Buyamba News

Helping Uganda...one child at a time

Uganda Takes Steps (*) to Reopen

The administrators of God Cares School and all of Uganda have been eagerly waiting for their president's anticipated speech to find out the next steps for opening the country. President Museveni finally announced that there would be partial openings for churches, schools, and international travel, among other things. He urged all to handle the openings wisely, saying, "Those who behave recklessly will reap what they would have sowed," and he urged Ugandans to "be your own health worker." Museveni also said that they feel they can reopen the entities he has announced, commenting, "We have taught Ugandans what to do."

<u>Candidate Classes to Return to School</u>







If you have a sponsored student in P7, S4, or S6, their classes are referred to as "Candidate classes," which are the grades that go through Uganda's national testing to proceed to the next level. These three classes will return to school on October 15th to start what will be considered the second term out of the three-term school year. They will have intensive studies that will most likely lead to testing either mid-December or the first quarter of 2021. The candidate population involves 200 students out of our 1800 student population in the God Cares School system... so what about the rest of the students?

The rest of the student body, from the youngest in the baby class (3-4-year-olds) to the oldest in S6 (6th year of high school), have been told that they will most likely return to school somewhere near the usual start of school in February or March to finish what they started in February of 2020.

If your sponsored student is at the university or trade school level, they have been studying throughout this lockdown time as directed by their institution, and they will also be returning to their university to sit for exams this fall.

Now is a great time to be praying for your student, whether he or she is returning to school this year and will start studying for the national exam, or if they are waiting to start the school year in 2021. The wait time has been frustrating for many, and it has been a season of struggles at home with food shortages and flooding damage from recent storms. We can report that most student families are doing well and plan to return under these new dates. (Continued on next page).



Will the Buyamba Food Outreach Continue?



Absolutely. Home is a struggle for many students who live in slum areas and houses with no electricity or running water. Many parents or guardians have lost their jobs and are struggling to find new ones. The transit system has not started up yet, so many cannot even get to employment in the city even if they could get another job. Food is scarce, and some homes and home businesses were washed away by recent severe flooding, so the families are left to rebuild. The Buyamba Food Outreach is essential to give these students and their **families hope.** We will continue traveling to the villages with food and student school work material during this designated wait time. Thank you to those who have continued to support this effort ongoing. We are making a difference in these student family communities. Buyamba means "Help" in the Ugandan language and is our ongoing call to send the message that GOD CARES.



If you would like to donate to our food outreach there are several ways to do so:

1.

2.

3.

Visit our website www.UgandaBuyamba.com

Call our office at 805 - 558 - 0089

Mail in your donation using the return envelope enclosed with this newsletter

<u>Candidate Classes to Return to School</u>

School openings come with COVID guidelines, just like the U.S., including masks and social distancing. The good news is that because of the faithfulness of groups determined to build the high school dorms, we will have a second floor on the girl's dorm and a foundational floor of the boys' dorm in no time. This support has been a provision from the Lord through generous donations from Calvary Community Church, Cross Timbers Church, and ongoing contributions from individual donors committed to seeing this work through. As we anticipated, there will be requirements for social distancing, and we will be ready!



Student to Sponsor Communication

One of the most challenging requests any parent ever receives is a cry for help from their child. A sponsored child's plea for help is also difficult. Buyamba will respond to any requests for assistance that we hear about from our students or their families. There have been a few cases where an older student has contacted their sponsor on social media. This is against the rules, but so understandable in this time of need. We ask if you do get such a request. Please tell them to contact or God Cares School Worship immediately; secondly, please contact the Buyamba Office in California directly so we can contact the social worker to look into the problem offer help.