



The Rafiki Foundation, Inc.

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December 2009



OUR NEW DINING HALL

“The LORD has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy”
(Psalm 126: 3 NIV).

Dearest family and friends,

Can you believe that another year is about to come to an end? What a wonderful privilege it is to look back over the past year and thank God for His immeasurable grace, provision, and love towards us.

Our “little” family has grown to twenty-four children, three full-time Rafiki Mothers, two mothers-in-training, one mothers’ assistant, and one substitute mother. God truly has blessed us with loving and gracious national staff. It takes a lot of work to keep our children well-fed and dressed in nice, clean clothes. Our kitchen and laundry team consists of four hard-working ladies who diligently take care of these needs for our children.



OUR WONDERFUL KITCHEN STAFF

In November, the new Rafiki kitchen, laundry, and the first dining area were finally completed so we were able to move out of the guest house. It was with great anticipation and joy that we packed up all of the kitchen things and moved them into our beautiful new kitchen. Not only did the move provide us with much needed space, it also enabled us to bring the next five children home to Rafiki.



OUR FIVE NEW CHILDREN

It never ceases to amaze me how quickly the new children become accustomed to the routine and begin running around and enjoying having a Rafiki Mother and siblings to call their own. It is so

fascinating to watch as they discover new foods and learn English words. The joy that we feel each time we bring a new child home to Rafiki is way more than I could ever put into words.

A growing Rafiki family also means the need for more Rafiki Mothers in order to take care of the many children. After a long, hard search for just the right women, Mama Beatrice and Mama Odette were chosen for training to be Rafiki Mothers. It is our heartfelt prayer that early in the new year we will receive the funds needed to complete at least two more cottages, thus being able to bring in even more children.



OUR NEW MOTHERS-IN-TRAINING



AT THE CHRISTMAS TREE

This Christmas is one that we have anticipated and worked steadfastly toward for about four and a half years. Since arriving in Rwanda in July 2005, we have persevered through the trials and tribulations of building a Rafiki Village in a country where very little English is spoken, to where we are today. Sharing the love and birth of Jesus Christ with



orphans who now call Rafiki Rwanda HOME is an experience of a life time and well worth every challenge that we have faced along the way. All praise goes to our loving Heavenly Father who met our every need to fulfill this great task that He called us to. To God be the glory both now and forever more!

Praises:

- For the birth of our Saviour, Jesus Christ
- For our twenty-four healthy children
- For wonderful national staff
- For our two new mothers-in-training
- For those who are sponsoring children
- For those who make it possible for me to serve the Lord in Rwanda through their love, prayers, and financial support

Prayer Requests:

- For sponsors for the remaining children who do not yet have sponsors
- For continued good health and protection for all of our Rafiki children
- For the finances needed for 2010 in order to build more children's cottages as well as a permanent school building
- For the continued outpouring of God's love, protection, wisdom, and guidance as we seek to serve Him through our daily lives here in Rwanda
- For all ROS (Rafiki Overseas Staff) who will not be with their families during this Christmas season.

Thank you for your love and support during this past year. I pray that you and your loved ones will have a joyous time of celebration as you remember the birth of Jesus Christ.

In Jesus' love and for His glory,

Cricket Meyer

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ROS #162

NOTE: Please visit www.rafiki-foundation.org to find information about your ROS, what *Rafiki* is doing, the Villages, and the Exchange.