

Our•ganda Newsletter



Do You Wish You Could **Join Us?**

Ourganda's summer mission trip is just around the corner (June 21 - July 7) – and we wish you could join the adventure.

Dear Friend,

What will we do?

Work with Our Medical Teams

The entire district knows that Ourganda is saving lives. They watch our mobile clinics drive by chock full of medications, supplies and happy nurses, midwives, and clinical officers. Word has spread that the vans roll into eight villages every week with a combined population of 10,000 people. Many Bundibugyo-ites have learned that every summer, medical workers fly half way around the world from places like the United States and the U.K. to serve alongside our Ugandan medical team. Our medical visitors this year are hair-on-fire, fourth-year med students from St. George's University in Grenada who can hardly wait to link up with Vincent and the rest of our team to save and extend lives.

Collaborate with Our Domestic Violence Team

Ourganda has a unique way of solving the domestic violence problem. Posting anti-violence messages, teaching classes, and sponsoring radio spots are important, but nothing stops the problem in its tracks like a rapid-response visit from an entourage led by Esther and some of the Mankind Club members. Offenders are kindly and firmly given a choice: kindness or prison. Some months, Esther has confronted over 30 offenders. Every man in our villages knows that things have changed; the lion's share are, by far, choosing kindness.

MISSION TRIP

MISSION STATEMENT



We wrote a mission statement for our mission trip: **To come alongside our brothers and sisters in Bundibugyo; to listen, to learn, then to prove through our actions that our love for them is deep and enduring.**



This summer, Dr. Heidee will work alongside Esther and her new associate, Benard, to meet with offenders, victims, and government officials. Heidee serves on the Idaho Offender Intervention Program committee which approves and oversees all batterer intervention programs in the state. She is eager to learn from Esther, share what she has learned, connect with local officials, and do her best to help accelerate the movement toward family harmony in our villages.

Establish Alcohol Recovery Groups

You can only imagine how destructive homemade alcohol is to relationships and families. Alcohol exacerbates the horrors of violence and devastates family finances. This year, Ourganda is partnering with StepSeven.org, an alcohol recovery ministry based in Colorado. Their founder and director, Tom, along with two of his colleagues, are flying from Denver to Entebbe, driving 8 hours across the country with the other mission trippers, then bouncing along those impossible roads to villages where people will attend classes and learn how to organize support groups. When StepSeven takes root in our villages, the impact will remove the shades of despair from thousands of faces.

Pave the Way for New Micro-Businesses

How about a new welding business? In addition to the businesses that are already growing, Ourganda is delighted to announce the pending launch of a welding cluster. Bill, owner of a welding business in western Idaho, is about to become teacher and mentor to young men from our villages who will form the nucleus of the cluster. Bill shared his plans for the mission trip and the welding cluster with friends from church who responded generously. One more exciting step toward creating entrepreneurs who lift themselves out of poverty!



Celebrate the new Community Center

The campus is a few months away from completion! And speaking of business clusters, Ourganda is already planning our own construction business. Since last November, ten workers from our villages have been in training with the crew that is building our new Community Center. Around the end of this year, we expect they will be ready to start their very first project.

And We'll Take Some Time to Play

Our mission trips are not all work. We'll spend a day at Queen Elizabeth National Park enjoying the hippos, elephants, crocodiles, water buffalo, and kob. We almost always find lions, too. Our team will tour Semuliki National Park, a mini-Yellowstone where sulfur pots and boiling water turn raw eggs into hardboiled treats in a matter of minutes.

Each evening, our team will eat in restaurants where the food is cooked over an open fire. We'll make new friends in villages where people used to wonder if anyone cared about them - now they know. We will feel injury-inducing hugs from children, women, and men who are alive because someone half a world away paid for life-saving surgery. We will cherish the smiles of beautiful children who are just now beginning to have hope.

Unless you hurry, you'll miss this year's trip. But next year will be here before you know it. Plan to join us then if you can. In the meantime, pray for our trip this year. And if you can, **please send a generous donation** so we can continue to permanently change more lives in this forgotten part of the world we love so much.

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!