

# Yearend Newsletter - 2016

## Merry Christmas!

Seasons greeting to all our friends,

We have been so blessed this last year! We have seen so many of the outreaches we assist flourish with blessing from above. The reach of God's hand is seen in each of these ministries. I want to highlight a few of them to glorify our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ:



When I ask you what “community” means to you, what comes to mind? Is it where you live? How about the people you meet up with? Does it include relationships or simply acquaintances?

One of the outreaches Saved By God's Grace assists is building community with elderly grandparents who are taking care of their grandchildren. Imagine, if you can, being 80, 90 or even 100 years old and being the sole provider for 2, 3, 4 or more grandchildren. There is no food stamp program to help, no government social services to assist with rent, no local program for job assistance. These grandmothers are attempting to do what little they can to feed their grandchildren and Saved By God's Grace is stepping in to help.

Now imagine being this same grandmother and not only having a place to receive food items but also being in a place where you are loved. This group is growing not only because food is being supplied but this is a safe place for them to talk with each other. They are building community among themselves,

learning more about the Bible and God's love and their hearts are open to His love.

The program director told us they are beginning to forgive those who have harmed them in the past and through that forgiveness they are accepting the forgiveness from our Heavenly Father and loving each other.

Being part of a community is so much more than simply knowing each other, it's being accepted and loved through the circumstances of life. Knowing someone is praying for you. Feeling loved. Having someone to talk to. Being involved with others in similar circumstances. Sharing a meal and some laughter with each other.





In case you haven't noticed.....things move a bit slower in Kenya! Saved By God's Grace has been working on a chicken project (to bring a self sustaining project to the Luanda area in Kenya) for the past two years. First it was a process to actually get the land donated and titled. Then, with the continued support from the congregation from Blessed Sacrament Parish in Midland, MI, this chicken project will not only supply a much wanted commodity (eggs) but will also provide a job for some of the widows and families we work with in the area. We are now down to \$5,000 to finish, which includes:

- 2000 chicks
- feeders and drinkers for the chickens at various stages
- heat source
- brooders
- vaccinations
- startup chicken feed

You can see from this list that the amount of work has been great, but when this is done the blessings from the income for these families will be another example of the goodness of the Christian God.



[www.SavedByGodsGrace.org](http://www.SavedByGodsGrace.org) to donate on line or for more donation options.

## How fast they grow up!



You may recognize these faces...or maybe not since they are growing up so fast! These are a few of the kids we lived with for years in Kenya! They are now in their home villages living life with family and friends but through your support they continue with their education. Here's Doreen, Naomi and Mercy heading to secondary school. The first year is a big one since they also have to purchase everything they will need to live at the school.

That means mattress, bedding, toilet paper, buckets for washing clothes, washing soap (clothes and body), etc. It's a big expense and many families struggle to get school fees paid and then do not have the means to get any shopping done.

We are so proud of these young people and pray they continue to take advantage of this opportunity you have given them for their education.



How wonderful to see the youth being involved with helping their fellow neighbor. Reaching out to those without hope and extending a helping hand and the love of Jesus Christ. This is not common in Kenya. It is through the C4KK outreach team, together with Revival Worship Church, that the people they touch become doers in the name of Jesus. These youth are on location at Mwituha Primary School treating children with jiggers. Hundreds were treated this past year and with the continued help of wonderful brothers and sisters we will be able to treat hundreds more in 2017.



Daren and Ryan (pastors from Desert Breeze Community Church in Phoenix, AZ) learn first hand how much this treatment can change the lives of these children and how much work it is. There is an immediate impact on everyone. It is amazing how through the blessings of the Lord the giver receives more than the receiver.



Ever see that wet area forming on your ceiling after a heavy rain storm? That is often not a problem in Kenya because the rain comes right through the holes in the roof. It has been such a blessing to see the changes in lives we have touched by simply putting a roof on the house. When people who have never seen such unconditional love experience it they want to know how it can be. That is when the message of Jesus touches their souls and they see His love through the actions of his servants.

Nancy (holding her baby) is one success story we love to relate. Nancy successfully completed her Kenya Certificate of Secondary Examination (KCSE) in 2011. She scored a B- (a very high score). As is common in Kenya, when her certificate was delivered it was missing her picture. The officials told her she would need to pay an additional 5,000 Kenya shillings in order to correct the error (basically bribe money). Without any resource for those kinds of things she has been without hope for 5 years. It has been through the generous giving by one of our supporters she was able to process her KCSE certificate and again has hope for her future.



Nancy's family has new hope for the future once again because of help from you.

## So much to Praise God for this past year!!

Just a quick recap of some of the other ministries we participate in:



The Street boys: young boys who have no family and roam the streets. We are thankful for Damaris and her work with these boys.

Doctor Raph's clinic: here he works on a mans foot that needed to have treatment months ago. He treats patients without knowing whether he will get paid or not. We assist him as best we can. Sometimes the simplest supplies are a real treat.





The well project at Revival Worship Church in Luanda is coming along quite well...ha, pun intended! Soon not only will the church have water but the surrounding community will have access to clean water as well.

This project is still short \$1000 to complete.



## What an ending to 2016!

I'm not sure how many of you had heard, but Chuck had a heart attack on December 4. He had to have emergency bypass surgery and had 5 by passes performed! Thank God he pulled through and is now at home recovering. We've been told it will be a slow recovery but we are trusting God to walk with us each and every step. We appreciate your prayers for his recovery.

## Year End Giving opportunities

Because of your support and donations much has been accomplished here in Kenya. Jiggers are being treated in young and old alike. Children are back in school because school fees have been paid. Grandmothers are receiving a hot meal, spiritual guidance and food to take home. Students have new uniforms rather than tattered rags. Widows are getting new roofs for their homes (no longer fearing the rain coming in through the rusted out roof). Orphans are sleeping on a bed for the first time in their lives. Victims of AIDS/HIV are receiving medication and food items. And so much more!

Also, through your support our team members are touching lives and showing them Christ's love. Villagers are seeing the hand of God working in those around them and some are coming to accept the life giving sacrifice of Jesus Christ.

**A quick reminder: all donations must be received by December 31 to be a 2016 tax donation.**

Specific funding opportunities include:

- 1) Getting kids back into school - \$5,000
- 2) Chicken project - \$5,000
- 3) Helping an 8th grade girl who was gang raped and will be delivering soon. \$1,000 would help us with the hospital costs and food.
- 4) Well project at Revival Worship Church in Luanda, Kenya - \$1,000
- 5) Monthly donors to increase the support to our outreaches in Kenya.

**[www.SavedByGodsGrace.org](http://www.SavedByGodsGrace.org) to donate online or for more donation options.**

# A huge "THANK YOU" and Merry Christmas to all!!