

GREETINGS FROM MWANZA!

Habari yako, rafiki? Greetings from hot, dusty Mwanza. The last few months have been quite busy for us with Lulu graduations, trips out to the girls' secondary school in the village of Ibindo, grant writing, planning for this year's Friends Across Borders trip, etc! We've been on the go!

ARCHDIOCESAN HEALTH DEPARTMENT WORK

Both Chris and Katie continue to work at the Health Department of the Archdiocese of Mwanza. Most recently, the work has involved lots of grant writing for a few different projects. One project is a community awareness campaign to increase public awareness about seeking timely, proper medical treatment for children who have fevers. Many caregivers simply treat the fever itself with inadequate medicine or ineffective traditional methods, resulting in critically ill children suffering from easily treated diseases. The other grant proposal on which we have been working is for structural improvements and managerial upgrades in the two Archdiocesan hospitals. Both Katie and Chris have been getting a crash course in public health issues while working on these proposals. Hopefully the Department will receive funding so we can help implement these important projects.



Chris, along with Br. Mark Huntington, meet with the staff at Sumve Hospital to prepare a grant proposal.

LULU GRADUATION

In July, the Lulu Project (Katie's ministry) celebrated the end of the Lulu year for four of the girls' groups. The end of the year culminated in a weeklong celebration, including netball matches, cooking of cakes, and a huge graduation. One of the pillars of Lulu is "cooperation" (ushirikiano, in Swahili); so in that spirit, all nine of the Lulu groups got together to play each other in a highly competitive game of netball. The winner, the Mecco group (one of our newest!), got serious bragging rights, which will continue until the next matches, which are currently being planned by the girls themselves. This was a really great opportunity to not only have some fun, but also for all of the girls to meet each other and to really understand that they aren't just one small group, but rather a part of a larger movement across the city of Mwanza.



A Lulu girl cooks cakes on a charcoal stove.

Later in the week, the girls who had good attendance all year and who showed a keen interest were invited to learn how to bake cakes. The baking and selling of cakes is a huge industry in Mwanza and those who do it can sell even a small sheet cake for up to \$50-100! So you can imagine what a great opportunity this was for the girls. In one day, we baked 13 cakes in various flavors, all on a traditional charcoal grill! This was a learning experience for Katie, who had heard about the practice but had never tried it. Cooking on the grill involves digging up sand to place in a pan on top of the heat, then placing the cake dough on top of that and covering it with hot rocks and charcoal. (See the insert picture.) The cakes turned out really well and were a delicious hit at the graduation!



At a recent Saturday meeting of the Chanua group, Chris asked the kids to draw pictures of him. The likeness is uncanny!

At the end of the week, 50 girls from the groups in Ilamela, Ibungilo, and Bwiru celebrated along with their children, family, and friends at the graduation, which involved skits, songs, dances, and speeches. It was a wonderful tribute to the success of these girls, most of whom completed only an elementary school education. Though the girls completed the Lulu program, they can continue to attend groups, make the handcrafts, and participate in the savings-and-loan programs that are done in each location.

CHRIS MINISTRY UPDATES

Chris continues in his quest to start a website for every group he encounters! This time he helped the youth group of the Mabatini Church learn the software to create their own site for evangelization purposes. In early July, Chris headed back out to the village of Ibindo, where he and Sister Genie served as “guest teachers” to review English grammar rules with the girls to help them prep for their national exams later this year. Chris also continues to work with the women’s groups in Mwanza as well as his Chanua children’s group.

PLEASE CONSIDER SUPPORTING US IN MISSION!

We want to make a special appeal for contributions to our work. We have several projects and expenses coming up and we would like to ask our friends and supporters to help us make these projects possible:

- This December, Chris will again be planning an end-of-year celebration for the orphan and vulnerable children of his Chanua group. Contributions help us provide food, transportation, and gifts for the children.
- In early 2015, we will be sponsoring a 4-day workshop for members of several different women’s and community groups to learn entrepreneurial and hand craft skills such as batik and soap making. Your contributions help defray the cost of this workshop.
- Our yearly contribution to the MKLM vehicle fund is due in the next few months. Yes, this isn’t very exciting, but helping to cover the costs of our regional vehicle upkeep is a necessity for our work here, as these roads put a lot of wear and tear on our cars.

Please remember that MKLM funds our travel, medical, and living expenses, and other costs associated with keeping me in mission. We ask that you consider donating to MKLM so that we, and missionaries like us, can continue to serve those in need worldwide.

You can now directly support our mission work with MKLM. Funds donated will either be applied directly to support our ministries or used to support the general fund of MKLM. Financial Support can be sent to MKLM, P.O. Box 307, Maryknoll, NY 10545-0307 or online at <http://tinyurl.com/ChrisandKatieReid>. Donations can be made to either to the **MKLM General Fund** or to our ministry projects. Denote “Chris and Katie Reid- Mission Account” in the memo line or intention box to specifically support our projects. All contributions are tax deductible.

As usual, we want to thank you all for your prayers, support, and contributions. We’re just one small part of the whole that helps us answer the call to help the least of those among us. We couldn’t do it without you! God bless!

ASANTE SANA! THANK YOU!