



The Rafiki Foundation, Inc.

PO Box 1988 • Eustis FL 32727-1988 • 407-557-2850 • FAX: 352-483-9132

February 2009

*“He who has begun a good work in you
will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ”*

(Phillipians 1:6 NKJV).

Happy New Year!

The Rafiki Uganda children celebrated the coming of the year 2009 in the same way they have celebrated each year since Rafiki became their home in 2003. The Christmas trees are burned in a huge bonfire. The balloons that have decorated the trees serve as “firecrackers” and POP as the trees burn. There is the usual screaming each time a balloon pops! The children eat the “sweets” (candy) that were hung on the trees as decoration while watching the trees burn and the balloons pop.



NEW YEARS EVE

As the fire dies down, each child and Rafiki Mother lifts their voice and sings, “To God Be the Glory.” One prayer that always affects us is the one where the Rafiki Mothers praise God for allowing them to reach the New Year with health, life and strength. Life is fragile here and many of their friends and relatives have died during 2008. We are reminded that we have had the privilege of being a part of this wonderful ministry for another year.

After the celebration, Carolyn has the privilege of going to the cottages to pray with the families. This year the children were to be prepared to pray for what they wanted to happen in their life during the year 2009. The children who could write put their thoughts on paper. The ones who could not write dictated to their Rafiki Mother who recorded it for them. Each child placed their prayer request in an envelope. On 31 December 2009, they will open the envelopes and read what they recorded and how the Lord has answered their prayer for 2009.

Here are some excerpts:

“I want to thank God for the wonderful life He has given me. He has loved me and brought me to Rafiki to know more about Him. I want to trust Jesus to be my personal Savior in 2009.”

“I want Jesus to make me the size of Eva.” (Eva is an older sister!)



EVA (WITHOUT GLASSES) & FAMILY

“I want to be obedient and I want earrings.”

“I would like for my sponsor to visit me in 2009.”

“I want Jesus to give me wisdom in 2009” (a three-year-old).

“God to help me to learn well, obey my teachers, and be kind to my friends.”

“Help me do the right thing, at the right time, in the right place.”

"I want to understand everything the teachers tell me so that I can practice to be a teacher."

"I want to learn how to teach the word of God" (a five-year-old).

"I want to go to Kindergarten and write good."

"I want Jesus to teach me how to have love for others. I have not had love for others in 2008."

"I want to be a good student so I can have a future."

"I want to get an extra chore so I can be useful and helpful in 2009."

"I want to be awarded Outstanding Christian Character on awards day at school in 2009."

"Help me to have a good response when I am corrected."

"Help my physical and spiritual development this year."

In one of the cottages Sam and Rick, two of the ten year old boys humbled themselves and shed tears of gratefulness as they prayed and thanked God for bringing them to their Rafiki home. They thanked God for their daily food, water, education, for giving them a Bible and teaching them in church, and school. They thanked God for their Rafiki Mother, their friends, their beds, bed sheets, clothes, and shoes.



SAM

RICK

At another cottage, Gloria, a five-year-old who came to us in February 2008 said, "Since I came to Rafiki we have been singing about Jesus, we have been

learning about Jesus, but I have never seen Jesus at Rafiki. I keep looking for Him, but I have never seen Him here." Flavia, a five-year-old who came in February 2008, answered Gloria. "Gloria, you cannot see Him because He lives inside people. Jesus lives in people's hearts." Gloria responded, "Then I want Jesus to live in my heart."

What a wonderful way to begin the year 2009!



GLORIA

FLAVIA

To all of you for this New Year 2009—with all of its challenges so far you are as much a part of Gloria and Flavia's story as if you were here listening to them talk and laugh and play. You are a part of how God has worked in choosing and bringing two ten-year-old boys from an absolutely hopeless situation to a new beginning at Rafiki. You have a part in their lives just as if you were here listening to them cry tears of gratefulness and joy for what God has done for them. You partnered with us in 2002 and you have remained faithful. And for that we are endeared to you. Thank you for what you do for us and for what you are doing for ninety-five wonderful Rafiki Uganda children! To God be the glory. AMEN!

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Expecting great things from a Great God!

Mike and Carolyn

Mike and Carolyn Enis

PO Box 12714
Kampala, Uganda
EAST AFRICA

E-mail: jmichaelenis@msn.com