

Children of Peace

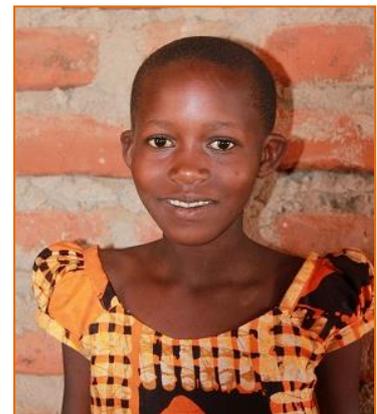
NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER 2015

Welcome to the second edition of the Children of Peace Newsletter. We spent much of this morning (21ST) with the Primary Program. The people receiving this email, and who have been to Amani, will understand that this was a totally enjoyable time. We are in the throes of drought here. It is difficult to find one blade of grass. We shared a cup of ugali porridge with the children. My mind goes back to ten years ago, when we first arrived here. That was in a time of famine. It is not quite that bad now but many families are beginning to become desperate as they seek to provide food for their families. Therefore sponsorship of this work is critical for the welfare of the children. In this newsletter we shall introduce more of the children and teachers.

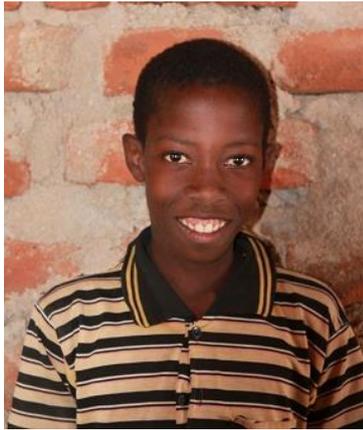


Gift Emanuel Patrick is 11 years old, a Standard Five student at Makang'wa Primary School. He lives with his grandparents. The old couple are local subsistence farmers. Gift has one brother and two sisters. As you can see, he is a bright lad, open and confident in his manner. His favourite food is rice. In this culture that is a food for celebrations. His favourite sport is football (soccer). What else would an African lad play? At school he loves Geography, Science, Civics and Mathematics. Yes, Gift is a bright lad and a joy to his grandparents.

Anitha Mchali is 11 years of age, with a brother and a sister. She lives with her mother. The father has left the home. Her mother is a subsistence farmer. This is a difficult time for the home as food is expensive now and in short supply. Anitha is in Standard Five at Makang'wa Primary School. She is a patriotic Tanzania. Her favourite food is UGALI! She enjoys playing netball. Her favourite subjects are Geography and Mathematics.



Furaha Silla is eleven years, with one brother and two sisters. She lives with her parents. Her father is the newly appointed Pastor of St. John's Church. This means that the family is quite poor! She is in Standard Five at Makang'wa Primary. Her favourite food is Ugali. Her favourite sport is netball. Furaha and Anitha must get along well as Furaha also likes Geography and Mathematics. 'Furaha' means 'happy' in Swahili.



Nice Frederick Yohana is fourteen years old and in Standard Five at Makang'wa Primary. His age indicates that there was some problem in the family which delayed his schooling. Nice has two brothers and two sisters. He lives with his mother. The father has deserted the family. He says his favourite food is 'wali', which is Swahili for rice. Nice loves to play football. His best subjects at school are Science and Geography.

Baraka Lameck Paul is also a fourteen year old lad, in Standard Six at Makang'wa Primary. Baraka has two brothers and one sister. He lives with his mother, a single parent. His mother is also a subsistence farmer. (I greatly admire the manner in which these women care for their families in the midst of so much daily need.) Baraka loves to eat ugali. His favourite sport is football. His favourite subjects at school are Mathematics, English and Science.



Selina Wilfred Makalanzi is the Leader of the Primary Section of Children of Peace. Selina has been doing this wonderful work for ten years! She is also now the Deanery Children's Ministry Organizer. She is married to Wilfred, who is an Evangelist, working in many places around Tanzania. They have one daughter and four boys. Apart from her work with the children Selina is a farmer. Wilfred is frequently away for extended periods.

Selina is one of the most effective children's work leaders I have known. There can be over two hundred children in the hall and I have never heard her raise her voice. She loves the children, and they KNOW it.

Warm thanks to all who support this work through generous offerings and your prayers. A cup of porridge and lots of love is sustaining and transforming.

We do need your continuing support. We did mention in the October Newsletter that the sponsorship is no longer directed to a particular child but to the support of the entire work of assisting the children in the areas of education, clothing, health and general care. As we come to the Season of Advent we recall that Christ came.... and his eyes were on the poor, the crippled, the blind, the lost, the wandering and the hungry. He is still the same. But now we are his Body on earth – to see and to care, to love and to share.

Fr. John and the Amani Family.