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Winning souls through the love of God
Restoring the beauty of Rwanda – its people – one heart at time

How quickly the time goes! Greetings from Rwanda! Since returning in December, our schedule has been filled with opportunities to minister in many practical ways and to reach out with the love of Jesus to people of all ages from all walks of life. It is always an adventure to see how God will order our footsteps and provide divine appointments.

Educating for the Future

We continue to have opportunities to help children go to school. Thanks to you, we have been helping different children for several years and it is a delight when they bring us their grade report cards to show us how well they are doing. These are children who would likely never be able to attend school, were it not for your generosity in supporting the work of Send Me International. Mireille Sabine, pictured here with Michelle, is a 16-year-old new student who moved into our neighborhood to live with her uncle. We kept seeing her in our neighborhood during school hours and asked why she was not in school. She told us she had missed the last trimester of the previous year



due to sickness and confided in us that she is HIV/AIDS positive. Her family wanted her to stay home and

learn to do chores and cook and perhaps learn how to braid hair to make a living. When the family learned that we would pay for her school, they were happy to let her enroll in the nearby elementary school. Please join us in praying for the manifestation of her healing.

Friends Deborah and Leah, who we have been helping with school expenses for the past few years, are with 6-year-old Rebecca, Leah's younger sister. Rebecca and Leah's mother is HIV/AIDS infected and she approached us to ask if we could help with Rebecca's schooling too. The picture is the first day of Rebecca's first grade year. The three girls were

leaving our house after picking up their back packs and school supplies. Rebecca was SO excited about her back pack and new shoes and couldn't wait to get her uniform at school.

Ministry Visits from the US

In January, we received our first visitor for 2015, youth pastor Stephen Cline, from Fort Worth, TX. Stephen has such a heart for young people and ministered with Parfait on our weekly program on Amazing Grace Radio with a question/answer session dealing with issues many youth are



facing today. He also ministered to youth for a week in an Assembly of God church while the teens were on vacation due to the government's change of the school year. One evening, Michelle taught the young ladies, while Stephen taught the young men. To close the week, we had a picnic on top of Mt. Kigali, with all the young people walking forty-five minutes to

reach the top of the mountain. It was a wonderful time with Parfait, Michelle and Stephen sharing and answering many questions. We had a time of prayer and provided a treat of snacks and soda.

On our way home, we encountered Daniella, a 12-year-old girl who was walking in the rain to a hospital, taking food to her mother who was there with her new baby boy who was sick. We gave Daniella a ride to the hospital, ministered to her, and prayed for her family.



Marriage Seminar Blesses Pastors

Steve and Rita Andrew from Tulsa came in February, leading a marriage conference for pastors and their wives. This was very special – something never done before – because pastors' wives are usually left out of teaching seminars. More than 25 different denominations were represented, with more than one hundred pastors and their wives attending.

God moved in a powerful way to bring unity in churches and marriages. Many testified after lunch that the conference had blessed them; even husbands and wives who weren't speaking to each other were reconciled. Hearts were healed and churches were encouraged to pray for each other, rather than competing. The pastors were so pleased, they insisted Steve and Rita come back next year for another conference so that more churches can have the opportunity to attend.



God had a very special divine appointment in store when we visited a local church which opens for service and prayer each Tuesday from 10:00 a.m. to about 4:00 p.m. On that day, a young woman "just happened" to stop at the church; it was not a church that she belonged to. She came forward for prayer as the Word was preached and she confessed that just a few days before, she had considered killing her baby due to feeling hopeless about her circumstances. Steve and Rita were able to minister to her and share with her the hope that is in Jesus.

During their visit, the Andrews' shared the Good News on two different radio stations, with programming that reaches millions of listeners in Rwanda and neighboring countries. We also traveled to a church in the bush about three hours northeast of Kigali, the capital city. The church building in the bush had walls, but no roof. Steve and Rita blessed the church with a roof to shelter the congregation from the hot sun and the rain. In return, the church members honored us with gifts of two chickens, as well as bananas, and peanuts.

As we left the bush and began the bumpy, dusty drive home a bit weary, we met this group of children with a bicycle who were tending their cows. It was a refreshing to us and a joy to share bananas with them from the gifts we were given by the church in the bush. You can see from their smiles how much they appreciated the unexpected attention and treat.



More Visitors & Bible School News

During the winter, Pastor Jerod Smith from Oklahoma City brought a team of pastors for a pastors' conference and crusade in the northern part of the country. This outreach was attended by 450 pastors and the crusade was well-attended. We are so grateful to our partners and supporters for making the provision to allow our weekly radio broadcasts that literally reach millions in Rwanda and neighboring nations. Like our other guests, Pastor Jerod joined Parfait in radio ministry with a powerful program, sharing a message and testimonies that many in Rwanda could identify with.



Our Bible schools are going strong! We are making preparations now for eight Bible School graduation ceremonies. As we have shared with you in the past, these graduations are not only attended by the students, but are held in front of thousands of inmates, along with government and prison officials. The graduations are major outreaches by Send Me International into Rwanda's prisons where the message of love, acceptance and forgiveness in Jesus Christ is so desperately needed. We make every effort to honor the hard work of the students by providing graduation gowns, diplomas and a post-graduation reception. Funds for printing more **This New Life** books in the Kinyarwanda language are needed for all our outreaches.

When Little Is Much

When we meet children, we never know what they may say. These children asked for a 100 Rwandan francs coin each, worth about 15 US cents. Parfait asked them why, expecting to hear treats like candy or a beignet. Instead, they wanted to buy a pen and notebook, which Parfait doubted could be purchased for that price. The children pointed to a store nearby and, sure enough, it was true. We gave each child the money to buy the notebook and pen and you can see the smiles of joy that resulted.



We continue to minister at refugee camps in Rwanda that house tens of thousands who have fled fighting in neighboring nations. With no electricity for the camp buildings and tents, refugees have no light from dusk to dawn. We have been providing small, inflatable solar lanterns, which the ladies in the photo are holding. After 8 hours in the sun, the lanterns provide 13 hours of LED light. We have exhausted our supply of lanterns, but over 23,000 new refugees have recently crossed into Rwanda due to unrest in Burundi to our south. We would like to take lanterns to the

new camp, which gives us the perfect open door to share the Light of the World, Jesus. In US funds, \$20 will buy three lanterns for three families. If you can assist with this project or printing more **This New Life** books, please send a check to our Tulsa post office box listed on the front page or go online to www.sendmeintl.com and make a contribution by credit card. **Thank You!**

Safely Home



In 2011, we introduced you to Jean Bosco, whom we met one Saturday as we took a morning walk through the fields, armed with matchbox cars and flip flops for any children we encountered along the way. Bosco boldly told us he wanted to go to school, but his family was too poor. Parfait led him to Jesus and we arranged for his schooling, continuing to support him through the years. This year he was in 6th grade, an excellent student and soccer player. Recently, our house guard took him to the market to get clothes for church and soccer. He was supposed to pick up money from us for school fees, but didn't show up. The

following day, his schoolmates came to our house to tell us that Bosco had gone to visit family members and returned very sick. By the time he reached the hospital, they couldn't help him. We are saddened at the loss of this special young man, but have the comfort of knowing he is now safely home with Jesus.



Your prayers and financial support mean so much to us; we are grateful! We love to hear from you, so please feel free to contact us at sendmeintl@gmail.com or on Facebook under Michelle Karekezi or Parfait Karekezi.

Parfait & Michelle