



# The Shepherd's Tale

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

"Focusing on the Foundations..."

Summer 2011

## SHIM's "FM" Pointing Island Families to Christ

Prompted by the Holy Spirit, Papa O (Okoro) took an unusual step at the close of a recent seminar entitled, "A Christ-Like Family." Papa O invited all "married" couples to stand before the congregation. Eight couples responded amidst great cheers. When asked who had actually wedded, only one couple stepped out (not the pastor and his wife). An impromptu testimony from Mama O (Olive) challenged the pastor and wife to sanctify their marriage as an example. Then Pr. Bob Peterson prayed for God to open a way for them to wed.



Pastor Bob and Mama O

Ugandan weddings and related ceremonies are so costly that many, including those in the church, avoid the costs and choose instead to cohabitate. Pastors and church leaders are being encouraged by SHIM to set an example for their congregations by entering into the sacred and God-established covenant of marriage.

Immediately after Pr. Bob's prayer, a hand shot up. "I will give the pastor 10 crates of soda!" Another hand and then another went up from the congregation pledging money and other needed items for a wedding until the pastor excitedly announced, "God has answered my prayer! I will yet this very year be married!" The crowd cheered with excitement and joy for their leader and his wife! The islands are being transformed - one individual, one marriage, and one family at a time.

### About SHIM's Family Ministry:

Understanding that changed marriages and families are key to transforming the Buvuma Islands, Shepherd's Heart Family Ministry is focusing on the foundations.

In 2011, "Christ-Like Relationships" seminars are planned nearly every month - first for church leaders and their wives, and then to individual churches. Small group sessions and home visits in the communities also reach those outside the Christian circles.

### Namiti Healthcare Clinic

In 2010 YWAM Uganda asked us to consider reopening and managing their former health clinic on Namiti Island, which had closed due to lack of funds. We had been praying for a door into those southern islands (5 hours by boat from Jinja). Through God's gracious provision, the clinic reopened this June. "We are not just a little busy, we are very busy!" laughed Karina Camenisch, RN, who helped us open the clinic and is now working there with two Ugandan nurses.

### Equipping Island Women



Island women learning tie-dye

Helping island women see their value in their Creator's eyes, and equipping them with valuable skills are among the goals of the Women's Crafts and Economic Development ministry. Income generation for Lingira Island women has been mostly limited to drying and cooking fish or gardening. Assisting the women to discover and expand a source of sustainable income with handcraft skills is a thrust of the project.

SHIM's Amanda Taylor, Faith Nyawere and Ruth Twali share a heart to reach the women's spiritual lives through building friendships and making the most of opportunities to counsel, encourage, and ultimately point the women to Christ. "We feel this burden because of God's love for them," says Amanda.

Markets for the handcrafted items are being found on the island, the mainland, and in the U.S. Items available for purchase are: tie-dye wrap-around skirts, woven baskets, mats and bags, paper-beaded jewelry, tailored clothes, and printed aprons. Those interested are encouraged to e-mail Amanda at [alltaylor24@yahoo.com](mailto:alltaylor24@yahoo.com) for special orders and photos.

#### Needs of Women's Economic Development:

- A new treadle sewing machine (about \$100).
- Money for supplies and stipend for Ruth Twali.

Money for this project can be sent to SHIM, via Global.



...was founded in early 2007. It is based on Lingira Island, one of about 50 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, child development, water and sanitation, economic development, women's ministries, and healthcare.

**SHIM** is under Global Outreach International.



To learn more, visit [www.shimuganda.com](http://www.shimuganda.com) or e-mail [shim@shimuganda.com](mailto:shim@shimuganda.com)

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

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

**GOI E-mail:**  
[go@globaloutreach.org](mailto:go@globaloutreach.org)

#### CHANGE OF ADDRESS?

If you change addresses, please send it to: [jfarris@globaloutreach.org](mailto:jfarris@globaloutreach.org) or Global Outreach, P.O. Box 1, Tupelo, MS, 38802.

# Dreams Becoming Reality!



JOHNATHAN MICHAEL SMITH

Born May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2011

Named in honor of his Grandpas:  
John Thomas and Michael Smith.

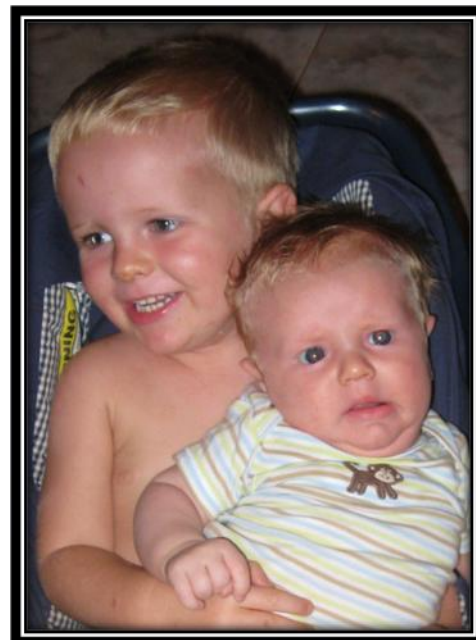
*"Our vision for you, son, is that based on who God is, and that there is none like Him in all the universe, you will accept for yourself His gracious gift of eternal life and do all you can to pass on to others this incredible gift of salvation from our amazing God. That you will use all the skills you learn, and the gifts and talents God gives you, to "build" up His bride the church, until all the world sees and knows the answer to your middle name, and experiences the truth of your 1<sup>st</sup>."*

We believe Johnathan has been crafted by God to share His great love and salvation. Yet the first month of his life was especially difficult because of health issues. As little Johnathan was in pain one day, I cried out to God, "I just don't want to see my boy suffer." He answered, "If I have called Johnathan to minister with Me, I have called him to suffer with Me."

## The Smith Family



## David & Johnathan – Best Buds...



## New Property

It was on this hill overlooking the islands that conflicting thoughts raged, "Andrew, bug off. I need to stay focused." vs "Karina, I love you and believe God has called me to join you in this work." Praise God that only the latter was spoken! Four years later, in the same month, on the same hill, God provided this property to build a small home for our growing family for when we are on mainland.

