’t help but ask what we can do to be the solution in the world. My mind was disturbed with what I watched happening on the news. The outcry against racism and justice was overwhelming. I had a sleepless night waiting to hear from God so I could share with His people.

Godfrey shared four points as a result of his listening all night to God. It was a clear gospel presentation of how we all have sinned (Romans 3:10-19, 23) and need a Savior. Whatever we struggle with, **Jesus is the only remedy**. The only power to stop such evils that we continue to witness around the globe is in fully accepting Christ Jesus to enter your heart, to be both Lord and Savior of our lives.

Continue to pray for our Raining Hope family as God has been preparing them for the past 13 years to be ready to minister at such a time as this. They are sharing the gospel of Christ to a world that needs HOPE. (Matthew 28:16:20). They are being used in a powerful way. We are so proud of our precious family as they continue to be SALT & LIGHT to a hurting world.



Henry, Joan, Sylvia, Godfrey

Raining Hope’s Heart ... People Need the Lord.

As I was putting together this newsletter, an overwhelming thought kept going through my head and heart...People Need the Lord.



A homestead submerged in water.
Photo by Hudson Apunyo - New



A man attempts to fend off a swarm of desert locusts at a ranch near the town of Nanyuki, in Laikipia county, Kenya / BBC News

Do you remember the song, “People Need the Lord” by Steve Green? It has a timely message. I have included the link performed by the group Avalon from YouTube. With all that is going on in the world, the answer IS Jesus. People do need the Lord. <https://youtu.be/KrLj28nv98Q>

“Everyday they pass me by. I can see it in their eyes. Empty people filled with care headed who knows where.

On they go through private pain, living fear to fear. Laughter hides their silent cries, only Jesus hears.

People need the Lord. People need the Lord. At the end of broken dreams, He’s the open door.

People need the Lord. People need the Lord. When will we realize, people need the Lord?

We are called to take His light to a world where wrong seems right. What could be too great a cost for sharing life with one who’s lost? Through His love our hearts can feel all the grief they bear. They must hear the words of life, only we can share.

... When we realize that we must give our lives? For people need the Lord, people need the Lord.”

God is using our Raining Hope family to help people in a very challenging time. **Our focus is PRAYER. Our focus is making Him known. This is our heart.**

FLOODING

Uganda has received **unprecedented rainfall** steadily since March 2020. The reports of **flooding** throughout the country has been destructive. Many villages, roads and homes in low lying areas have been submerged underwater leaving thousands homeless. Many of the people affected have tried to relocate to higher ground. They are experiencing lack of food, water and shelter.

Godfrey says Lake Victoria is like a basin and has one outlet which is the Nile River. In an article in "The Independent" newspaper dated May 13, 2020, they stated the government is battling to **save the three hydropower dams on the Nile River and Jinja**; the Kiira, Nalubaale, and Bujagali which produce most of the country's electricity." We live next to the Jinja Dam.

They have opened more flood gates to release the unprecedented amount of flood water. But this threatens more flooding downstream on the banks of the Nile River and shores of Lakes Kyoga (about 50 miles away).

FLOATING ISLANDS

This was hard for me to imagine when Godfrey told me islands were moving in Lake Victoria. But the rising water and flooding is actually causing **FLOATING LAND MASSES like islands** to break away and move across the lake! The first land mass he reported was 4 acres wide and moved all the way to the mouth of the dam! The second one landed in a fishing village nearby where we have stopped on the way to the land we used to own. That land mass is 6 acres wide!

The government currently is providing machinery to stop the island masses from moving towards the dam. They are also trying to break up and move the floating debris.

It reminded me of these verses:

"Truly I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, 'Be taken up and cast into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that what he says is going to happen, it will be granted him." (Mark 11:23)

"And He said to them, 'Because of the littleness of your faith; for truly I say to you, if you have the faith the size of a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there, and it will move; and nothing will be impossible to you,'" (Matthew 17:20)

Mountains are physically moving. Something that I thought was impossible is literally happening. It is showing me the truth in these familiar verses that **NOTHING is IMPOSSIBLE to HIM. NOTHING! Amen!**

ENTEBBE ZOO

The Entebbe Zoo (Uganda Wildlife Education Center) was also underwater from the flooding and overflow of Lake Victoria. This is where we had the field trip to the zoo a few years ago and had many of our children baptized in Lake Victoria.

They are trying to keep the wildlife safe. If the water levels don't come down, the situation will worsen. The zoo was already facing a financial crisis being shut down due to COVID-19. They had run out of cash and over 250 animals were facing the possibility of starvation due to lack of food.

DESERT LOCUSTS

If that were not enough...

Since January 2020, Kenya has experienced its **worse locust invasion in 70 years**. As the pests continue to multiply and East Africa moves further into its growing season, when crops are particularly vulnerable, experts are concerned the infestation could push up to 25 million East Africans into hunger." *National Geographic*

Godfrey said the destructive locusts have begun migrating into Uganda. According to the government, there is an expectation of a **BILLION locusts invading Uganda** because of the eggs that are hatching in Kenya. The Ugandan Army is spraying rounds of locusts with pesticides in 26 districts of Uganda. We believe God will overcome them and we need your prayers to defeat this locust army. If they reach our region, Godfrey said it will be disastrous. **The locusts are so destructive and very quickly there could be a food SHORTAGE in the country.**

PRAYER

The reason we share...

"Uganda is at a critical stage as they continue to battle desert locusts, COVID-19 and floods, which have posed an unprecedented threat to food security and livelihood across the country." (New Vision)

We need continuous prayers for Uganda for all they are facing. We are reminded of Joseph who in Genesis 41:46-57 prepared for seven years of famine by storing up grain. We continue to watch and pray for what we are to do especially if the locusts enter our region and the flooding continues.

You can see by this edition what the Ugandan people are dealing with that goes beyond just COVID-19. This confirms our call to reach the people with **HOPE** through the **RADIO MINISTRY**. God is touching lives and healing hearts. Worship and the Word are bringing HOPE to a country that desperately needs Him. Please join us in praying for these precious lives.

COVID-19 PRAYER CONCERNS UPDATE - JUNE 15, 2020

1. **In Uganda there are now 665 confirmed cases, 119 recoveries.** There are **no deaths**. Cases have **gone higher as the restrictions have eased**. Many are starting to **abandon protective measure as they are tired of following the rules**. In the Presidential address he states that they are headed for great danger if people don't behave. He spoke against those who are no longer taking the virus seriously. If cases go high, the government and health care may be overwhelmed leading to many corona related deaths. If numbers increase they may reinstate the quarantine.

The good news is Jinja has no confirmed cases because **people are trying to observe preventive measures**. They also had locked down the entrance into Jinja not allowing passage over the Jinja Bridge. **Godfrey asks for prayer** as the country doesn't know what lies ahead.
2. **The quarantine** has been lifted but "lockdown" continues until June 28th. The lockdown includes schools, churches, salons, bars, games, parties and all public gatherings. As a family, Godfrey made the decision to **continuing to remain in the compound to stay safe**.
3. **Curfew has been extended to June 28th.** Curfew is no movement on the streets from 7 pm to 6:30 am the next day.
4. **Public means of transportation have begun to function.** Taxi vans must be at half normal capacity and riders must wear masks. This has increased transport fare as passengers are charged double. Boda boda's are still out of service.
5. **Food markets are opened. Some general merchandise stores are allowed to re-open.**
6. **Private vehicles** can operate with no more than three people in a car.
7. **No one is allowed in public without masks** or they will be arrested. The government is going to provide **reusable face masks**. After the mass distribution of the masks lockdown will be eased slowly. If the masks are not ready the lockdown may be extended.

NATIONWIDE POWER BLACKOUT

Today, June 21st, Godfrey informed me that there was a **nationwide blackout** due to an electrical surge. They are still trying to determine the cause but the results were disastrous. Many people in our neighborhood lost freezers, refrigerators, TV's, phones and more. Due to Godfrey's quick thinking, they were able to immediately turn off the main electrical switch. We lost two phone chargers, one dvd player, WIFI connecter, light bulbs, keyboard adaptor and a few other items. We are praising God because our losses were minor. Godfrey was thankful there were no fires but was ready with the fire extinguisher!

There was a similar nationwide blackout on May 9th that lasted three days. They are being encouraged to purchase surge guards (surge protectors) for the house. Cost will be approximately \$95 to purchase five. This will cover the major appliances and electrical equipment. They also need two stabilizers which are for the extension cords and PA system. The cost for two is approximately \$80.

The radio station used generators so Godfrey could still go on the air this evening! The power came back on sometime after 9 pm. Continue to pray as this confirms our need to stay prepared.

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;

Due to the COVID-19 virus restrictions and recent "shelter in place" orders in California, we are requesting checks be sent directly to our treasurer, Carol John to deposit. The mail sent to our office is hard to retrieve when the front office is not occupied. It is completely safe to send it to Carol John's address. She takes care of all our banking issues.

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