



Sakila Sponsorship Program

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Dear Sponsors and Supporters,

December 2011

In October we spent three glorious weeks in Sakila visiting with your children and the school staff. (Many thanks to Gloria, Dan, Greg, and Diana for keeping it all going while we were gone.) We were so impressed with the progress of the schools. Beginning in January, 64 of the students who took and passed their 7th grade National exams will be moving up from Primary to Secondary School. At their graduation ceremony, each child received a quilt, a Bible (English NIV), and a hat knit in the colors of the Tanzanian flag. When the new school year begins, each will receive a sweatshirt with their school logo on the front.

We were most favorably impressed with the hard work and dedication of the school staff — from teachers at both schools to cooks and grounds-keepers. The teachers seem highly enthusiastic about the progress of their young pupils — and rightfully so! Secondary school is taught exclusively in English, a major transition for the majority of the children who have no exposure to English at home. You would be impressed by how well they are doing. You are providing the funding that is making all this possible. Our dedicated staff is providing the labor, and God is providing His blessing, making our efforts produce an abundance of fruit. The parents of this year's graduates were so proud of their children that many bought leis for their child, and one mother even honored her son with a cake! Whether made by her or purchased, we don't know — but in either case it was a very touching tribute. Some of our Sakila Hebron students are pictured above.



We were so moved on the last Sunday when about 8 of the children, from about age 5 to 12, got up in front of the whole church and quoted bible passages from memory!

Here is yet another reason to praise the Lord: Beginning on the day we arrived, they had 12 days of good rain! They immediately began planting beans and, by the time we left, the plants were out of the ground about 7 inches. Please continue praying — more rain is needed if the plants are to produce a harvest in January. The last time they experienced a really good crop was in 2006. Thank you for your continued prayer. Because of the rain our team (6 of us) had some water and some electricity so it wasn't as hard as we were prepared for. That rain really made the grass grow. The cows, goats, and donkeys, which were so close to dying, got a reprieve this time. What a beautiful sight to see them kicking up their heels and munching on the new, green blades of grass!

Continued prayer is requested for the students, staff, and your fellow sponsors & supporters who are struggling financially. Please mark your calendars: the Annual Potluck will be on Saturday, January 28th, from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. (more details to come) Thanks for your email addresses — it sure saves on postage!

This is the last month to get tax credit for 2011 giving! Projects that need funding are desks & chairs for Secondary School students, \$68 per set, 120 sets needed to start... and ongoing construction. (Primary school campus is complete except for maintaining existing structures.) Also needed is a teacher's dorm to draw the best teachers for our students. Other needs are listed on our 'wish list' on the sakilasponsorship.org website. Thank You!

In Christ's love,

Gene & Ferraine 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.