

The Link

MISSION LINK'S NEWSLETTER



The Call to Go Fishing

----- Todd Childers, Mission Link Executive Director

As we focus on celebrating the Resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ, I hope to shed light on what He has called us to do. Many claim that we need only to believe, confess, and repent of our sins to be reconciled into a right relationship with God. While this is correct, our walk with the Lord has just begun. We need to listen to His voice. He calls each of us to follow Him as He called the disciples. We need only to look at the words of Jesus at the beginning of His ministry and just before He ascended into heaven as the resurrected Lord. "While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. And he said to them, **"Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men"** (Mat. 4:18-19). Both gospels of Matthew and Mark tell us that they **"immediately left their nets and followed Him"** (v.20). John's gospel tells us Jesus questioned two disciples following Him by asking, **"What are you seeking?"** (John 1:37). Although their reply was fleshly, Jesus told them to **"Come and you will see"** (John 1:39). Jesus came from heaven to earth to show us that He alone is **"the Way, the Truth, and the Life"** (John 14:6).

Many today are returning to their old habits and sinful lifestyles. Possibly, this is why Peter tells his friends that he was "going fishing" sometime after the resurrected Lord appeared and commissioned them (John 21:3). His influence caused them all to join him in fishing on the Sea of Tiberias. It was here, on the following morning, where they all encountered the Risen Lord Jesus. Probably, one of the most profound teaching moments is how Jesus restored Peter from denying Him three times (Mat.26:75), but as equally important is the details of Jesus' question, **"do you love me more than these?"** (John 21:15). Each of the commands from Jesus to Peter applies to all who are called to follow Jesus, as He is the one who makes us become fishers of men by submitting as a devoted, lifelong follower to Him as Lord. May we all commit to follow Jesus so closely that we begin to act like Him as His disciples did after they received the indwelling Holy Spirit (Acts 1:8).

Pray about joining us on future mission trips to be used as fishers of men.

Latest News and Announcements

Widows Home Project

Meet RUTH NAMUKASA, 80 years old, and our next widow in the village of Itukulu to receive a home by the grace of God.



As you can see, Ruth is so appreciative for what the Lord is doing through generous donors.



We broke ground for this project on Mar. 8th and raised the brick walls to the beam level by Mar. 16th. After experiencing a brief delay we have managed to keep things moving. Praise the LORD for He is worthy!

Please pray about supporting our James 1:27 project. Learn more on back page.

ASSISTANCE NEEDED in the following ministry areas:

- Widows Home Building Project**
Although we were able to continue the work on Ruth's home (see Page 1), we are still in need of approximately \$500 to complete the home.
 - Upcoming Mission Trip to Kenya** (*Praying for \$5,000 in donations by May 15th*)
We praise the Lord for the eight people signed up to be the hands and feet of Jesus in Kenya. Prices for air travel have increased so that we are short of our goal to purchase medicines and to assist with a mass feeding in areas of extreme drought. Many people and livestock have died from the famine conditions in Southern Kenya.
We are asking for your Prayers and any financial aid towards these ministry needs.
- Maybe the Lord will guide you to put a Check mark in one (or both) of those boxes above.



Pictured Left: Young Ugandan girl, Florence, that received financial support from MLI donors when we shared how her father (John) passed from years of suffering after an accident. Her widowed mother was able to get her clothes and pay her upcoming school fees. Thank you donors!



Pictured Left: Pastor Timothy Sentongo is a great leader and man of God to all near Lake Victoria and his village of Basana. He has beat cancer over a year ago but had to undergo surgery again 3/14/23 to remove more tumors. Please pray for Pastor Timothy.



Pictured Left: Our regular weekly devotions on Fridays are a highlight for Todd to join in with a biblical message and pray for the needs in both Uganda and here in the USA. If any of you would like to join us, send Todd an email. Be prepared to be online by 6:00AM (EDT) to join the Zoom Meeting.

Come Join Us "On Mission"
- UPCOMING MISSION TRIPS -
KENYA: JUNE 2-14, 2023
 Medical Clinics, feeding widows & children while sharing the gospel of Christ. We have a team of 8 signed up. Please pray for Jesus to be magnified greatly.
UGANDA: Feb. 1-15, 2024
 Planning is underway for a Uganda Medical-Evangelism Mission trip. For those interested, email todd@missionlink.org so you will be included in future email announcements.
 Website: www.missionlink.org/missiontrips

Thirty (\$30) a month brings great happiness & needed provisions for our widows in Uganda

Name: FLORENCE NAMUGERE is 58 and has 3 grandchildren.
Husband deceased: Her husband died in 2018 from throat cancer.
Testimony: Thankful for God's salvation and her provisions through Mission Link.
Challenges: Rents land for farming and her house lacks windows and doors.

A Sampling of "Praises" for Needs Met and Ongoing Projects

- **MLI CHRISTIAN STUDY CENTERS:** As our #1 objective in East Africa, we are obeying our Lord's command in making disciples that make disciples. THANKS to a donor for helping us with books and meals for our students during their weeks of study. **PRAISE THE LORD.**
- **WIDOWS SUPPORT FUND:** MLI is constantly caring for a growing number of widows in Uganda. We would like ask for you to consider joining our James 1:27 projects in caring for widows in their time of need. Your generosity is appreciated and needed. Visit our Widows Ministry page on our website to see the complete list of widows available.
- **WIDOW HOME PROJECT:** This unique project is for providing a home to a widow in need that owns land or is provided. The cost per build is **\$4,500.** **PTL for the Home Project under construction at this time.** (*See above and front*)
- **MEDICAL FUND:** Our receptionist's brother, Jeremiah, is still recovering from his severe burns from the comfort of his home. PTL. Pastor Timothy Sentongo, Basana Baptist, has been back in the hospital for surgery, removing more tumors, and is asking for help with his medical bills. Please consider donating to this important fund.
- **MISSION TRIP ASSISTANCE:** Our next trip to Kenya scheduled in June will be more costly than Uganda. Will you consider helping with our costs to perform much needed medical clinics in a region that has suffered from famine and drought over the last year? (*See above*)
- **DEAF SCHOOL FUND:** Ongoing administrative expenses to pay teachers, feed deaf students, and many other needs of managing a school in Uganda. To witness the students (deaf and others with disabilities) learning actual skills to help them in life is Amazing. There is a NEED to purchase sewing machines (2) to assist them in making sweaters and other stitches items to sell. **\$250** would help us secure two machines
- **MISSION LINK STAFF:** Some of our staff in Uganda could use support from a sponsor (church or donor) monthly or annually. Here are a few suggestions: **\$40/mo.** for: Emma Isabirye (Property Mgr.), Esther Nalugonda (Widows Director), Seera Mirembe (Cook). These funds will be used for meeting needs, ongoing education expenses, and normal duties as part of the MLU team. Our Ugandan staff has been part of our MLI family for many years and are faithful to the Lord. Praise the Lord for those who responded to help our other staff members from previous newsletters.
- **GENERAL FUND APPRECIATES GIFTS of ANY SIZE,** which helps us meet the many needs of ministry work in Africa.