



# The Rafiki Foundation, Inc.

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*“Sing to God, sing praise to his name, extol him who rides on the clouds—his name is the LORD—and rejoice before him. A father to the fatherless, a defender of widows, is God in his holy dwelling. God sets the lonely in families” (Psalm 68:4-6b).*

Dear Friends and Family,

## Celebrate!

Two weeks after the Easter celebration of the resurrection of Jesus, we had another celebration at the Rafiki Village in Uganda. Six new children arrived, bringing the number to thirty! God, the Father to the fatherless, set Rebeccah, Christine, Sarah, Simon, Jerome, and Joshua in Rafiki families.

## Rebeccah and Christine



Playing Peek a Boo? No, two-and-a-half year-old Rebeccah had never ridden in a car. This was her first

reaction as we began moving. In fact, she kept her hands over her face the entire hour that we traveled, only occasionally peeking through her fingers to see if we had stopped.

Rebeccah and Christine arrived at Rafiki just as their six Rafiki siblings had finished their lunch. After embracing and welcoming the girls, Rafiki Mother Margret gave them their first meal at their new home.



## Simon and Sarah



Preemies, Simon and Sarah weighed just over 1.6 kilograms each (about 3.5 pounds) when God set them in their Rafiki family with Rafiki Mother Jane. Although they are not twins, they were both abandoned at the same hospital and were given the same estimated date of birth.

## Jerome and Joshua

Jerome and Joshua are twins, identical in fact. Even at just four kilograms (less than nine pounds), they look like giants next to Simon and Sarah. A few weeks before the twins arrived, three-year-old



George drew a picture of two babies—a boy and a girl. When questioned, George explained to his Rafiki preschool teacher that the baby girl was smiling and looked happy because she was coming to Rafiki, but the baby boy was crying because he

could not come. As seven Rafiki siblings gathered around Rafiki Mother Justine cuddling her new baby boys, we reminded George of his drawing. We are all pleased that God set Jerome and Joshua in this Rafiki family.

### **Rosemary and Team**

The week following the arrival of our six newest children, our director, Rosemary Jensen, and a team of twenty Rafiki Home Office staff, board members, and supporters arrived for a two-day visit. The team's two week tour included stops in six countries served by Rafiki. They were able to participate in the dedication of the new Rafiki Village in Mzuzu, Malawi, followed by stops in Moshi, Tanzania, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, and Kigali, Rwanda. Tim rode the bus from Kampala to Kigali so he could host the group there. One of the three locations for their accommodation was the Hotel Des Mille Colline, the setting of the movie *Hotel Rwanda*. Rosemary Jensen met with First Lady Jeanette Kagame to discuss the FLARE program (First Ladies and Rafiki Extensions), and to deliver a letter from First Lady Laura Bush. Already, Rafiki has been registered to operate in Rwanda, and our work permits have been granted, along with the work permit for South African Cricket Meyer, who has been assigned as part of the team for Rwanda. As soon as tax exemptions are granted, we will be moving to Rwanda, where Patty and Cricket will be assisting Mrs. Kagame and her staff in starting a training center similar to the Rafiki Girls' Centers. At the same time, Tim will be working on the construction of the Rafiki Village just outside Kigali.



From Uganda, the group traveled to Nairobi, Kenya, where the Home Office Staff held a four-day training for those interested in opening Satellite Villages modeled after the Rafiki Villages in their countries. Rafiki is partnering with African church denominations to provide training materials and to channel funding from U.S. donors to Africa, which is intended to directly impact 20,000 needy African children.

### **Our Family in Missouri**

Clif and Amy are doing well. Clif is working as a flight instructor in Poplar Bluff, Missouri, and Amy is completing her junior year at Southwest Baptist University in Bolivar, Missouri. Amy went to San Antonio for MiniMissions training at the Rafiki Home Office in early May and is now prepared to serve as a MiniMissionary when she comes to Africa in July. If you are interested in similar training, please contact Susy Harbick at [mm@rafiki-foundation.org](mailto:mm@rafiki-foundation.org).

Thank you for being part of what God is doing in East Africa.

Love Always,

*Tim & Patty Yoss*

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MINI MISSIONARY PATTY CHOW AND KIZITO