



The Rafiki Foundation, Inc.

PO Box 1988 • Eustis FL 32727-1988 • 352-483-9131 • FAX: 352-483-9132

December 2009

*“May the LORD answer you when you are in distress;
may the name of the God of Jacob protect you.*

*May he give you the desire of your heart
and make all your plans succeed” (Psalm 20:1,4 NIV).*

Blessings to you, dear family and friends,

I pray that as you celebrate the birth of our Savior and prepare for the New Year, God will guide, help, and bless your efforts, that you may bring glory to Him!

Psalm 20 is a battle cry sung by the Israelites prior to war to encourage their king (David). While we may not fight with spears and chariots today, we will all face battles. Sadly, some even say the “holiday” season is one of the most stressful times of the year. Each day as you ready yourself to face the “foes of darkness” remember God has already secured your eternal victory. He sent Jesus, born in a lowly manger and revealed to lowly shepherds. Our perfect gift from above is given to us out of grace alone, received by us through faith alone, and made possible for us by Christ’s work alone! Celebrate the birth of your Savior!

We have seen the Lord answer many prayers and help the children who were in distress that are now part of the Rafiki Village Tanzania. I sincerely hope you know what true blessings your faithful prayer and financial support are. I pray that you know how vital you are to God’s granting these vulnerable children a new heart and a new plan for their success in His kingdom.



KELVIN

Let me share with you a few joys the children have experienced this last term of the school year. We had a fun trip to the farm where we met the cows and chickens that supply our milk and eggs! All the children just had to catch a chicken and hold it in their arms. Pictured are Kelvin, Irene, and James.



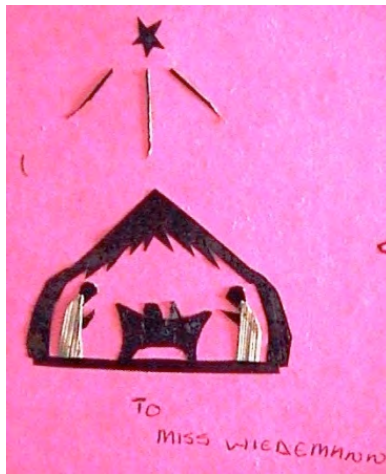
We have also been busy learning our numbers, colors and shapes. Beatrice and Neema are showing they know six of each! John is wearing his “shape necklace” with pride.



James is dressed in the colors of Christmas: gold, red, and green. Of course it is very hot and the sun is bright here during December.



Therefore, two pairs of sunglasses and a wide brimmed hat are highly recommended.



The junior secondary students are awaiting the results of their national exams and are progressing with their academic studies and vocational training. They use banana fiber to make greeting cards, coasters, magnets, etc. Since I did not get to show you last year, I will share with you one of the Christmas cards they gave me that they all made together and signed.



2010 will bring the opening of kindergarten, where we plan to have eighteen students. Some of them will be from the neighboring villages. We will still have the preschool and the pre-kindergarten classes, along with our Junior Secondary School (JSS). *Please pray for each school to be furnished and ready, for each student to be eager to learn and healthy, for each teacher to be prepared and joyful!* We are still praying for teachers and teacher's assistants for the JSS and pre-primary schools.

2010 will also usher in our new Rafiki Bible Study (RBS) and pre-primary training seminars. While the details are still being worked out, the plan is to expand our RBS training seminars to also include training for headmasters on how to use the Rafiki curricula for the pre-primary grades. *Please pray for wisdom for everyone involved in this process.*

May God give you the desires of your heart and make all your plans succeed! Thank you for praying the same for us!

Love,

Melissa Wiedemann

Missy/Melissa

PO Box 7761
Moshi, Tanzania
EAST AFRICA

E-mail: melnghana@yahoo.com

ROS #167