

What's Happening at The Josiah Foundation!

December 2011

By Dave Penner, President

Year End Considerations

Ark School in Slums of Kariobongi

In June I was invited to participate at the ribbon cutting ceremony for the Ark School's new first floor building expansion. It was a great privilege for me to attend the opening ceremonies for the Ark School's new building!

The first floor contains classrooms for Grades 4-7 and has electricity and running water/plumbing (something the old school rooms do not have). The 2nd floor of the expansion project is currently nearing completion with about \$13,000 still needed. The structure has been built to potentially accommodate yet a third floor in the future.



It's amazing to think that back in 2009, when I first visited the Ark School, the enrollment was around 110-120 students (in addition to adults who receive literacy training in the evenings) and all the students were crammed into the five classrooms with no electricity or running water. Now there are over 200 students with room to grow. This Christian school's impact is profoundly beyond anything I can calculate in terms of giving hope to the hopeless both in this life and in the one to come.

Please consider a year end donation to help meet the Ark School's needs

Immediate Need: \$13,000 for final costs associated with completion of the 2nd floor of the school building .

Ongoing Need: \$1,000 per month needed for school staff salaries – the school has a significant need for help to pay their valuable staff of teachers and administrators.



“...your Father in heaven is not willing that any of these little ones should perish.”



School staff members. School founders & administrators Benard & Bentina in front



Tomorrow's leaders

Note: although the Ark School is generally said to be in Kariobongi, it actually is located in a tiny slum named Kia Miko that is located adjacent to Kariobongi. Kariobongi is a large and well known slum, and so is generally used as the location for the school.

Transformation in the slums of Kwa Njenga

In June I had the joy of once again ministering together with Pastor Jeremiah Openda and his wife Carol, pastors of the Kingdom Life Ministries church in the slums of Kwa Njenga. Together we visited many homes and sought to encourage these dear people as we listened to them sharing from their hearts. At Jeremiah's invitation I was able to teach from the Word during a series of evening meetings in their church in Kwa Njenga.

Our prayer to God and our efforts are to see wholistic and wholesale transformation come to the slums of Kwa Njenga. We desire to see the type of transformation that begins within the hearts of the men, women and children who live here. We desire to see hope replace hopelessness. This can only truly happen as people come to know the One who is called the Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, and Prince of Peace. Wholistic transformation requires working with leaders and requires addressing educational needs, economic needs, as well as spiritual needs.

The Lord has given us some very good relationships with pastor leaders in Nairobi. Plans are currently being developed with Pastors in Nairobi for a team from Fresh Start for All Nations (www.freshstartforallnations.org/) to come to Nairobi with me this coming July and minister to potentially hundreds of pastors/leaders in addressing the deep needs of the

heart. As the pastors and leaders deal with deep wounds of their hearts, we believe they will be greatly effective in leading their people who have so much hurt and despair in their lives.



Looking down at slums of Kwa Njenga; note the open sewer and garbage everywhere



Pastor Jeremiah overlooking Kwa Njenga

**Please consider being an intercessor
for those living in the slums of Kwa Njenga**

Immediate and Long Term Need: Dedicated prayer partners who will intercede with God in asking for wholistic transformation in Kwa Njenga.

For more information about being a prayer intercessor, please contact Dave Penner at dave@josiahfoundation.com or call at 402-215-1379.

Guatemala

We didn't have a team go down to Guatemala this past year, but plans are already underway for a team to go the latter part of this coming May. Plans are to minister once again with Bethel Ministries in providing a wheelchair distribution and building a home! Our mission team will also likely engage in some other ministries, such as ministering to children in orphanages, and food distributions.

We hope to also put together at least one or two other teams to minister in Guatemala in late summer/early fall.

Oh, and check out the blog site of The Josiah Foundation full time missionary, Pat Duff (<http://www.guatemalagrandma.com/>). The Lord is reaching some incredible people through this wonderful woman as she works with children with disabilities, provides educational support for children, and assists those living in deep poverty!

Interested in being on a short term mission team to Guatemala in 2012? For more information contact Dave Penner at dave@josiahfoundation.com.

Photos from 2010 Guatemala Mission Team



Her smile was all the thanks we needed! We individually selected and fit each person's wheelchair. (Chiquimula wheelchair distribution)



Local pastor praying with one of the wheelchair recipients.



The "before" photo of Alicia's home.



At upper right, the team and Alicia's relatives in the "after" photo in front of her new home (complete with high efficiency cook stove, water filter, beds, blankets, table, chairs, dishes, towels). Alicia, the widowed mother is in the yellow top in the center. She has two young sons; one holding the ball and the other in Harmony's arms in the second row.