

Cornerstone



NEWSLETTER July 2008

A Family of Friends - Developing the Cornerstones of Africa's Next Generation

WHAT IS A MOVEMENT?

By Mbaziira Josephats

This year's *Cornerstone Old Student's Association (COSA)* annual retreat impacted me in a particularly deep way. At this gathering we re-visited our vision of creating a movement - a life long brotherhood and sisterhood of friends. Since that time I have been more inspired and captivated about our vision than ever before. With the teachings and example of Jesus as our common ground - across all the divides of tribe and denomination - we are committed to love and support each other while *advancing a movement of men of integrity and women of virtue within Uganda, to East Africa, and beyond.*

How does one define the word "movement" and what distinguishes it from other English words such as group, association, faction or society? With a movement the one aspect that resonates more strongly is "togetherness." In the last issue of our newsletter, Tim wrote about the power of oneness and how that really drives any strong movement.

The Luganda word for movement is "*Omugendo*." This implies a cohesive group of individuals firmly moving toward a given destination. Related to that, is this saying: "*Eyawukana kumugendo efuuka kaasa*." This means that if one of the red safari ants (that always march in strong columns) left their movement... the rest would become black and ordinary...no longer having the strength possessed by red safari ants who always act as one. The black ants we see running around operate by themselves - without a unified direction and therefore have a small impact. Looking at this, it becomes clear that there cannot be a movement of one person. It only happens as groups of people move together - for a greater impact.

It does not take much effort to fail at relationships - you simply withdraw and stop communicating and soon it will be gone! On the other hand, it takes effort and commitment to cultivate good relationships. Because of this, we at COSA *intentionalize* our relationships by creating a variety of activities designed to enhance our relationships (meetings, workshops, visitations, retreats, parties...etc). It's only by this kind of specific intention to commit and care for each other that will keep us together moving forward. Of course there is still a lot of room for improvement but I'm excited to work even harder at this in the months ahead.

Finally, every movement that has caused significant positive impact in history - including Uganda's own *National Resistance Movement (NRM)* and the more significant *Jesus Movement* has had simple yet profound principles shared by a committed band of friends. A small group deeply committed to each other with a shared vision. It only takes about 5% of the population to cause a revolution that influences the remaining 95%. For the *Jesus Movement* it was Peter, Paul, James and others. For NRM it might have been the likes of Museveni and Tumwine, and for COSA, it will have to be **you and me!**



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- Zolo's revelation on life

This newsletter is published Quarterly for family and friends around the world.

Location

Head Office:

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Program Overview

Leadership Schools: Uganda

- CLA Boys, Nakasongola
- CLA Girls, Jakana Matuga
- Primary, Nakasongola
- Secondary, Nakasongola

Rwanda

- CLA, Rwamagana

Youth Corps Homes: Uganda

- Ntinda girls, Kampala
- Makerere boys, Kampala
- Bukesa boys, Kampala
- Mengo girls, Kampala
- Kibuli boys, Kampala
- Sorority house, Kampala
- Gulu Girls
- Gulu Boys
- Lira Girls
- Lira Boys

Tanzania

- Dar es Salaam

Rwanda

- Kigali

Sudan

- Juba

Projects:

Ekitangala Ranch

Nakasongola, Uganda

Community Development

Nakasongola, Uganda

Wolves Soccer Program

Kampala, Uganda

Widows Program

Kampala, Uganda

Core Focus

Our core focus is 'youth leadership development' - so all the various programs we run serve this focus by providing a practical "training ground" where the graduates of the Academies can learn to serve and pass on to others what they have received.

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some explanations for the unacquainted:

Cornerstone Schools: The Cornerstone Leadership Academies (CLA) are "Advanced Level" boarding, high schools that aim at molding young people coming from poor backgrounds, but with high potential - into future leaders. A big part of the aims of this program is to teach young future leaders from various religious backgrounds and different tribes - to learn to live together as brothers and sisters - as part of a movement of men of integrity and women of virtue. In addition to the academic studies, the program involves a comprehensive discipleship program following the principles, precepts and person of Jesus Christ.

We also teach this material in our Elementary and High schools that are open to the public. These schools have boarding facilities and accept students from all over the country, as well as catering to their local population.

Brotherhood and Sisterhood : Our schools are really just the beginning of a long-term relationship with these young people that continues on into University and beyond. Our vision/mission statement is: To create a life long brotherhood & sisterhood of friends that will support each other in a movement of "men of integrity" and "women of virtue."

This dream is steadily becoming a reality. Most of these young people come from broken homes or grew up as orphans so the 'Cornerstone family' often becomes their extended family. Many are in positions of leadership at their respective colleges and the university. Others in more quiet ways are making a positive impact on those around them. The long term potential to influence this nation is increasingly becoming evident as we see the maturity and commitment exhibited in the lives of these future leaders who have come up through our programs. We have weekly meetings at their various colleges so as to maintain our relationship and commitment to the values we hold in common and an annual retreat up at the ranch for all of our past graduates.

Youth Corps: Is a program that provides loving homes for homeless kids and also serves as a training ground for the young people who have graduated from our Leadership Academies and are involved in running the homes. The children get a place to sleep, a 'family' to belong to and are taught a better way to live - in line with the principles, precepts and person of Jesus. We also have homes for older guys/girls in university to live together, and learn to love each other and God.

Further thoughts on a movement

Gerlach & Hine, authors of the book: *People, Power, Change: Movements of Social Transformation* offer this definition of a social movement: "A movement

is a group of people who are organized for, ideologically motivated by, and committed to a purpose which implements some form of personal or social change; who are actively engaged in the recruitment of others; and whose influence is spreading in opposition to the established order within which it originated."

From this useful definition we can see that movements generally have a new underlying ideology and are change oriented. In Cstone our ideology is based on the principles, precepts and person – of Jesus of Nazareth –who didn't exactly come to tell the world it was headed in the right direction. When He began His movement its rallying cry had two key elements: 1. *Repent* (change your hearts and minds) 2. *The kingdom of God is at hand* (a new era of personal and social transformation aligned with divine Life has begun.)

It's a vision of a new humanity – based on the highest values found in various wisdom traditions – but now expanded to embrace all humanity as one people. In the time before Christ, love mainly occurred between members of the same ethnic group or religion. Christ brought a revolutionary change in this regard based on a 'new commandment' of love. "You have heard it said, 'Love your neighbor and hate your enemy,' but I say: Love your enemies...Why do you greet only your own people? Do not even pagans do that?" Mt.5 That's one of the unique features of Jesus' movement.

"Those who have eyes to see this new order as it arises will often be considered too revolutionary, too modern, too liberal...It is not a question of rejecting the past but of letting the past flow into the present and...guide us as how to live in the future. It's a question of loving all the essential values...openness, love, wholeness, unity, peace...and most important the necessity of forgiveness." writes Jean Vanier – founder of L'Arche communities in his book **Becoming Human**

We are part of the Jesus movement based in a community in East Africa. A family of friends made up of people from Pentecostal, Protestant, Catholic and Muslim backgrounds - or other denominations, as well as people with no religious affiliation. We are also composed of many different tribes, nationalities and skin color- black, brown and white. It's an inclusive and compassionate community that tries to live together, to learn together and to discover under the lesser difference our greater common humanity. For, we are all part of a beautiful and incredible humanity, our common family. As Jesus put it when he was speaking to the crowds – recorded in Matthew 23 – "...you are all brothers...as you have one Father who is in heaven." ---- Further thoughts by Tim

How to be **TENDO PROSSY!**

- You've gotta look SHARP! from head to toe, or should I say, "hair to toe"!
- Move with an international smile, and always steal the show.
- Be an artist, a student of fine art, and appreciator of artsy things.
- Perfect your cooking skills but because of your taste for a certain yellow fruit, you should never leave *matooke* absent from your plate!
- You love nick names and your friends must know that you are referred to as "Divine" - for all the right reasons.
- Beads, earrings, bracelets, hand bags, shoes - CHECK! Jewelry and a high sense of style are essential as you are a designer. A fashionista...
- There should at all times be a bit of "Kiwani" in your hair!
- People know you as "Mama Martha" - from the days when you were their care group leader at CLA... so you are a good 'mother', a good listener- loving and always patient.
- You must be born of a Reverend and hail from Masaka.
- Believe in your heart and follow your dreams...is your theme.

Tendo from the pioneer class of CLA - Girls in Uganda is pursuing a Diploma in Art & Design from a leading school of the profession. We caught up with her at her alma-mater, where she loves to develop meaningful relationships with all those she has met along the way. We love you Tendo!





CORNERSTONE SCHOOLS

Our focus for this newsletter was to profile some of the students from our various academies. It is our hope also that this will give our broader family a chance to connect with the next generation coming through our schools.

Cornerstone Leadership Academy Rwanda

Jeninah Uwingabire (left) is 19 years old and hails from Kalangazi in the east of the country. She is social, humble, and caring with a teachable spirit and handles things in a mature way. Such qualities have made her a leader in several capacities as a Care Group leader (Hannah).



Jeninah was also elected as student leader at the school level, and at the Sub County level as a representative for gender balance. But due to limited chances given to the Sub County she was not allowed to contest at the District level. Jeninah loves God and people with a passion and is highly gifted in counseling. She also likes singing and watching people dance.

Julius Mugisha (right) is 20 years old and stands out as a confident and determined young man who hails from Eastern Rwanda. Julius likes making friends & playing soccer. But his real ambitions lie in the political arena. His confidence, social and patriotic nature coupled with his ability to convince and influence others makes him Presidential material, a

dream he is pursuing. Such unmatched qualities and his natural height made him rise to the position of being elected as the student leader at the school level – then at the Sub County level and finally at the District level where he won with 66% of the vote and represents the district at the National level. Julius- CLA Rwanda is proud of you!



Cornerstone Leadership Academy for Young Women - Uganda

Rebecca Lunkuse (left): Comes from Mpigi and had to wait several years before joining school after completing her O Level exams in 2002. During this time, to make ends meet, she had to go through various odd jobs. Rebecca says the thing she enjoys the most at CLA Girls is the quality of the relationships students have with the teachers and the knowledge that: “I am being molded into a leader with character qualities gained from these relationships. I enjoy the

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sense of hope that has now been created in me and I can see a light at the end of the tunnel.” She

says this with passion, adding: “I hope that the hope I have now will carry me to great places.”

Harriett Adongping (right): She is from Gulu and did her O Levels at Sacred Hearts School before joining the Leadership Academy. Her favorite subject is Divinity. Her life ambition

is to live a life of appreciation for all things as they are in her life - for instance one of the things that makes her unique is the gap between her front teeth! She delights in dancing, mak-

ing friends and adventuring. Like her counterparts she delights in the fact that she is being equipped with life impacting principles she would have not gotten from any other school.

Cstone Leadership Academy for Young Men - Uganda

From the Boys Academy we are profiling Lugolobi Godfrey and Onyango Nathan Joseph because of their participation in a debating forum that has brought the school a lot of pride and excitement. Nathan advanced in the National Competitions to become the sole male student representing Uganda in the Continent wide forum held in South Africa. There, Uganda placed second in the South Africa debate due to his efforts with which he was very pleased.

Lugolobi Godfrey: (left) is taking Physics, Chemistry, Biology and Mathematics. His favorite being Chemistry. To him, the leadership principles taught and the emphasis placed on developing integrity makes his time at the school worth more than just academic progress.



He also participated in the debating forum but his group ran out of steam at semi-finals level losing out to Nathan's group. Prior to joining CLA Boys, Lugolobi did his O Level exams at Cstone's Ekitangaala Secondary School where he became the top student in the district.

Nathan Onyango: (right) Studies History, Economics, Geography and

Divinity. His favorite subject is Economics but his passion is in debating.

Nathan feels that what makes the Boys' School unique is the emphasis placed on *the value of relationships in spite of the diversity of students*. He explains that as we are able to make relationships a priority and intentionally work on them, in the end everybody wins.

Ekitangaala Secondary School

Justine Mbabazi (left) is a student in Senior 6. She has been at the school since 2003, after transferring from our own EKT Primary School. She is a boarding student whose family lives in Kamuli. Her favorite subject is Divinity, and says that she likes attending EKT S.S. because it is unique in that Character Development classes are taught to all students.

James Nkamo (right) is also an S6

student. He was also attracted to the Character Development lessons offered in this school, and has found that they have trained him to work better with others in the community and within his family. His dream is to one day become a lawyer so that his can bring some values of integrity into the



Ugandan judicial system.

In other news, the ground has been broken on constructing a 500 capacity hall to benefit the entire ranch community while also serving as a main hall for Ekt. SS

Ekitangaala Primary School

Daniel Kusirika (left) is a Primary 7 student. His family lives in Nakasongola and as he isn't a boarding student - **he walks two hours to school everyday!** He has been with us for 8 years, and has seen the school grow from 2 buildings to 4 with dormitories, cafeteria, and playground. His favorite subject is Math, and wishes to achieve 4 aggregate points this year on his exams.

Rebecca Kapuk (right) is also in P7 and is a boarding student whose family lives in Lira. Her brother is a teacher at EKT SS. She says that she feels this is a good school because the Character Development classes they receive are very valuable. She also likes the fact that there are plenty of text books for the students. Her favor-



ite subject is English and she enjoys singing and dancing as her hobbies.

In other news, the new School Chapel is nearing completion, this will be a great enhancement to the fellowship needs of the school and ranch workers.

Ntinda Home

Our home continues to be a place of joy and healing to about 16 formerly homeless girls. In this report we take time to share with you the life of Natasha, a family member in Ntinda home. Born in Mombasa (Kenya) her mother and father died in 1999, and after living with her Grandmother for a few years, at age 7 they moved to the Kampala suburb of Kibuli.

Life was not easy – she speaks of torture, child abuse and mistreatment as everyday experience for the young girl. You see, Natasha’s grandmother was a practicing witchdoctor in the community and had claimed to have demonic powers. The old lady planned to offer Natasha as a living sacrifice to satisfy the gods she worshiped. That was when Natasha’s fate took a turn for the better and saved her life. She decided to run

away from where she was staying and went to the nearby Kibuli Boys Youth Corps home. She actually lived there for over 8 months as she was so scared to go elsewhere. With time she settled down and was transferred to the Girl’s home in Ntinda where with the help of mentors, she has healed from the effects of living under demonic oppression. Seeing her today after 3 years – she is a transformed person and has undergone vocational training in baking, where she allows her creative side to come to the surface while baking cakes at weddings and other functions.

Also from Ntinda home; we would love you to meet Charity Byarugaba, from the South-West of Uganda. She lost her mother in 2000 after a long illness, and later her Dad also



Joselyn, Adriene, Agnes

suddenly passed away. It was from the collapsed African Foundation orphanage that we inherited this joyful and wonderful girl. She is currently pursuing a Bachelors Degree in Economics and Statistics under our support. She is honored in this edition because of the spice of vitality she adds to the home! We believe she has come a long way with the transformation of her heart and comes across as one very grateful to this family of friends for the guardianship. She now faces a clear and confident future unfolding in front of her.

Youth Corps Homes

The life together

Kibuli Home

In this report we would like you to meet Seguya Saddam, his is a story of a tough trip from a street boy’s life in Kisenyi, the biggest slum in Kampala. From a broken Muslim background, Seguya aged

16, vividly recalls the tough times he has gone through as both his parents died of a tragic motor accident in 2002. A situation of hopelessness and frustration griped the family in their tiny village in Masaka, “two of my sisters ran to town to sell off their bodies to raise money” (working as prostitutes), Seguya recalls. Due to the pain of parental loss, need for food, and the deep feeling of insecurity in the village, Seguya and his two brothers trekked to the Kampala city streets.

“Life on the streets was hell. The greatest challenge was finding food, and somewhere to sleep.” He felt abandoned and no one was there to comfort or care for him. In the Kisenyi slums he survived by petty thieving and begging. He was constantly an enemy of the police, and he and his friends lived on drugs and fighting. This year in March he was picked

up from the street and brought to our home. He’s happy because he’s gotten a family to belong to and someone to love him. He does not have school fees to resume school but now dreams big of becoming a medical doctor.

This boy’s story is just one of the numerous testimonies of transformation in this entry home now under Sam, Babu, Michi, and Denis - all mentors and graduates of CLA. The home recently received 3 more boys from the street, and the one thing they are all grateful for is belonging to a family of friends and “the life together” enabled by friends of Cornerstone.

(report by Babu Abdallah)



Babu, Sam, Paul, Denis

Singing & dancing at the dinner for Sams CD release



Bukesa Home

Being that this home has been around for some time (it is the oldest Youth Corps home in town) we tend to get boys who were once graduated from the home - after finding life more difficult than they expected, come back to the home in a state of dependency. Sometimes this can interfere with our efforts to focus on the new group of current residents. We are learning how to balance our roles in supporting their progress after they are out from under our roof. When they do visit it is often unannounced and creates much congestion in the house. But on the positive side it is great for them to come back and share their challenges and applicability of the precepts we taught. Sometimes the mentors have had to apply some "tough love" to get guys to move out and get on with their lives! The home is also serving as the



Counselor, Denis, Peter

anchor place and meeting venue for our graduated boys and girls (YCOSA) when they congregate for their monthly sharing.

Since February the home has received 8 boys who transferred from the Kibuli home. All these boys are in school and it has been a tough time for the mentors to effect this transition. We need to pray for transformation of these young men. As mentioned earlier one of our mentors Peter Kasule, lost his mom and grandmother recently. The rest of the mentors Denis, Benon, and Counselor and the boys are fine.



Boys mastering the dynamics of board games -Bukesa home

Mengo Home

In this family we believe in the saying "Few of us can do great things, but all of us can do small things with great love." This is because in all that we've been doing, we have tried to do the little details that we can manage - but with great love, knowing that the greatest things that Jesus did were in the smallest acts of love toward *the least, the lost and the last*.

With the resettlement of most of the elderly girls; Regina, Prossie, Helen, Juanita Justine amongst others, the challenge has been getting the new girls to settle into the home and for the mentors to also adjust to the needs of the now younger girls in the home. It's all about being able to share with them, live with them, love and influence each other. We are happy that some of the new girls have been able to secure some school fees so that they can get back in school - particularly through the efforts of visiting friends especially **Lisa Berg from Minnesota**. The girls are appreciative to you all for the support and prayer.



Florence, Josephine, Esther, Alen

Makerere Home

As mentors we feel privileged to give these young men love and a sense of direction in life - to equip, support, and encourage them in a better way to live. Uganda like much of the world is experiencing a big increase in food prices. This has hit the budgets of all our homes. But despite the limited re-

sources God has entrusted us with a Vision that we are determined to carry on. Currently our home has 19 boys - all of them are now in school at different levels. Alutia Moses, one of the mentors, left in June to work with Ekitangaala Secondary School and plans to get married in October this year. The home is now open to some new graduates of CLA to come on board as mentors soon - so contact Charles



Justin, Alen

Mugabi for more details. Continue to pray with us for furnishing needs like beddings and mosquito nets to enable a comfortable life for the boys.

Sorority house



Lydia

We recently received an assortment of donations to make the house a much more pleasant place for the ladies who reside there. Lydia is the head mentor. Included in these new provisions were a TV, so now they are sure of being updated on the Obama situation and Mugabe's political struggles! Other gifts include two sofa set chairs, a dining set, and some carpets.

We expect to receive an inflow of new sisters as the academic year commences in September. And, we are patiently praying for a day when Sorority will be in a permanent house owned by Cstone. This is because Cstone would like to get a property near Makerere University that can serve as a student center/home for all our members.

Meanwhile the numbers in the house continue to grow - we are around 10 now. Right now life has calmed down as most members are away for their holidays. So just a few of us have remained - especially those doing their internship or studying during the recess terms with the University.

Gulu boys/girls Homes

First let me say that no amount of words can express how blessed and honored we are to be part of a world-wide family of friends who stand with us in work here in Northern Uganda. Sometimes we are preoccupied with living in the world of endless needs that we can take for granted the blessings we do have. We also thank God for the success in the lives of the forty-two children we are touching and blessing daily. These are the 22 boys and 20 girls in our two Gulu home not far from each other.

A few highlights are as followed: During the recent school holiday period, a few of the kids paid visits to their surviving relatives. We tend to encourage this as it is a deliberate attempt to encourage their sense of belonging. They have since come back in time for this semester of school.

We were also blessed to have Eric Kreutter and Charles Mugabi visit the home for fellowship on their way to Sudan. These wonderful guys were hosted in the bigger Girls' home as the Boys' house lacks a visitor's room. We are in the process of working with the landlady on this and hope to have a room prepared by July.

Two of the girls, Vicky and Eunice, have officially progressed from primary to secondary school and are now attending Restore Academy, a leadership school began by friends of Cornerstone - Bob Goff of Restore International.

Okeny Francis also joined secondary school and is attending Kasubi Army SSS. We are thankful to have Francis in the home as he was formerly abducted by the Lords Resistance Army rebel group for a period of two years before being rescued by government troops. He is one of the most disciplined boys and his desire to lead is evidence of a transformed heart.



Titus, Francais, Angelina



Rwanda family celebrate their independence day

Lira boys/girls Homes

Our recent accomplishments include planting 1.5 acres of maize and ground nuts near the home. The planting took place in late April and we plan to harvest around August. This will allow us to ease our budget on food and provide funds to cover some small upkeep projects around the house. One of our visitors, Tori, helped to assist in this project during her stay at the home.

A few struggles that you can help pray about - some of our



Eunice, Cathrine, Jacob, Ambrose

children have fallen sick on account of malaria and typhoid. Furthermore, one of our boys, Isaac, has chosen to return to street life. We pray that one day he will return to live with us and until then he is in our prayers.

We thank God for the provision that has been granted to us. We have never lacked food or basic necessities. Our children are safely studying in school and we have been able to mentor them in a loving environment.

Rwanda- Kigali Home



Deus

By Deus Gahiga - It is great for us to extend our little voice in updating brothers and sisters as to what is happening in the home. Over a time we've recognized the value of oneness

in our small family of friends in Christ. Our daily devotion time has been a light that helps us to comprehend this concept of unity in the teachings and example of Jesus. You may ask yourself: how do we build that oneness? In Kigali we try to value the presence and contribution of every member. As we live together in a spirit of love and understanding it seems that our understanding of Jesus becomes better as well. Maybe this is partly a fulfillment of his saying: *"Whatever you do to one of the least of these my brothers you have done it unto me."*

Please listen to Mushumba Paul's life experience, *"When I lost all my parents, I saw myself as a hopeless person with no future at all, my elder sister was bitter toward our family because of the poor environment we had lived in. I looked at life in a negative way, even when God enabled me to go through higher levels of learning I still wasn't happy."* He adds, *"Since I joined the YC family I have seen God restoring my hope again due to the interactions I always have with my friends."* I guess this means that we all need to have a sense of belonging to feel happy in life.

In other news: The home has moved locations to a new house at Kimironko. We carried along with us the spirit that has made our home a true family.

On 4th/07/08 Rwanda celebrated her liberation day in which our Cornerstone family of brothers and sisters decided to join together at our house to remember how God brought Rwandese from exile. Gahire Andrew Cohen in his speech said that, His Excellence (our president) is setting a pace for all the youth of Rwanda to work hard for a better tomorrow. He encouraged all of us to work hard in different dimensions of our world setting. Uncle David reminded all of us how far God has brought us, and that night all guys at the house were in a great triumph and full of inspiration.

Tanzania- Dar Home

By Peter Nyalandu - The beginning of things is never easy but now I can say we are doing great down here in Dar es Salaam. I say this because at first when we started the program in Dar things were a little rough. We were not used to each other even those of us who went through CLA. It took time for us to strike a comfortable balance between the three of us mentors - Salum, Isaac and myself.



Peter, Isaac

One of the biggest problems was the issue of listening to each other. All of us wanted to be heard but we sometimes did not pay attention to the others. This posed a challenge to really apply the things we had learned while in the Leadership Academy and the principles of Jesus we were studying. But gradually as these problems were brought into the light we were able to sort out our differences of opinion and respect one another.

So, all I can say for now is that *we have come a long way*. We are learning to love each other in the way that Christ loved us and we bless the Lord for seeing us through all of this.

We know that because of the distance from our home base in Uganda we are not able to receive as many visitors as we would have

Sudan- Juba Home



Charles, Emmanuel

By Charles Ohuro

We in Sudan are grateful to God and all those who support

the home in one way or another. On the 31st of May - Eric Kreutter and Charles Mugabi visited our home and encouraged the boys and the new mentor in the home (Emanuel Gita). It was a memorable and very enjoyable time as few people brave the journey to this part of the world. Mugabi joked with the boys of his resistance to mosquitoes and claimed that the Sudanese mosquitoes were different and less harmful than those of Uganda.

Emmanuel Gita is now living full time in Juba as earlier this year he had graduated from University. Among the other guys, Lawrence Oraba has been voted by the home residents to be the most capable of backing up Emmanuel Gita as head of the home when he is out.

The biggest concern facing the home at this point is the building itself as it is a bit far from town. We have a lease agreement for another 3 months and then we will look for another home nearer to town to suit the needs of our young men better.



Sudan guys during Eric and Charles' visit

Cornerstone

Newsletter Pictorial



S5 Boys Students of CLA Rwanda with Tim (above)



Head master of



S5 Girls Students of CLA Rwanda (above)

CLA Rwanda campus (below)



Grace Nelson



To the right is a painting by the American artist Norman Rockwell called "The Golden Rule." The original is hanging in the front of the U.S. Capitol building in New York City. On it are written Jesus' words: "Love one another as I have loved you." A copy of this work is in the office of U.S. Senator Bill Nelson, who recently visited Rwanda.

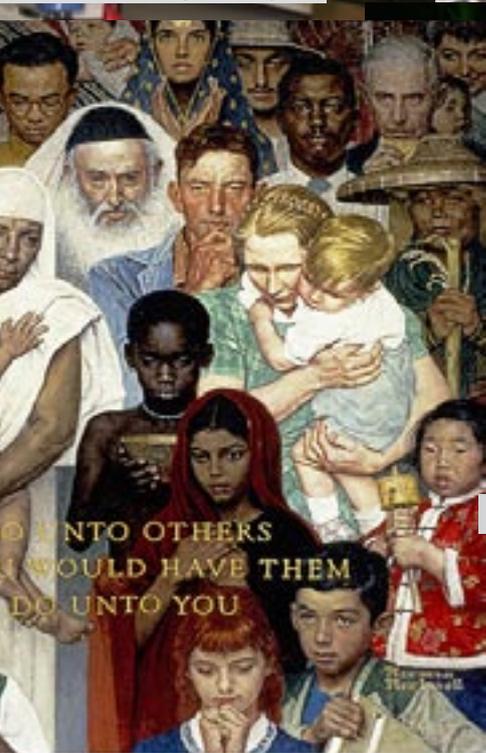




CLA Rwanda (above)



Youth Corps mentors retreat '08



...nt entrance to the United Nations build-
...esus' words, "Do unto others
...as donated to CLA Girls by Grace, wife of
...ited Uganda. Grace visited CLA Girls.



Mentors dinner at the Kreutter's



Ejalam, Miriam, Ron & Doris Weeks



The milk truck crew



Reuniting at CLA Girls Uganda

A Family of Friends!

COSA Updates by Alfred Edakasi, Henry Kigozi and Mbaziira Josephats

Right now the total number of all our members is 430 with around 100 (less than 25%) attending different universities and institutions of higher learning. This represents a growing, formidable force that we need to keep united and focused so as to harness its full potential - and expand our circle of influence. One of our main goals in this regard is to continue to build and maintain meaningful relationships with all of our young men and women.

As our young people mature in life - we have had to reinvent our tactics beyond the ones we used to use. When most of our members were still in University we could easily meet in one place. Now more than 75% of our members are out in the career and professional sectors of society.

Raphael and Babirye Prossy are the new coordinators for Makerere while Keeya Rogers takes the mantle for coordinating activities at the Business School. We are moving in to the semester break period for most of those attending university apart from those on recess programs. At Makerere University and its Business School, our meetings have been suspended until August when the school reopens.

Our meetings have been going on well but our fellowship was shocked to hear the news that brother Kasule Peter lost both his mother and grandmother in the month of June. Three of Mugenyi Rogers' uncles also died during the last few months. It's our prayer that that Lord will comfort them through these tough times.

Kyambogo University: After several months of student and staff strikes - our University recently re-opened after months of uncertainty. In spite

gained enormously from the experience.

Nsamizi Institute of Social Work: We now have a formidable number of students at Nsamizi College and they are fronting Logit Gabriel as a candidate for Student body President. We look forward to letting you know what will transpire.

Gulu University: William Kinunu has been elected to the student Parliament and is now a Cabinet Minister for off-campus students. We thank God that Kinunu recently survived a bad road accident when the bus he was in over-turned on the Kampala-Gulu Highway. He was discharged from Gulu Hospital after two days.

Business Forum: Under the leadership of Alfred Edakasi we are holding monthly meetings for all our people inclined towards business. This business forum will hopefully serve as an active support group where people can bounce their ideas off each other - in order to gain clarity and insights for their ventures. We also expect it to develop into a resource base for partnerships, capital mobilization, business plans and other business related needs.

The numbers of this group are growing with each meeting. Our focus now is on skills training for members. Before our next meeting scheduled for July 26th, our first workshop on this will take place. It is also in our urgent plans plan to find funds to finance viable projects that we have identified. More information is available on the COSA calendar and please feel free to call Alfred.

New Africa Vision (NAV)
By Bigirwa Aloysius - This is a forum for those of us with political ambitions - we have had several meetings over the

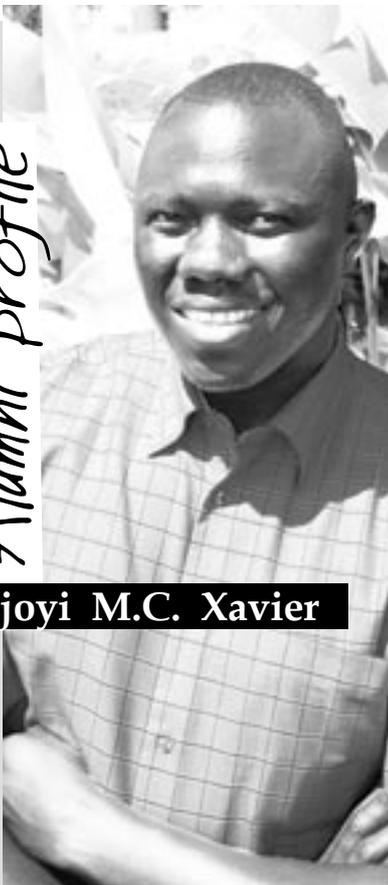


COSA members & friends talk politics at AYL

In light of this we now have a range of events both directed at students and those who have completed their education. It is up to each of us to plug into the many activities lined up for our benefit. Here is an update:

Makerere University and Business School: Okoropot

of this, we have continued to meet though the turn up was low with about half of the usual numbers being out of town. Our sister Honest Kansime contested in University Politics for the Guild Representative - Student Parliament. We applaud her courage and even though she did not "win" she



Ejoyi M.C. Xavier

This fine young "old boy" graduated from CLA 1997. He then joined Makerere University on government scholarship and studied Social Sciences. After graduation he served as chairman of COSA for two consecutive years. He then went on to complete a Masters Degree in Peace and Reconciliation in the UK. From there he went on to work in India for the Common Wealth Commission on police matters - where he published several articles in the local state papers.

After completing his work in India he returned to Uganda to work with a research body on children. He then went on to work with the Danish NGO DANIDA where among other duties he helped broker the peace talks between the Uganda government and the LRA rebel group.

The most recent developments in his life involve him moving to Nairobi to work with an institute for peace.

past months now and are moving to higher levels of interaction and determination. We have found ourselves getting more focused on the issues that affect and impinge on our ambition to leadership. For the past few meetings we have discussed how to build our personal potentials before we go out into the wider society.

As mentioned earlier, two of our members Honest and Logit have been in serious campaigns. Honest did her best but her victory seem to have met some "Kivuiti" (malice) along the way. In the case of Logit, he is doing his best to bring "the change we can believe in" - Obama style.

The Creative and Performing Arts Forum: Sanya Samuel (CLA class of 2005) hosted a dinner at our Kibuli Clubhouse in a bid to raise funds for the launch of his first CD album of 6 tracks entitled "Yesu Waffe." The dinner that attracted a house full of his fans included many Cstone old students, members of his church and the

general public. They excitedly watched and listened to him perform a number of songs from the album. This was a follow up to the launch of Mbalangu Vincent's Chosen album launch. Others within this forum are considering meeting every fortnight to practice singing and playing instruments. With this progress and positive responses from our meetings, we are planning and praying to acquire a complete set of musical equipment.

Dinner Report:

To encourage our members during their final exams, the COSA executive organized a dinner instead of the monthly meeting held at the head office on June 1st. We had about 150 people turn up despite the bad weather. The dinner served as a time to recog-

nize, honor, and appreciate all members who have been working so diligently to excel in final exams. We have about 15 members completing at this time from various institutions who will earn Bachelor's Degrees.

The speaker was brother Mwangala David Milton who shared with the members advice and expectations regarding a new journey into the employment field. Milton encouraged new graduates to have self-confidence and faith allowing God to be a part of their job search. The dinner was successful as all the members had a wonderful time involving food, music, and fellowshiping with brothers and sisters - especially across the generation gaps.

COSA Workers Fellowship: A new fellowship has been created to help to bring together all COSA members who have recently joined the professional and working class - to share about issues related to work challenges, opportunities and career development. This forum will hold its first get-together dinner meeting on the 16th August and thereafter continue to hold monthly meetings on the second weekend of every month.

Married Fellowship: We continue to meet once every month for fellowship and mutual support with



Joselyn, Alen, and Counselor enjoy dinner

no pressure on expectations or do's and don'ts. The meetings have taken place from one home to another, hosted by willing couples. In the month of May, Tony and Sarah hosted us with Auntie Jessica as the guest speaker. The sharing has been on communication - a topic that has carried on for two months in a row. Our June meeting was hosted by Annett and Richard Mutaawe. Our next meeting is going to be hosted by Julie and Vincent Mbalangu on July 28th.

As the numbers increase, in the future we intend to split the group into two so that the relationships can continue to develop more closely. This will also make hosting easy. But we intend to regularly keep having reunions like going to the beach or zoo - to take out our loved ones. Continue to pray for the land needs and the idea of having something like an estate. We hope this will help bring us all together and we can have stronger ties with each other. For now we continue to explore our relationships and staying united.

African Youth Leadership Forum (AYLF): These past few months we have been consistently meeting



EKT old students meet to discuss the vital issues!

once a month at Makerere Guest house at the University. This has been bringing together an average of 20 student leaders from Kyambogo, MUBS and Makerere University. Our focus has been to form a group of people who will be consistent and work as the core for this movement before we can spread out to cover other universities country-wide. Our discussions for the past four months have been on self reflection and reconciliation.

We were particularly inspired by

the DVD of former Pakistan Prime minister Benazir Bhutto where she explained her understanding of Jesus and how she had found Him to be common ground that could bring many different people together. This documentary really gives credibility to our approach of focusing on Jesus to bring unity in diversity.

We were also blessed to host Honorable Mugisha Muntu (Former Army commander, East African Member of Parliament). He explained the aspect of private victory as a way to public victory emphasizing self reflection, humility and unwavering focus as key pillars lacking among many current leaders. He highlighted the main problems of leaders being more about personal character than external factors and that those who manage their internal environment can successfully lead others. He challenged members to develop a discipline of self leadership before aspiring to lead others.

At the end of May, the Ugandan Chapter was privileged to send 7 participants for a AYLF forum in Kenya as part of their National Prayer Breakfast. The two day event attracted about 35 students that mainly centered on explaining the AYLF Vision, sharing about the concepts of Jesus and building relationships across the regions.

CSTONE OLD STUDENTS - ACTIVITIES July-Dec, 2008

	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Monthly meets	6th	3rd	7th	5th	2nd	7th
Weekly Meets		10 th , 17 th , 24 th , 31 st	14 th , 21 st , 28 th	12 th , 19 th , 26 th	9 th , 16 th , 23 rd , 30 th	14 th , 21 st , 28 th
Bash and Gala		30 th				
Business	26 th		27 th		29 th	
NAV	10 th	14 th	11 th	16 th	13 th	11 th
Marrieds	27 th	24 th	21 st	19 th	23 rd	21 st
AYLF	5 th	2 nd	6 th	4 th	1 st	6 th
C&PAF		23 rd		25 th		
COSA.W.F		16 th	20 th	18 th	15 th	

PLEASE NOTE: 1. This calendar is still under development but has some proposed dates and activities, which we look forward to engage ourselves in up to early December.

2. This calendar has most activities that will happen in Kampala. Therefore, other regional coordinators send us your activities to be included in the next newsletter.

3. We encourage you all to check with the COSA executive whenever you are in Kampala or when they are visiting your area - for further updates.

Cornerstone Projects

The Ekitangaala Ranch



Gesa

The ranch is experiencing the drier period of June and July so milk production goes down a little. But this is made up for by the fact that more than ever before we are managing to raise very good size heifers which are joining the milking herd or can be sold for a high price.

Also, the increased price of milk and beef is allowing us to receive better profits on our products. Recently about 30 steers were sold at record prices fetching about 18,000,000/- shillings. So with the increase in food prices world wide the ranch is doing better than ever financially.

Currently we are focusing on renovating some of our fence lines. And after the heavy rains we are working at improving the overall appearance of the roads as they have been run down a bit lately.

The Wolves Soccer Club

I am glad to inform you that coach Stone remains the most inspirational person to lives of the Wolves' family. The character of the young men is shaped by his words of wisdom before we start any activity.

Sendakira Didia, one of our former boys, is now a goal keeper playing in Canada. He says that it is the principles he learned from the Wolves that are helping him live his life in Canada. We are grateful to all of you that are praying and supporting us. Please continue and God bless.



Stone, Musa



Coach Stone having a word with the boys on the pitch

The Widows Program



Joyce, Carrie

Blessings from the widows! We have been quite busy, as we have been treated with the presence of many volunteers and visitors. Carrie has been here for several months working with the widows on various projects, especially with our land issues. We are still in the ongoing process of searching for land that will allow our widows a place to live together in community.

We also have two new interns, Old Girls Susan and Eunice who have been in training with Carrie and will carry on her duties. Furthermore, Wendy Weimer-skirch and friends held a party on June 24th at Lugogo Baptist Church for the widows. There were refreshments and singing along with a malaria prevention lesson. All the widows were given free pre-treated mosquito nets courtesy of Wendy and friends Julie, Holli, and Casey. What an encouraging party!

On another encouraging note, our necklace sales are proving very successful as we are constantly making new paper necklaces to meet the demands of customers. This is a huge financial blessing.

Please continue to pray for us in our ongoing land struggles. Next month several of our widows who live in Nakawa will be evicted from their homes. We do not know where they will go and we are praying for God's faithful provision. Thank you for your prayers and support.

The Desiderata

Go placidly amid the noise and haste,
and remember what peace there may be in silence.
As far as possible, without surrender, be on good terms with all persons.
Speak your truth quietly and clearly; and listen to others,
even to the dull and ignorant; they too have their story.
Avoid loud and aggressive persons; they are vexations to the spirit.
If you compare yourself with others, you may become vain or bitter,
for always there will be greater and lesser persons than yourself.
Enjoy your achievements as well as your plans.
Keep interested in your own career, however humble,
it's a real possession in the changing fortunes of time.
Exercise caution in your business affairs, for the world is full of trickery.
But let this not blind you to what virtue there is;
many persons strive for high ideals, and everywhere life is full of heroism.
Be yourself.
Especially do not feign affection. Neither be cynical about love;
for in the face of all aridity and disenchantment,
it is as perennial as the grass.
Take kindly the counsel of the years,
gracefully surrendering the things of youth.
Nurture strength of spirit to shield you in sudden misfortune.
But do not distress yourself with dark imaginings.
Many fears are born of fatigue and loneliness.
Beyond a wholesome discipline, be gentle with yourself.
You are a child of the universe no less than the trees and the stars;
you have a right to be here.
And whether or not it is clear to you,
no doubt the universe is unfolding as it should.
Therefore be at peace with God, whatever you conceive him to be.
And whatever your labors and aspirations, in the noisy confusion of life,
keep peace in your soul.
With all its sham, drudgery and broken dreams,
it is still a beautiful world.
Be cheerful. Strive to be happy.

-A poem by Max Ehrmann

Above is a poem by Max Hermann. He was an attorney turned philosopher-poet. He spent his life wrestling with the realities of making a living and following his personal calling to a life of poetry, literature, and thought. He wrote *Desiderata* for himself, "because it counsels those virtues I felt myself most in need of." He died in 1945. (Desiderata means Things desired; that which the lack is felt; a want generally felt and acknowledged.)

NEW DEVELOPMENTS

Burundi -Bujumbura



Benard

In early May 2008 Tim, Eric and Benard (from the Rwanda Youth Corps home) traveled overland to Bujumbura to investigate the possibility of starting a project there. Among the friends we met with were Prosper Turamuci and Charles Nkurunziza (a Youth Corps veteran). The response was overwhelmingly positive and all the friends we met with were in full support of moving forward with plans to set up a Youth Corps home as the first phase of our operations in Burundi. Benard expressed interest in leading the home as a founding mentor.



Tim gets familiar with some of the locals in Burundi

Kenya- Mombasa Home

We are partnering with a group in the US to bring a mentorship based home to the Mombasa community in Kenya. Development is in the early stages of research and assessment of needs. One of our fine young men, Benon, will be traveling there in a few weeks to develop more feedback on the situation there. Benon is a graduate of our CLA in Uganda, and has been a mentor at our Bukessa Youth Corps home for 2 years.



Benon

Uganda- YC

We are in the process of fund raising for a new Youth Corps home in Kampala, Uganda. Kristen Vogel is working with her US based support group HALO to set up a mentorship based home that caters to young girls in the city who have turned to less reputable means of income. We will explore ways of getting them back on their feet and equipping them with the skills necessary to succeed in life.

Tanzania- CLA

A Cornerstone Leadership Academy is in development for construction in Arusha, Tanzania. We have had great response for all concerned parties and financial support has been secured for the first phase of construction. Recent developments: we are in the process of finding a good piece of land for the school.



ZOLO'S REVELATION ON LIFE

By Jack Zolo Jalacida (Senior 5 Cornerstone Boys):

These are the revelations of Zolo after losing an important election at CLA Boys: Imagine if God was not omnipotent and the world was controlled by beasts and monsters. Just take a closer look at how life begins from the time of conception until a child is born. It defeats my understanding to see people messing up their lives, knowing well that life is precious and a beloved gift from God. People, when confronted with problems, take a short cut of dissolving life through suicide and self destructive ways. Remember God made you for a rea-

son and you must jealously protect that interest. In case you have a tormenting moment, just think, there is no issue or event that will confront you without God's knowledge. Take heart and face the challenges.

For those of us who lost in the just concluded election, I encourage us to think twice that God has a purpose for not making us go through. The Bible puts it that "many are called but few are chosen". In addition, just imagine, if all of us were to be leaders, where shall we get the led (people to lead). It's therefore a brain of thought for everyone to know that God is masterminding our lives to

test our patience level. Remember, our people say; "patience pays"!

As we begin this new transition, let us also remember our brothers who unanimously voted for our various positions of authorities and protect our zealous relationship that existed. We still remain comrades regardless of the level where we are. According to the Luo (tribal group of the rulers of the world), there is a saying that "Do not uproot the pumpkin". Meaning, if God has uplifted you, never try to forget your people with whom you shared the "independent cake." It is only relationships that build- us for a man is not a product of the possessions but the quality of relationships he keeps with others.

Why are we putting visitors in our newsletter?!

An important part of the Cornerstone family includes the flow of amazing young (and young at heart) visitors who come to be part of our community, to learn and to serve in whatever way they can. Cstone has no official internship or volunteer program but every year we get dozens of people coming through a *world wide web of relationships*. This happens as friends who have been with us before recommend to us their

friends who want to come to Africa. We really cannot create job-descriptions and specific positions for everyone who comes. So basically it's just a matter of people coming out - seeing all that is going on - and then plugging into whatever aspect of the work that they choose. It's sort of the spirit of "follow me" without exactly knowing ahead of time all that Jesus has in mind for our lives. And probably a couple hundred visi-

tors have come and lived with us over the years. And, it has become very apparent to us that the spirit of the Cstone Family does not only bless the lives of young Africans - it's equally a gift that we have to share with others. So, just as any family feels incomplete without its various members, Cornerstone would not be what it is without the phenomenal brothers, sisters, aunts, uncles, parents and grandparents who have joined us from around the world.

Visitor profile



Wendy Weimerskirch

At the age of nine, Wendy took her first trip to Uganda with her family. That sparked in her a growing fire of affection for this country that has remained ever since. Upon her high school graduation, she was finally free to return after the many years following her first trip. But being only 17 it was difficult to find an organization that would welcome this recent high school graduate - she didn't quite fit the profile for many serving opportunities. A family friend of the Kreutters suggested Cornerstone and Wendy began writing Tim. He too was reluctant as most of our visitors have to be self-reliant - so at first he told her it wouldn't work out. But she wouldn't take "no" for an answer and said she was booking her flights. Finally Tim's willingness to take a risk with all kinds of people and his curiosity on what kind of "tough little woman this was" - eventually led to her coming with her friend, Philip. And, they first worked with us for six months from July

2006 through December 2006. *"I arrived with no expectations, not even fully aware of what Cornerstone was,"* Wendy said of her first trip. Upon encouragement to plug in to wherever she felt passionate, Wendy got involved in *several* of Cstone's projects. Since her first volunteer experience, she has returned each summer and plans to continue with a life-long relationship to this African family.

The only ones among you who will be really happy are those who will have sought and found how to serve.

-Albert Schweitzer

One could call her a "breath of fresh air" with the enthusiasm she brings into all her interactions with our people. During her trips here she is all over the place - hanging out and visiting all her friends in the various projects. This allows her to maintain relationships, offer encouragement, and meet needs. For example,

there are now 35,000 books in all the various Cstone schools and a few others as well - which came shipped from the States in a cargo container, all organized by Wendy and Philip. It's projects like those that wouldn't happen without someone who takes initiative to serve. Say the name Wendy around any Cornerstone member and their eyes will light up as a big grin spreads across their face. This resembles the very impact that she is making by committing to serve in her own ways.

Last summer her entire family of three generations accompanied her to Uganda. On this last trip, Jajja (grandparents) Dick and Jean even returned to spend ample amounts of time at the Ranch, along with her mother Marcia. The bond that her family shares as a result of these experiences is another reason why Wendy keeps coming back. On this last June trip Wendy has brought along new friends—Julie, Holli, and Casey—who have also joined her in the Cornerstone family.

When asked why Wendy continues to return, she says: *"When I am here, I suddenly feel more awareness of who I am, more of a presence."* This larger sense of self is an outcome of her heart for Uganda and its people.

Thank you Wendy for using your passion, drive, and creativity to serve Cstone, but more importantly your love and care for 'the least of these' in Uganda. We can't wait to see you again!

with his mentor Martin Luther King, Jr from the beginning of the civil rights movement. Currently he is an Obama supporter and believes that a black US president would have a special platform for "teaching the world how to live in the 21st century" given the lessons they have learned as a people from what they have been through. And in the same way the unity government of Kibaki, Musyoka and Odinga could also serve to present a model for political cooperation that could: 'transform the region.'

Fauntroy talked about his experiences of being an Ambassador for Peace and said his personal passion was to: "End the barbarism of war, the decadence of racism and the scourge of poverty." And he added that he felt that people of African descent should be at the forefront of teaching the world to end these three things.

Quoting M.L.King he said: "Either we learn to live together as brothers and sisters on this planet or we will perish together." He added that in recent decades: "The world has changed so much; there's much hatred, war and poverty and the gap between the haves and have-nots has grown bigger." "It's now a time to wake-up...no more backwater thinking." "We need to petition the conscience of people all over with the principles of forgiveness, reconciliation and justice." "Otherwise the world will turn into an insane asylum with the inmates in charge."

He also cited Ghandi as in instructive example that oppressed people can gain freedom through non-violent action. He further emphasized that 5 basic elements were required for a decent quality of life for all people and without them the world will never know peace. These are: 1. Access to a means of earning income. 2. Education required to earn adequate income. 3. Access to good health care. 4. Housing and 5. Justice.

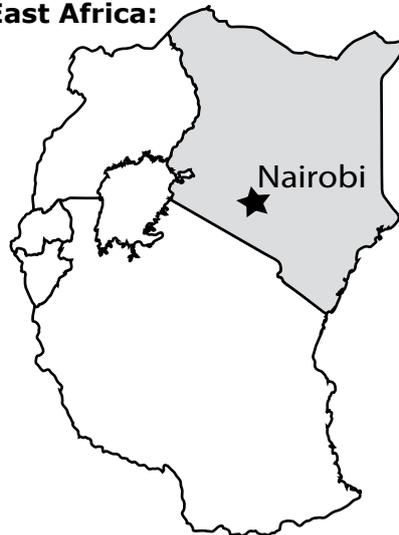
This he felt would help bring Jesus's "Abundant Life" to the least of these. He added that, "If for no other reason we should follow Jesus' commandment to "Love our neighbor as our self" for

the purposes of self-defense." For if our neighbor lacks the 5 above basic necessities he will want to come after ours as: "Anger leads to violence."

He then talked about his membership in the Abraham Covenant which sought to bring common ground for Jews, Christians and Muslims with Abraham being the father of all these faiths and Moses their law giver.

Finally he appealed to Spiritual Leaders "as Ambassadors from another realm" to play their part in furthering repentance, forgiveness and reconciliation." And leaders in general had the responsibility to manage diversity among their people.

East Africa:



In closing he said that times of crisis also present special opportunities and the leadership should not "Let this harvest pass" as a time to begin a new chapter. Then he sang an a capella rendition of the Whitney Houston song "One Moment in Time:"

*Each day I live, I want to be,
A day to give, The best of me
I'm only one, But not alone,
My finest day, is yet unknown
I want one moment in time - when I'm
more than I thought I could be....*

After Fauntroy's speech as he was returning to his seat the President in a show of warmth embraced him. The congressmen also went over and greeted the VP and Prime Minister who were seated fairly near each other- and they embraced each other as well as Fauntroy.

President Kibaki who had just come

back from Japan to make this event - then spoke. He thanked the speaker for talking on issues relevant to their recent problems. He began by saying that each person should ask themselves the question: "How can we repair Kenya?" and went on to add: "Each one of us has to answer that question. There is no doubt we shall do it. No doubt that God wants it. There is no doubt we will keep the friends we have around the world. No doubt Kenya has made up it's mind. No doubt we shall succeed. God is everywhere not just in America. Pray for us and we will pray for you. What we have heard from the speaker tells us the kind of world we can have. Let us follow what is good...what is God's wish that we would be friends with each other. Let us make Kenya a happier place...make the world a happier place."

The Speaker of the Parliamentary National Assembly Kenneth Marende gave the final remarks beginning with the statement: "I feel honored to have this opportunity, today is a time to reflect and ask for God's superintendence." He called for national cohesion, reconciliation, co-existence, peace, justice and healing. And, added that the National Prayer Breakfast is an important facet in pursuit of these objectives. He quoted Mother Teresa who said, "You can do what I can't do and I can do what you can't do. So together we can do great things." And then read some passages from Colossians 3:12-13 (As God's chosen people... clothe yourself with compassion, kindness....bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances...) and I Peter 3:8. ('...live in harmony with one another, be sympathetic, love as brothers...')

*Well it's hard to estimate how such events impact the state of affairs. The whole thing was broadcast live on nationwide TV and hopefully contributed to healing the nation's recent wounds.

Kenya National Prayer Breakfast

& the Africa Youth Leadership Forum - by Tim

The Prayer Breakfast movement around the world works to bring people in political leadership together -across all the divides. And as the young people in our Cstone programs mature we see them gradually taking up this vision as it is very aligned with our own vision and values. So, we help organize and support the various National Prayer Breakfast groups and events around the region. We are also developing a "young wing" of this work which involves University student leaders and is called the Africa Youth Leadership Forum.



Therefore, at the end of May a group of us traveled to Kenya for their annual National Prayer Breakfast (NPB) and we also organized a two day Youth Forum as part of the activities. I imagine all of you are aware of the ethnic violence that took place in Kenya earlier this year after their presidential elections. So, this year's Breakfast took on special dimension as a further step in the direction of reconciliation among the 3 top leaders who were involved in the power sharing deal that came out of the compromise after the disputed election results.

The Breakfast took place Saturday morning at the Safari Park Hotel - and was attended by President Kibaki, the Vice President Kalonzo Musyoka and the Prime Minister Raila Odinga along with about 400 other people. This was just the second NPB the President had attended- the first being the very first one when he was newly elected.

The MC was Hon. Gideon Ndambuki who really did a good job keeping the program moving along and making sure the event retained a "Jesus centered" focus while welcoming people of all faiths. That message came through clearer and more consistent than previous breakfasts. Gideon has been the Chairman of the Parliamentary fellowship group.

The theme, as expected, was on reconciliation and unity. The scripture readings and prayers that were

given by the various MP's and a High Court Judge reflected that emphasis. This was also clearly captured in the Newspaper headline the next day: "Kibaki Leads Forgiveness Call."

In his remarks Hon. Ndambuki briefly recalled the history of the Kenya Parliamentary Breakfast Fellowship as having begun under the direction of the Moses Keino in 1980. He said it has also sought to be non-partisan, non-religious while observing the principles and precepts of Jesus. He said: "We seek to leave our biases outside the door and find our center in Jesus." Finally he added that though it was part of



Prime Minister Odinga

a world wide network the focus was on people coming together in small groups to share their concerns, to pray for each other and for the nation.

Before inviting the Guest Speaker - the MC acknowledged a letter of support/encouragement from the US Senate group for this occasion. International Guests were recognized with the request that we take the message back to our countries that "Kenya is back to normal and safe." He also thanked the President and Prime Minister for working together "to save our Kenya" and stated that they had both been working hard. He said this was in the spirit of the NPB that encourages all leaders to remember 'that we have a bigger king' to which we are accountable.

Congressman Fauntroy's inspiring and rousing message was well-received by the audience. He has a very eloquent oratory style and a wealth of experience to draw from in respect to calling for unity and reconciliation across racial/ethnic divides. He was



President Kibaki & Congressman Fauntroy