



Sakila Sponsorship Program

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Dear Sponsors and Supporters,

January 2010

Does God still perform miracles? We think so. October 2009, we arrived at Sea-Tac to catch our plane to Tanzania. We all successfully checked in...except Anna! The airline would not let her board because her passport would expire in February of 2010. The new airline rule is that your passport must be good for six months AFTER you return from a foreign country. Now, mind you, the Tanzanian Embassy had already issued her a visa for the trip, but here we are. Four of us have checked in and our luggage has disappeared on the conveyor belt on its way to the plane. What to do now! Well, Nancy *just happened* to bring a cell phone. We called Godwin, who *never* answers the phone when it indicates "unknown caller"...*except this time*. He calls the Embassy, who *never* answers the phone the first time you call...*except this time*. He explains the problem and they promise to call back right away, which they *never* do...*except this time*. Nancy's cell phone rings, Gene takes the phone to the airline agent, the embassy gives the airline agent clearance and Anna gets to board the plane! Yeah, God!

Our Sakila visit was marked with tears of joy and of sorrow. Your children are growing and learning in spite of their circumstances. Food is a major concern right now. We brought money to buy food baskets for eight families but, when we got there, Eliudi said it would be better if we could get just a little food for many instead of just a few. So we pooled that money with money from the group to buy corn and beans for 560 families. The drought is really taking a toll. On safari we saw many dead and dying Masai cows and many miles of nothing but dirt. Dead cows were right next to watering holes from choking on dirt while trying to chew their cud. Please continue praying for rain. It will be April before relief comes.

Picture Caption Guide (For pictures on the back of this newsletter.)

1. Gene presents the soccer balls Garrett had requested in lieu of birthday gifts. (July 2009 newsletter)
2. Food has become a major emphasis in this year of drought. Thank you so much for giving.
3. Evert and Anna Sutphin with the children they sponsor.
4. Walt and Bonita Malley give a New York t-shirt to headmaster, Shedrack.
5. Bonita helps distribute 1 kilo of beans and 2 kilos corn flour to each child's family. Hugs and tears.
6. Nancy Busek got to meet her child, Hamisi (story in Nov.2007 newsletter.) "Too sad" now smiles!
7. Your kids are growing. Look how tall Glory is now! She'll start 7th grade in January.
8. Sophia's mom (story in April 2006 newsletter) gives Lorraine a kitenge (cloth wrap). Overwhelming!
9. School compound...October 2009. Notice swamp area is totally dry!

Thanks so much for all your expressions of love through cards and notes this Christmas season. We wish we could spend time with each of you to let you know how blessed we are by your prayers and support for the children. Our annual POTLUCK is on Saturday, Jan. 30th at Christ Memorial Church on the corner of 8th and Hostmark in Poulsbo, WA. We always have a great time. Bishop Eliudi and Godwin will be there to give us the latest news. If your last name begins with A-L please bring a salad or dessert. If it begins with M-Z please bring a main dish, hot or cold. See you at 2:00 in the Fellowship Hall! Tax receipts will go out the end of this month. Make sure we have your current address. Please continue to pray for rain. Eliudi says it rains a little, and then one hour later it's gone and you can't tell it rained. Wish we could share some of ours with them.

Gene & Lorraine Anderson

The Sakila Sponsorship Program is a certified 501(c)(3) Charity. All donations are tax deductible.
Please make checks payable to the Sakila Sponsorship Program (S.S.P.) or pay securely using your credit or debit card by going to www.sakilasponsorship.org and clicking on the 'CONTACT INFO & DONATIONS' button.

