

Greetings partners and friends! We thank all of you who followed our 2016 activities in Rwanda on Facebook and we appreciate your encouraging words! Here is a brief recap of what God has been doing in central Africa.

Jesus is the Reason

Upon our arrival in Rwanda last December, we were quickly making plans to bless the children and mothers at the Elim Home, a safe place to live for children whose mothers have HIV/AIDS. Christmas gift bags for the children have become a joyful tradition for us, delighting the children. Thanks to friends in Tulsa, the mothers also each received a Jesus scarf and a bag. Another couple in Oklahoma gave an amazing gift of providing breakfasts and lunches for an entire year with a more nutritious diet that includes meat, milk, and fruits.



The Sweetness of Jesus

From the beginning of our work in Rwanda, God gave us the plan of using candies to "catch little fish." Jesus teaches we are to be "fishers of men," and the Bible tells us how He loved the opportunity to minister to children. The children we encounter remind us that Jesus encourages people of every age to have a sincere, trusting and uncomplicated faith in Him. Wherever we go, we take candies with us; these small treats are not common, especially in rural areas. God uses simple lollipops to open a door to tell these little ones – and often the adults who may be with them – about the heavenly Father and his Son, Jesus.



Ministry Visits from the US

We were blessed to host Pastor Paul Daugherty and Pastor Rod Baker when they brought the Victory Missions team to Rwanda in June. During a visit to one of the refugee camps, thousands heard the Good News preached and made decisions to receive Jesus! We were also able to bless 1,800 refugee families with a solar light.

The Victory team ministered at many public schools where they shared the Gospel using dramas. Team members also gave powerful testimonies and many teenagers and children were saved as they understood the truth of Jesus' love for them. We held a three-day

crusade in a village about one hour east of Kigali, the capital city, where Pastor Paul preached the Good News and thousands received Jesus and many were healed. One lady was freed from years of abdominal pain and another lady danced and danced when she was healed

from tormenting pain in her legs. A lady who had suffered with migraine headaches for years was instantly healed, while another person was able to reach over and touch the ground after having been unable to bend her back for a long time.



Pastor Paul joined us for one of our weekly radio broadcasts and shared his personal testimony of losing his father and how God brought him and his family through that experience. For so many in Rwanda who lived through the genocide or who have lost loved ones in other ways, it was a timeless message of the hope and forgiveness we can find in a relationship with Jesus. So many among our tens of thousands of listeners could identify with Pastor Paul, and many found new hope and were set free from unforgiveness and the pain of loss.



Bible School News & Ministering Across Rwanda



We continue to operate 13 IVBI Bible Schools inside Rwanda's prisons. We planned to award 741 diplomas to new graduates in July, but recent policy changes require postponing graduations until a later date. We are grateful to bring the Gospel to thousands of incarcerated men and women and to know that lives are being forever changed because of this opportunity.

We have adopted a hilltop village, home to 28 families who received this land from the government. The people are skilled in making pottery, but there is no clay on the mountain, limiting their income. Thanks to friends in Tulsa, we blessed their children with Tulsa Fire Department

school bags. We also shared the Good News and gave each family 20 pounds of corn flour, which is a special and favorite food that is not usually available to them.

Traveling across Rwanda and sharing the love of Jesus, we also seek to reach out in practical, tangible material ways. At one church where we spoke, we asked the pastor what their number one need was and he quickly replied, "Chairs!" We were able to add fifty new chairs to their church, allowing them to seat those attending and invite more to come.



A special thanks to Pastors Jerod and Katina Smith of Kellyville, OK of Advocates for Africa. When they visit and bring other pastors with them, we can reach more people. At one pastors' conference, we expected 150 pastors, but ended up with 192, which is a good problem to have when you are trying to have a big impact for Jesus. The culture in Rwanda is that "there's always room for one more!" These pastors were refreshed, fed spiritually and physically, and equipped to reach people that we might otherwise never encounter.

Another giving occasion occurred when we were invited to speak to seven churches that joined together to meet at one location. One of the pastors said that the gift of a goat was one of the best ways to help the disadvantaged in their congregations. Unlike cows, goats are very low maintenance and when the goat gives birth to two or three kids, the baby goats can be passed on to other families, multiplying the benefit of the gift. We blessed the people with 30 goats, thanks to Pastor Jerod and Pastors Jason Smith and Jeff Oaks from Stigler, OK, who joined him.



Ministry to a Girls' School

A new ministry privilege has come our way, as we have been welcomed at one of the best schools for girls in Rwanda called Fawe Girls School. This boarding school is located an hour and a half from Kigali and is under the supervision of Catholic nuns. God has given us favor with the school's principal! Imagine sharing the Good News with 674 girls between the ages of 13 and 19 – what a wonderful experience! We have also been able to give them volley balls, basket balls, and basket ball nets to use for outdoor games and exercise.



Recently we learned they had a projector, but had no computer to run it to show movies and other films. With the help of friends in Oklahoma, we were able to bless them with a new laptop. The Victory Missions team included this school among their ministry outings and the students were very touched by the testimonies and dramas shared by the Victory team members.

More Lanterns for Refugees

Thank you Coldwell Banker Select, Tulsa, for providing solar lanterns for 800 families in Rwanda's largest refugee camp with 52,000 residents, far more than the usual camp populations of 15,000 or fewer residents. The solar lights are a huge blessing, as they have no electricity and can use it and not have to worry about buying batteries.



Send Me International Annual Banquet

Please join us for our annual celebration banquet which will be held on Friday, September 30, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. **Our location has changed this year!**

We will be meeting at the Marriott Tulsa Hotel Southern Hills, which is at 1902 East 71st Street, just west of Lewis on 71st. We want to bless you with a delicious meal and tell you more about our ministry activities in Rwanda during 2016. Please RSVP to sendmeintl@gmail.com or by phone at 918-704- 0313 so that we can welcome you and have a meal reserved for you!

Your Gifts of Support Make Our Work in Rwanda Possible

World events continue to bring shock and sorrow in many countries. To know Jesus is to know His incomparable peace in the midst of whatever happens around the globe and in our own homes and families. This is not a time to back away, but a time to move forward to reach as many as possible with the hope that is Jesus and Jesus alone. Please consider supporting the work of the Lord in Rwanda. You can make a difference for eternity! Thank you for praying for us and by giving financially. Please stay in touch by visiting our website at www.sendmeintl.com, our Facebook pages under Michelle Karekezi or Parfait Karekezi, via email at sendmeintl@gmail.com, and by phone at 918-704-0313.

Parfait & Michelle