

# The Link

## The POWER of Prayer

*Are you praying consistently and fervently for the lost?*

Take a moment and analyze your prayer life and prayer content! Can you remember when you last prayed consistently and fervently for a lost loved one...a friend...a work associate? In your prayer time this morning, did you ask God to give you an opportunity to share Christ with those that would cross your path? Do you believe your prayers for the lost make a difference?

There is a debate among believers that Christ died only for the elect—those chosen by God from the foundation of the world to be saved (**John 17:9; Acts 4:28; Eph 1:4,5,11; 5:25-27**; etc.). There are also those who believe that God died for **ALL** people wishing no one to perish (**John 3:14-16; 1 Timothy 2:4; 4:10; 2 Peter 3:9**; etc.) This theological conundrum has been debated over the centuries and has literally divided the Body-of-Christ. If you are willing to do some theological exploration, there are numerous books discussing the various views as cited above. YET, regardless how you stand, do you pray consistently and fervently for the lost, especially for loved ones and friends? There are passages in the Bible that encourage the believer to pray for evangelistic endeavors.

In Matthew 9:37,38 Jesus taught his disciples to pray for laborers. **“Then He said to His disciples, ‘The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest.’”** The Apostle Paul asked for prayer for God to open up a door for the preaching of the Word (**Col. 4:3; Eph. 6:18,19**). There are several passages that encourage people to pray for the lost: **“Brethren, my heart’s desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved” (Romans 10:1); “I Therefore, I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, for kings and all who are in authority,... For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.” (1 Tim. 2:1,4).**

On February 11th, I assigned team member Stephen Vaughan to preach at the MLI Church Plant in Kigera, Uganda. Before the second service began, I excused myself for a few minutes to find a pit-latrine (bathroom). As I ventured around the building, I noticed an older gentlemen waiting to fill his jerrycan from the borehole located next to the church. I stopped and greeted him asking his name. “My name is Wilson,” he said. Due to the proximity of the church to the well, it did not take long to direct the conversation to explore his spiritual standing. After a gospel presentation, he shared that the Pastor of Kigera, Pastor Emma, had visited his village and shared with him scriptures. Wilson indicated that he clearly understood, but confessed that he had not yet accepted Christ into his life. I asked if he would like to make today his spiritual birthday? “Yes!” he said. After we prayed, I suggested that we enter the church and share with the congregation the good news. As Pastor Emma called for Wilson to come forward and testify, the whole congregation erupted in praise. I thought the pastor was going to jump through the roof as he shouted over and over—“Hallelujah!” The pastor shared that Wilson’s family, who were church members, were born again. Amazingly, Emma stated that the church had been consistently praying for Wilson and that they even had an all night prayer meeting specifically asking God to open Wilson’s heart to be saved. Without question, the POWER of prayer by the people of God can soften the hardest of hearts! This kind of unified prayer for the lost is explosive!!

I want to encourage you to consistently and fervently pray for the lost in your family and for those you are close to (friends, neighbors, work associates, etc.). Ask the Lord of the harvest for “laborers” to preach the Word...for the Bible says, **“Faith comes by hearing and hearing the Word of God.”** Ask God to make a way for the Word to penetrate the hearts of the lost. Fervently and consistently petition the Lord on behalf of the lost — **ASK**, and keep on asking; **SEEK** and keep on seeking; **KNOCK** and keep on knocking that the hearts of the lost will be opened to the Savior. Prayers for the lost will not go unanswered. Perhaps your loved one, whom you have consistently and fervently prayed for, will one day stand before the people of God and share his/her salvation experience. I promise you that it will give you cause to shout hallelujah to the King of Kings and to the Lord of Lords.

Rick



Glynda Carver teaching the Buvuma Island women



Dennis Hansen & Kigera Kids



Team traveling by boat to Buvuma Island, Lake Victoria

## News Brief

**Frontline Missions—Three Staff Teachers:** **Julius Lasinda**, a graduate of the MLI Training Center, is MLI's teacher in Tanzania—salary of **\$90** a month is needed; **George Stanley** has lost his donor and needs \$90 per month; George also needs a water pump for his garden: **\$230**. **Paul Akise** is needing his monthly salary of **\$90**. This is an excellent project for USA pastors/churches to get behind supporting these men who are discipling church leaders. **Street Kids:** Any gift toward help street kids is appreciated. They have ongoing needs. (i.e. Azama requires \$160 x 3 yearly fees.) **Three Homes to Complete:** **Pastor James Wasawa of Tongolo** is building a simple two room house for his family of 8. We now need **\$800**. **Note: A donor will match dollar-for-dollar up to \$500!!** **James Mafabi**, is needing a boost of **\$1600** to put windows and doors in his home. He and his family have now moved into their unfinished house. **Esther** (MLI's Widow's Director) has been gifted land by MLI to build a house. Several have already deposited some funds for construction. **The training center and church on Buvuma Island** (Kadomola) has made 1000's of bricks. They now need many bags of **cement** costing from **\$9.40 to \$9.80** per bag. Will you consider buying a bag of cement? **Medical Fund** needs to be replenished—Widow Mary has a deformed leg due to an accident. She must have her leg re-broken and straightened. The cost is approximately **\$650** for medical expenses. **The Deaf School** is meeting a critical need. They urgently need an extra room for the increased student population at **\$975**. One day we hope to purchase land to help them build a permanent facility. **MLI Church Plant Kigera** is ready for a permanent structure. Any amount toward this need is appreciated. **Richard Kasanka** is an evangelist on the Islands in Lake Victoria needing a **generator**. He has found a used YAMAHA generator for **\$240**. Your gift will help him do church planting and evangelism. **Second phase Eldoret Pastor's School**. One day this will be a training center for many in East Africa under the leadership of Pastor Anthony Ndambuki of Kenya. Any size gift is appreciated.

**Kenya Computer Lab for School:** Euticauls Wambua will be receiving an MLI team in June 2018 to install a computer lab. We now need approximately **\$2700** for this installation of 12-15 computers. **This is a CRITICAL need.** This is a must if MLI is to proceed with the trip!


**CRITICAL: MLI USA OFFICE MUST REPLACE OUR TWO OLD FOLDING MACHINES - FROM \$675 to \$1750**



**GENERAL FUND:** This fund keeps everything moving forward in the USA and in East Africa. Your continued contribution not only keeps the ministry operations functioning, but helps fill in the project gaps. Thank you for believing in and trusting MLI with your mission dollars. We are grateful!



Top Left to Right: Terri teaching kids on Buvuma Island; Jackie teaching Buvuma conference; Stephen teaching kids at Kagira church plant; Bottom Left to Right: Team loving on Mafubira widows; Connie & Christi testing for glasses; Christi; Christi giving out dresses made by USA churches; Rick with widow Amina in Jinja.

 **Cell Phones** are greatly needed. Please ask family, friends and church to collect cell phones. Also, if you have **laptops, piano keyboards or Christian books**, we have a home for them. Thank you so very much for supporting Mission Link International

### KENYA TRIP IN JUNE

**Kenya Mission Trip - (appx. dates) June 16-28, 2018** Our needs are GREAT and critical. We have received little funding to help set-up the computer lab in June for Rev. Euticauls Wambua's high school. We have the technician committed to be part of the team (VP of MLI Wendell Drumheller) who will direct this project. Our main objective is to establish a computer learning lab. Donations **(\$2700) for the purchase of computer equipment is paramount and the main reason for this trip.** If you have any questions, please contact Rick - [thelinkoffice@gmail.com](mailto:thelinkoffice@gmail.com) or call Cell: 434-981-9101 or Office: 434-984-1995. Please remember the Kenya team in your prayers. If you are interested in joining our team, please contact Rick: 434-984-1994 or [thelinkoffice@gmail.com](mailto:thelinkoffice@gmail.com).



**Bring Happiness** to an African Widow for only **\$30** a Month! **Will you prayerfully consider adopting this dear widow?** She desperately needs a loving family.

**Joyce Namuganza** is 65 years old having four (4) children to care for. Her husband died of food poisoning in 2010. Joyce states, "I thank God for the care and support given to me by Mission Link International. My greatest challenges are: Medical needs, school fees and finishing up fixing the house." Joyce fellowships at International Fellowship in Itukulu.