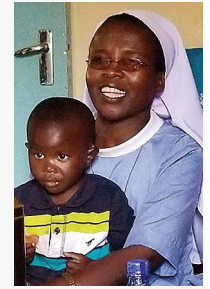


# CHILDREN OF HOPE AND FAITH<sup>SM</sup>



## SHARING CHRIST'S LOVE EDUCATION FOR ORPHANS. HOPE FOR COMMUNITIES.



### FROM THE PRESIDENT...

I'm sure we are all looking forward to spring and the Easter season!

The opportunity to go on a mission trip can be very eye-opening to the needs of others and life-changing. Closer to home, stewardship of our time and talent can also greatly benefit others. In this issue we highlight the Ebert's mission trip to Tanzania with Fr. John. Also included is an article about two women who use their passion for sewing to help destitute girls learn to sew and have a means of supporting themselves. Pictured above are the girls thanking COHF for funding the purchase of chairs, tables and a cupboard.

A report is also provided regarding the 2017 Lenten project "Give Drink to the Thirsty," which was a great success due to your generosity. Please consider giving to the current Lenten project, "Building-up God's Little Ones." We are most grateful that the first kindergarten class at St. Peter Claver School started in January. However, the children do not have an adequate place to live and finishing the project remains a significant challenge.

Lastly, I would like to thank our supporters for their initiatives to assist COHF. These efforts range from taking advantage of employer matching gift programs, having a birthday fundraiser on Facebook and school children making cards for our sponsored students. We are grateful to each of you for making a difference in the lives of children and the communities we serve in Tanzania.

May Our Lord abundantly bless you for your generosity! ■

Sincerely in Christ,  
Jane Walsh

### CONGRATULATIONS FOR EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION

Congratulations to St. Peter Claver and St. Severine Primary Schools for ranking first and second in the nation, respectively, out of 9,736 schools for the 2017 National Exams. These are the two main primary schools where our sponsored students attend. We are very proud of their accomplishment and share in their joy.

Fr. Johndamaseni delivered a congratulatory plaque to St. Peter Claver School on behalf of COHF and our benefactors. ■



*Fr. Alchaleus Kalokola, principal of St. Peter Claver School, receiving a congratulatory plaque from Fr. Johndamaseni Zilimu.*

# MISSION TRIP TO TANZANIA



Our sponsored students at St. Peter Claver School. Thank you to the students at Visitation School for making cards for our sponsored students.  
Back row L-R: Mark, Fr. John, Mary and Fr. Robert



Mary and Mark Ebert  
with their sponsored  
student, Lucia, at St. Joseph  
Secondary School.



Woman in Tanzania receiving her first pair of glasses from Mary.

## BY MARY AND MARK EBERT

Tanzania, as a country and a people, had loomed in our minds since we had come to know and love Fr. Johndamaseni Zilimu, our pastor at St. John-Paul II Parish in Kewanee. Inspired to try to return blessings to the developing country which had provided such a wise and devoted leader to our congregation, we organized a Tanzania Mission Project, to which many parishioners and parish organizations contributed. We accompanied Fr. John to his home region in northwestern Tanzania last November and delivered many non-prescription medicines and educational supplies to schools having students sponsored through COHF. There we witnessed learning communities firmly committed to academic excellence and spiritual development.

One of our focuses of service during the mission was to provide vision assistance through the distribution of glasses. Almost every daily activity is facilitated by clear vision. The grateful smiles of people, who with their first pair of glasses were immediately transformed from visual blur to amazed clarity, will forever be etched in our hearts.

Our visit to Angel Home Orphanage provided a clear indication of the difference COHF makes in the lives of those greatest in need. The loving environment, where each child is valued and cared for, provides hope for a bright and purposeful future. Hope not only for the individual child, but collectively for the people of Tanzania.

It is easy to feel overwhelmed by the immense needs of people in a developing country like Tanzania. But we believe that as Christians we are called to DO SOMETHING. So when offered the opportunity to make a difference in the life of even one child, we became sponsors last year through COHF to Lucia, a student at St. Joseph Secondary School. We were blessed to be able to meet our Lucia in person, and to witness the benefits that improve the lives and futures of sponsored children.

Often the people we encountered during our mission asked God to bless us for coming in His service, and blessed we have been by this experience. We found the people of Tanzania to be exceedingly warm, welcoming, and generous in sharing what they have. And they are truly appreciative of the difference COHF makes in their lives. ■

Children of Hope and Faith

## EMPLOYER MATCHING GIFT PROGRAMS

Thank you to our donors who have taken advantage of their employer charitable matching gift programs. We appreciate receiving matching contributions from Exelon, Benevity Community Fund and State Farm. If your employer has a matching gift program, then please consider using it for COHF.



## SUPPORT CHILDREN OF HOPE AND FAITH BY SHOPPING AT AMAZON SMILE

If you are planning to shop on-line, please consider Smile.Amazon.Com and designate Children of Hope and Faith as the charity to benefit from your purchase.

## CHILDREN OF HOPE AND FAITH T-SHIRTS

T-shirts are available for purchase through Children of Hope and Faith. Each shirt is \$15, which includes the cost of mailing. Women's style shirts tend to be a size smaller and includes S,M,L,XL, 2XL. Men's sizes are M,L,XL. To purchase T-shirt(s), e-mail us at [childrenofhopeandfaith@gmail.com](mailto:childrenofhopeandfaith@gmail.com).



# PROJECTS AND UPDATES



Girls at St. Severine learning how to sew.



Girls benefitting from instruction from their teacher who is a tailor.

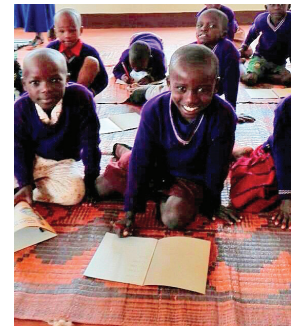
## ST. SEVERINE SEWING PROJECT

A current project directed by Sr. Hyasinthia at St. Severine School provides practical sewing, tailoring, decorating, and life skills to young women who have completed primary school and are unable to continue their studies or who never had the opportunity to attend primary school because of their family situation. Some of the girls are orphans, which makes it even more important that they have a means of supporting themselves.

Sr. Hyasinthia asked for our assistance, as there are an increasing number of girls who want the opportunity to obtain this training. Within our current sponsors, we are blessed to have two women who use their talent and love of sewing to benefit the mission of COHF. Their creations are sold throughout the year. The proceeds of these sales were used to purchase 40 chairs, 2 large tables and a storage cupboard for the school. Sr. Hyasinthia reports the girls are very happy for the training and she sends her heartfelt gratitude from the girls and St. Severine community. ■

## ST. PETER CLAVER KINDERGARTEN PROJECT

We continue to be extremely grateful to our supporters who funded the kindergarten classroom building for St. Peter Claver School. The first kindergarten class for Year 1 started in January because of your generosity. Bishop Almacheus, Fr. Robert in charge of the project, the principal, teachers, and parents are very thankful for your kind assistance. ■



A kindergartener happy for the opportunity to attend school.

## LENTEN PROJECT



Fr. Ovan Mwenge, principal of St. Charles Lwanga Junior Seminary, in front of the new water tank.



Young men sponsored through COHF at St. Charles Lwanga Junior Seminary who benefitted from your generosity.

## GIVE DRINK TO THE THIRSTY – LENTEN PROJECT FOR 2017

A huge THANK YOU to all of our supporters who generously contributed to "Give Drink to the Thirsty". The Lenten project funded the construction of a large water tank (110,000 Liters) for St. Charles Lwanga Junior Seminary. Rainwater is stored in the tank to provide water for drinking, cooking, laundry and good hygiene. St. Charles Lwanga is a secondary school, which provides both an excellent academic education and the opportunity for young men to discern a possible vocation to the priesthood.

The school has suffered from a lack of clean water for a long time. In the past, the school obtained water from a mountain stream, which has dried up. Fr. John knows first hand the school's need for water as he taught mathematics at St. Charles Lwanga for 5 years before coming to the United States. The principal, Fr. Ovan Mwenge, students, teachers and staff are most grateful for greater access to clean water, which definitely improves their quality of life. ■



The first year of kindergarten has begun at St. Peter Claver School! However, the children are currently living in the classroom needed for Kindergarten Year II and elsewhere on the school's property. Through your generosity we have been able to fund 50% (\$21,000) of the construction of dormitories, one for girls and one for boys. Please consider a contribution for "Building-up God's Little Ones" to help us finish the kindergarten project. ■

Give us a call: (217) 352-6673

CHILDREN OF  
**HOPE** **FAITH**  
 AND **SM**

903 BLUEGRASS LANE  
 CHAMPAIGN, IL 61822

**I WILL GIVE HOPE...**

- Catholic school sponsorship, \$60 per month
- I am interested in sharing a half-sponsorship of a child
- Yes! I want to help the St. Peter Claver kindergarten project
- Support for Angel Home Orphanage
- I will **GIVE HOPE**: Scholarships or Health Care Project

Specify amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

Pay By Credit Card  
**VISA MASTERCARD DISCOVER**

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name on Card \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. \_\_\_\_\_ CVV \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

*Send Checks to: Children of Hope and Faith  
 903 Bluegrass Lane  
 Champaign, IL 61822  
 COHF is a 501(c)(3), not-for-profit corporation.  
 Annual donation statements provided.*

**Like us on Facebook!**

Search for Children of Hope and Faith.

**IN GRATITUDE FOR VITAL SUPPORT**

We are extremely grateful to the crafters who gave of their time and talent at the Arts and Crafts Bazaar. Thank you also to the many bakers and volunteers who helped make the event a great success. People who attended commented on the high quality of the crafts and the very reasonable prices. A special thank you to one of our board members, Tracy Duchinsky, for organizing this annual event at Holy Cross Church. Over \$3,800 was raised, which supported the St. Peter Claver Kindergarten project.

**COHF FINANCIAL SUMMARY  
 2017**

