



# The Rafiki Foundation, Inc.

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September 2006

*"The LORD is my light and my salvation—whom shall I fear?" (Psalm 27:1 NIV).*

Dearest Family and Friends,

What a wonderful summer in the States with you! What a blessing it was to spend time talking, eating, and playing together. I cannot begin to thank you enough for all your kindnesses.

While my family and I were coping with the July 19 St. Louis storm aftermath, our Rafiki Village staff was dealing with our July 24 laundry room fire, caused by spontaneous combustion of the clothes in our commercial size dryer. We had a lot of smoke and clothes damage, but no one was burned. We thank the Lord for His constant protection of us. The burned dryer was irreparable but after new wiring was installed, our two washers are running again. Praise to the Lord! No dryer, lots of rain and almost no sunshine in the month of August prompted us to hang clothes everywhere inside (the dining hall, an empty cottage, our houses). We are awaiting sunshine and dryer parts (coming from the U.S.A.) for our home-size dryer.



MINI MISSIONARY JOHN WITH ABBY

MiniMissionaries John, Celeste, Abby, and Becca (my brother, sister-in-law, and nieces) traveled back with me in August to work for two weeks. John and Celeste taught in the Rafiki Girls' Center and worked preparing the children's new farm. They planted cassava, tomatoes, maize, green, and hot peppers. What a blessing they were! I am thankful for Ann, a MiniMissionary

and friend, visiting and working with me now.

Wonderful birthday celebrations in the U.S.A. and here ended one decade for me and began another. Also in August, four of our Rafiki children celebrated special birthdays (numbers six, ten, sixteen are special). Martin (Mah tin) celebrated his sixth by sharing his six-candle cake with everybody. This was his first ever birthday celebration. He was quite aware it was his birthday. He has been asking about his birthday for the past several months. At supper that night, he did a great job of singing, "I am six years old now."

With the end of summer come shorter days, less light, and the beginning of fall, my family's favorite season. September brings the beginning of school here in Ghana. *Please pray for four qualified teachers for our primary school.* Our Rafiki primary (grade) school started September 18. Preparation for school is always a challenge. Can you imagine sorting or sewing uniforms for fifty-one children, checking correct church and play clothes' sizes for fifty-nine children, finding and buying shoes for fifty-nine children? This is a group effort of course. Rafiki Mothers, children, Barb, and I are included.

School for me this fall will be the study of the book of Romans through Bible Study Fellowship.



IN FRONT OF DINING HALL CONSTRUCTION

Will our new dining hall, kitchen, laundry, and medical clinic be completed on schedule? Our

Rafiki School will expand to the old dining hall once the new dining hall is complete and the old is remodeled. Construction crews are here everyday making and pouring concrete. Their tools include one electric saw, one motorized cement mixer, and lots of strong arms and hands.



AKOSOMBO DAM AT VOLTA LAKE

Ghana and five neighboring countries are experiencing a severe lack of electricity. The Akosombo Dam, about two hours from Rafiki, cannot operate its turbines that produce electricity because the water level in the Volta Lake is critically low. To compensate, we are having "rolling outages," twelve hours off every three days. *Please pray God will increase the rainfall in northern Ghana so the lake level will rise.*

Because of your prayer and financial support, each of you is a part of the work here to change these children's lives. I agree with my friend, "It is exciting to know that you are part of doing the will of God as we serve the children here in Africa. We may not see the fruits of our labor, but generations to come will."

Walking in the light of the Lord,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Nancy".

Nancy Bond

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P.S. From the Home Office: Nancy is at 88% of the total needed for her second term (January 2006–December 2007).