

The Link

Living in the "Safe Zone"

Have I lived a life of "risk" or have I taken up residence in a "Safe Zone?"

Several questions that every believer must ask themselves before he/she exits this world: Is my life making a difference? What have I sacrificed for Christ who has sacrificed ALL for me? Have I lived a life of "risk" or have I taken up residence in a "Safe Zone?" Though I am saved by His GRACE, do I realize that I will give an account for how I have lived/invested my life (1Cor. 4:5)? The Bible continually reminds believers that they have been bought with a GREAT price (1 Cor. 6:20). **Easter is a reminder of this very fact.** Hence, Paul reminds the Christian: "I have been crucified with Christ, & it is NO LONGER I who live, but Christ lives in me (Gal. 2:20a). Unfortunately, many believers have taken up residence in the "Safe Zone" **living a life of survival not revival.** Pastor Kerry & Chris Shook penned:

SOMEDAY: *Often we are tempted to play it safe and settle for far less than we were made for. I know so many people whose favorite day of the week is Someday. Countless people in every stage of life say, "Someday I'm going to go for all that life has to offer..." "Someday I'm really going to live for God and get my act together..." "Someday when my schedule slows down, then I'm going to get involved at church." "When I have more time, then I'll focus on being more spiritual." God did not design us simply to stand by and watch life pass as we wonder why we aren't more fulfilled. God created us to take risks in faith and to conquer the giants that paralyze us with fear. (One Month to Live by Kerry & Chris Shook, pages 13-14.)*

I have known people who selfishly say, "All I care about is going to heaven." Yet, what about NOW—the fact that Christ who lives inside of you desires to live through you? Many fail to realize that eternal life began the day they accepted Jesus as Savior & Lord (Romans 10:9). In other words, Jesus did not die on a cruel cross so we can waste our lives. Our OWNER has a mission/purpose for every professing believer. God's purpose for the Christian is to bring glory & honor to Him—to be salt & light to lost humanity (the Great Commission) & to show forth the love of Christ to a world full of sin & hate. All of this means stepping outside our "Safe Zone" knowing we are empowered by the Lord. You don't have to go to Africa or Asia to risk your life. Simply sharing Christ with a family member, a neighbor or work associate is stepping out of the "Safe Zone." In other words, the followers of Christ must be intentional—sharing Christ each day, doing random acts of kindness in Christ's name & standing for truth in the midst of darkness. These are ways Christians can glorify their Redeemer. Remember, Christ did not die just to take you home to heaven when you take your final breath. He died to give you the power to step out of the "Safe Zone" helping you to discover a meaningful & fulfilling life. May **Easter** be a clarion reminder not only of the death/resurrection of our Savior, but also of our death to the old life and a challenge to daily to walk in newness of life. Begin today to move outside your "Safe Zone" & make a difference in this life & in the lives of others. The OWNER, Jesus Christ, has empowered every believer to boldly step out of the "Safe Zone" to boldly & fearlessly live the crucified life.

Rick

Two Computer Labs Installed by MLI's VP Wendell Drumheller in Mwingi & in Korogocho Slum, Kenya



(Top Left to Right - PJGS): Veronica was one of the students that received Christ; **Perry Jayne Girls School, Mwingi (PJGS)**; Rick and Wendell sharing photos with students; Drew Drumheller on ladder installing WIFI; Euticauls helping **PJGS** students w/ new computers; (Bottom Left to Right-Korogocho) Wendell instructing students about new lab; Wendell installing the new RICOH printer in Pr. Euticauls's office; Wendell instructing teaching staff.

News Brief

OUR GENERAL FUND NEEDS A MIGHTY BOOST: Mission Link International is the channel for significant funds both in the USA & Africa (in addition to ministry projects & general needs). Allow me to share examples of MLI's administration: One hundred percent (100%) of funds coming through MLI for the Perry Jayne Girls School (see pic on front page) was given to Pr. Euticals for construction;

Again, the MLI Office handled the administration for those funds & bank wiring fees. The ten member salaried Ugandan staff is the backbone for various ministry projects & key to preparing for USA teams. Even the newsletter that goes out each month is costly. At times we print in black/white to save on the newsletter expenses which was almost \$500 in March not counting paper, envelopes and postage. The general fund covers many administration and mission needs. **Your gift to the general fund is vital.** Thank you!

Widow's Project: Below (#6) is a picture of the large plot MLI purchased in the village of Itukulu for our widows to mill corn. Next on the agenda will be a building to house the milling machine & grain storage. Also needed are power poles for electricity. **Any gift toward this project** will help many widows in this village. **Esther's House** is being constructed & continues to move forward (**donors continue to fund**); **Uway Church** (Pictured below #2-#3) now has the skeleton for their church. Our former MLI student, Pr. Steven, is the pastor of this MLI church. We now need 40 metal sheets **\$435 plus nails and labor \$120**. It is critical that we cover rafters before the rain/sun warps them. **Mary Kunya** (wife of our bookkeeper) has a business that needs a juicer **\$670**. It will be excellent income for her family. **Pastor Anthony & Hope needed \$3600 and \$3800 was given:** Unfortunately the exchange rate dropped, but in the last hour, an additional \$200 was given. Their bank debt is now \$0. Thank you!!

REMODELING USA MISSION CENTER: We are presently raising funds to remodel our new mission center in Pearisburg, Virginia. We need both volunteers and monetary assistance. (Note: Additional info is below.) **Any gift will be gratefully received.**

OTHER NEEDS: Please continue to support our **Street Kids Fund**; **MLI Office—Uganda** (security, taxes, electric, water, etc.)—**any amount**; MLI Church Plant—Kigera really needs a permanent structure—**any amount appreciated**. **Monthly salaries for several staff members \$50 & two staff teachers \$90. Pr. Stanley's** (MLI Instructor) upcoming marriage in May needing **Help!!**

MEDICAL FUND: Giving **any amount** to the Medical Fund is greatly appreciated. MLI continues to have ongoing medical needs. Unfortunately, the clinics and hospitals in Uganda do not compare to what we have in the USA. Hospitals are pitiful and depressing!

Candy Sadler Retiring from Mammography: As of April 25th, no more taking mammograms! After eighteen (18) years at Martha Jefferson Hospital, Candy is ready for her independence. However, Glassell and Grace will be training her during the spring/summer months for office duties as we prepare the ministry to shift to the new MLI office in Pearisburg. Our Charlottesville office will remain open for some months and it will remain our warehouse and meeting place for a few years. Candy will need to secure a reliable laptop as she will be functioning in both offices. It will require **\$650 to \$800** for a capable computer. Though Candy will be able to travel with me more, long durations will not be afforded her due to the responsibility of maintaining the USA office and working with the volunteer staff. Candy has lovingly empowered me to be on mission in Africa. Candy, Glassell, Grace, MLI Board of Directors, the many volunteers, Ugandan staff and our generous donor base are ALL a GREAT blessing! MLI is truly a TEAM effort.



#1 MLI Preparing Dorms for Students in Basana Village; #2 - #3 Uway Island Church before and after; #4 - #5 graduations on Buvuma Island (Kadomala) and Bugiri Village near Kenyan Border; #6 Itukulu land purchased for future maize milling building to house milling machine & storage.



If you have used cell phones laptops, electronic keyboards, school supplies, Christian books, we have a home for them as well. This is a simple way to assist MLI. God Bless You!!

Pearisburg Construction Team: We need electrician, plumber, carpenters, ceiling & floor tile, painters & laborers to remodel the MLI Office/warehouse in Pearisburg during the Spring/Summer of 2019. We have several believers from Va. Tech assisting with plumbing & electrical. We are also in communication with two churches who are considering sending teams to help with the remodeling. Funds greatly needed for building materials as well as help with feeding volunteers.



Thirty dollars (\$30) a month brings great happiness to an African Widow! **Will you prayerfully consider adopting this dear widow?** She needs a loving family.

Name: Manjeri Nabirye is 64 years old (1956) and cares for 3 children. Her husband died of motor accident 2015.
Testimonial: I thank God for my salvation and for care and support through MLI. Manjeri Fellowships at Itukulu Baptist Church (Pastor Kadoko).