



The Shepherd's Tale



A newsletter of Shepherd's Heart International Ministry (SHIM)

July/August 2012

VISITORS



EDGE Project members share smiles with some of their Lingira Island friends before heading back to the U.S. after their five-week stay on the island in May-June.

There is no doubt to how much I've grown to be a part of this place - the red concrete floors of SHIM, which seem always to provide rest for calloused feet, the subtle comfort of the Smith's residence just beyond the hedge, the familiar neighborhoods of Kyoya, Lingira, and Katonga villages, and the mountain that has provided many silent sunrises. Despite how much I will miss these particulars, which have become something like daily comforts, the emptiness of their absence compare little to the soon absence of the people I have met in the month that I've lived in Uganda. I am certain that I speak for everyone in confessing my obsession with a haunting question...when will I see these people again?"

These thoughts were penned by Eric Obschering, a member of the eight-person team that represented the Wisconsin EDGE Project this summer for its fourth consecutive year on Lingira Island. A student-led organization at the University of Wisconsin, EDGE works to "empower students and the communities they work with around the world."

Picking up what previous EDGE teams had begun and spearheading new ventures, this year's group installed a pedal-powered water pump at Lingira Living Hope's school garden (started by EDGE in 2011), spruced up the active garden and its paths, worked tirelessly to perfect and introduce a new ceramic pot filter water project to benefit islanders, reinvigorated the local girls' football clubs, taught and interacted with students at both the Lingira Primary and Lingira Living Hope Secondary schools, including presenting interactive first-aid workshops for the secondary students, hosted Jinja-based WORI (Women's Rights Initiative) for two school presentations/trainings, served as first-responders for at least two (one being a serious emergency) medical situations, and, most importantly, cultivated a number of deep and lasting relationships with members of SHIM and those of the island villages as reflected in Eric's words above.

SHIM thanks the EDGE Project for its important "investments" in the people and projects of Lingira Island and Uganda!



Nicknamed "Mama Watato"

("watato" is "children" in Luganda)" during her one-month stay in Uganda, Jessica Nisbet of Oregon, spent most of her time, teaching, loving, hugging and showing the love of Jesus to countless children, as well as others of the islands and of the Jinja area.

"...I truly believe my heart will always belong in Africa. God is so good and has taught me so many things while I've been here. Leaving my newfound home will be one of the hardest things I've had to do. I have fallen in love with these people, the children of Lingira Island, and the orphans at Sitta Nest. I think one of my new friends Robert (Wafula) said it best, "You go visit your village, and then come back home to us."

Photos: Jessica holding Peter and teaching in the Primary 1 class at Lingira Primary School.

CELEBRATE FREEDOM

As you celebrated American Independence Day (July 4), we hope you reflected on the countless numbers who have sacrificed in many ways so that today we can enjoy America's blessings and freedoms.

Here at SHIM we are also grateful for those who sacrificially give so we can bring the light and love of Christ to those of the islands. Topping the list is the amazing Global Outreach International (GOI) home office team. Putting it simply, we would have a very difficult time being *here* if they were not *there*. They manage mailing lists, send newsletters, collect donations, pay insurance, coordinate teams, facilitate conferences and training, and so much more – for 200+ GOI missionaries in more than 35 countries around the world.

Each year, the GOI home office holds a "Celebrate Freedom" campaign to raise its own funding for the next 12 months. Why? *Because Global does not take a penny from support received by any of its missionaries.* Amazing, huh?

While we at SHIM so appreciate each of you, our friends and family, and the prayers, gifts and encouragement you faithfully share with us, we ask that sometime in the near future, you might also support those who support us. Missions is like tug-of-war – the more folks you have on the rope, the more successfully you will likely be. And those anchoring the rope are vital to our ministry in Uganda. *Please consider a gift to the Global home office!* (See sidebar at right for GOI address information.)



...founded in early 2007, is based on Lingira Island, one of 52 islands in the Buvuma Island chain on Lake Victoria in southern Uganda.

SHIM is working for the *transformation* of hearts and lives of the islanders, through the power of God's love and His Spirit.

SHIM's ministry branches include evangelism and discipleship, family ministry, agriculture, water and sanitation, economic development, women's ministries, and child/educational development.

SHIM is under Global Outreach International.

To learn more, visit www.shimuganda.com

or e-mail shim@shimuganda.com

Shepherd's Heart International Ministry, P.O. Box 295 Jinja, Uganda

Financial Address:
Global Outreach International, P.O. Box 1, Tupelo, MS 38802
GOI Phone: 662 842-4615

GOI E-mail: go@globaloutreach.org

Send address changes to jfarris@globaloutreach.org or Global Outreach, Box 1, Tupelo, MS, 38802.



DTS GRADS EAGER TO ROCK THEIR WORLDS



"You are entering your Discipleship Training...and it will last your entire life." With this charge, three of SHIM's students completed YWAM's five-month DTS (Discipleship Training School) July 14. *Shown at left are Gloria Kisakye, David Otieno and Grace Nyadoi. (Grace and David are the youngest children of Papa & Mama O.)*

"This has changed me...driven me to God," says David, who had his former worldview challenged in DTS, especially concerning the effects of secular music on his life. Recognizing media's often damaging influence, David believes God has called him to share a similar message with Uganda's youth, including island students, and challenge them to make wise choices & live "positively."

"God can use anyone – He can even use me," says Grace. Seeing God's amazing love and divine design in the DTS, Grace moved from viewing herself as "useless" to knowing her worth and importance in Christ. She was amazed at how God used her in the outreach to lead, preach and pray for others. Soon pursuing a diploma in Child Development, Grace says young children also need to hear this message, "so they grow up knowing that they are created in God's image and He has good plans for them." *David, Grace and Gloria expressed thanks to those who supported them in this life-changing experience!*