

Kibidula News

July - September 2007

First Graduation of Agricultural Students -by Jean-Luc Waber

It was a special moment to see the first graduates of our agricultural training in June of this year. After three



The 14 graduates listening attentively to the words of encouragement.

years at Kibidula 14 young people received a certificate.

We do hope they are ready to meet the challenges of rural life. It is a nice experience to look back three years and to realize how the students have changed. Many of them have not just learned some lessons in agricultural topics, but have grown in their character. Ultimately, it is this which empowers them to face the real life problems and to experience success.

Thanks to the sponsorship of REACH Switzerland and other individuals we are able to offer a work-study training to about 45 youth. Most of these have not the privilege to go to secondary

school or to learn a trade. Many have lost their parents or have no money to receive a further education.

It is not an academic level that we can offer, but we are convinced, that the practical and character building experiences these youth receive at Kibidula are helping them in their lives.

The first graduates were in a sort like "guinea pigs". For everything it was their and our first time to do something. Sometimes there might have been unmet expectations, but on the day of graduation, all felt that this first training session had been a blessing. We are especially thankful to have been able to witness the baptism of all these 14

students over the past few years.

From these 14 graduates Kibidula has hired four as new workers. Two young men, Julius and Jeremiah, are now group leaders and instructing new students, Kennedy is our tractor driver and also teaching the new students how to take care of equipment. Scontina is assistant to the cook and happy to serve at Kibidula.



Jason+team laying foundations for the units.

Since we have no dormitories yet it is a challenge for all the students who come from far every day. REACH Switzerland and other donors granted us money to build houses for the students. We are currently putting up walls for these farm units. The rainy



Dormitories ready for roofing at one unit.

season is about to start, but we hope to have several roofs ready soon.

The students can't wait till they will be able to start using these new farm units. There are two units for boys and one for girls. Each unit will grow their own staple food, vegetables and fruit trees. They will have a few animals, oxen to work, dairy cattle and chicken. There is a lot of work clearing the land and preparing the soil for the planting time at the onset of the rains.

Please keep this part of our work in your prayers and especially our youth. May they learn valuable lessons not only for this life but for eternity. They are saying: Asante sana! - Thank you! for your support.



The first 14 graduates of the Kibidula Agricultural Training Center together with Jean-Luc Waber.

School of Evangelism: Learning and Correcting

-by Sylvester Temboh

"I have tried to communicate with KTC but could not go through. I am sending my men to Kibidula and they will know what to do with them, all I need is for my lay-men to get there and get the education they need to help me get to the needy areas and reach the people with the gospel." [pastor]

"We would like to gather our laymen in our conference and have a two weeks seminar with them, and those who had come to your school have asked us to invite your staff to come hold these meetings. Do you have time? When can you come? We desperately need that, please consider our request." [pastor]

Many more bear testimony of how God is touching the hearts of His people.

Our current intake has 31 students, representing 13 regions of Tanzania (half of the entire nation). A dynamic team it is, pressing forward and bridging the gap. One student clearly put it this way, "we are learning and at the same time correcting our past errors and making sure we do not repeat the same mistakes".

Tanzania is a vast and dynamic territory full of spiritual challenges, and these challenges are a special call to those who have the spiritual vision for spiritual matters. Also there are physical, mental economical and social challenges. The school program has been planned in such a way as to meet some of these needs. It is for this reason, the longing of the students, that the school exists. They are the reason why the school is here.

Today, the Macedonian call is being repeated, and God is asking, who will go for us? The Pauls and Isaiahs (in the form of individuals, families, teams, churches and organizations alike) are hard to come across to fill the void. The time may be now when the need is there.

Sooner or later the doors will be closed, and that which we could have done when opportunity was given will be done in most difficult times. Or we loose the opportunity forever and we shall be accountable to God for not being sensitive to the pleadings of the Holy Spirit. Each one of us has been called to serve as we are able recognizing the abilities and gifts given to us.



School of Evangelism Students working in the fields.

"I am coming with or without money, be ready for me!" [student]

"I had no idea of what is required to get to Kibidula, I just felt impressed I must leave and go, now here am I, with me I also have school fees." [student]

"It's too late, and you are already behind time, please plan for the next intake." [teacher] *"No, I am coming because my time is now not next year and it will be up to me to catch up."* [student]

And then, you have a student who comes late, and arrives very late at night that he sleeps right in the campus next to people outside in the cold while thinking he is a long ways to Kibidula. He beams with a broad smile forgetting all the cold of the previous night and thankful that he has arrived and the journey is over, counting the blessings of being at Kibidula as more than the trouble of sleeping in the bush, cold for that matter.

"I am calling from Mwanza! We have secured a property of about 20 hectares of land and we would like you to come and help us establish a similar school for our people." [former student]

"Hi teacher! I am in Mtwara with my fellow students who came to Kibidula in 3 different intakes and we are holding evangelistic meetings. Guess what! Each one of us is presenting the lessons we got at Kibidula School of Evangelism and many people are getting blessings from that. Can you send us application forms? We are praying for the school." [student]

"I am pastoring a huge district with 7 churches and 15 companies, I am afraid I cannot reach them all. Remembering that I passed through Kibidula 6 years ago, I am compelled to think that I should send some of my promising lay-men to come and get the training. Do you have room for 5?" [former student, now employed by the conference as a pastor]

This is just a part of what is going on as students think and plan how to get to the School of Evangelism.



School of Evangelism Students: the second session of 2007 crowding in their class room.

Successful trips to remote areas by plane -by Jason Fournier

How does one begin! The Lord has blessed us in so many ways that I am at a loss for words.

During my last week of work in August, before beginning my holiday, I had the opportunity of flying with Pastor Mtenzi to several villages. Ben Vinson, our other pilot, and his wife had already left to America to wait for the arrival of their baby. Pastor Mtenzi had quite a busy schedule planned out which included our three farthest runways, two of which had never seen a plane before.

Sunrise on Monday morning found us on the end of the runway warming up the engine. We took off and flew north-west toward the village of Mtwiga where we needed to drop a letter (tied to a small sand bag) before flying on to Ngwala to make arrangements for an evangelistic effort.

About half way to Mtwiga I spotted a runway next to a village. After checking it out we landed on a neat little runway. A small crowd came running out to see us. Pastor Mtenzi told me that they had once planned to hold an evangelistic effort there but they could find no way to get to the village. As we stepped out of the plane to greet the villagers, Pastor Mtenzi recognized a man in the crowd who also recognized the pastor! It turned out that he is an Adventist who just recently moved to the village. This was exciting because there had never been Adventists in this village before. Pastor Mtenzi quickly made arrangements for this man to attend our School of Evangelism so that afterwards he could go back better equipped to spread the gospel in this remote place.

The people there said that it takes about eight hours by bicycle

to come from the nearest village. I find it to be no coincidence that there would be a runway located at this village!

Sunrise on Thursday found us taking off, this time for the Rukwa Valley. The people of this area had never seen a plane up close before and crowd control proved to be quite a challenge. I estimate about a thousand people surrounded the plane all trying to squeeze closer to put their hands on it. Besides that, the constant movement of hundreds of feet on the freshly made runway created a cloud of dust that filled the air and made it hard to breathe. I had



Crowd control is a real challenge with hundreds of people wanting to touch the airplane.

to clean off the wind shield before heading home.

On the way home the pastor pointed out a village where we have a missionary but no runway. The village is only accessible during the dry season because of the rivers that swell during the rains. I quickly noticed a large open clearing just outside the village that looked like it could be used for a runway. I dropped down close and circled the site a couple of times. The ground is smooth and sandy and with the removal of just one or two trees, we will be having a perfect runway.

Friday morning found us heading south on my longest non-stop flight ever. I had planned to stop

in Njombe but shortly after leaving Kibidala we began crossing some low fog. It is a very rugged region with steep high mountains so I just climbed higher, expecting the clouds would end as we passed the mountains. But as we went on, it became evident that we would be over the clouds for some time. It was more than two hours before we saw land again and by then we were long past Njombe.

When we reached Namtumbo, the clouds were far behind us and the runway was a welcome sight – except that the trees on the approach end provided quite a challenge to the landing. The villagers had been notified ahead of time of

our arrival and they had prepared a warm welcome. As we landed, we were greeted by people lining both sides of the runway singing and clapping. They had a big meal prepared and speeches and even a tour of the area. Unfortunately we did

not have time for everything but we did enjoy their food and warm hospitality. Three other missionaries from other villages also came and we spent some time discussing how to begin building runways in their villages. The more runways that can be put in, the more efficient these trips can be.

I want to thank the Lord for his protection and for providing us with the means to be able to reach these remote places with the Good News of His salvation.

Please pray for us as we seek to put these means and the talents God has given us to work to glorify Him and to hasten the coming of Christ.

New Swahili Books Revive Sales -by Barry Mosier

Explosion in the numbers of book sales? Yes, that is the best word to describe current developments in Kibidula's publishing ministry. Recent arrangements with Tanzania Adventist Press have made it possible for us to print both new and out of print Swahili titles that are literally selling like "hotcakes" as the colporteurs like to say.

Although books sales have been strong all year up to now, our August sales of 8,000 books were one and half times the highest sales month in our history. In early September, as I talked to Stephano Kasiri our shipping agent in Dar-es-Salaam who services our 18 bookstores across Tanzania, I noticed how exhausted he sounded on the phone. He said, "I keep shipping books, but before I can finish filling the orders to all the stores, the first ones are calling back to say that they are sold out already!"

So, what has happened? There can be no doubt that this is the Lord's blessing as we seek to get the truth out in these last days. A year ago, we had the privilege of giving \$50 worth of capital to each of the then 978 colporteurs in Tanzania. Now, with the 25,000 Swahili books that we recently printed, the colporteurs are

using that capital to buy books and resell them to truth starved people across Tanzania.

The Swahili books we printed were (using their English titles): "Great Controversy", "Last Day Events", "God's Messenger" (a book about Ellen White), and a condensed version of "Testimonies for the Church". Over the next few weeks we will print the book "Education" for the first time in Swahili.

Not long ago, we printed in Swahili the children's books "Storytime in Africa" by Carolyn Stuyvesant and we hope soon to print "God's Message for Africa" by Robert Wieland.

Other English titles which were shipped from America on health and natural remedies are also selling very fast. Light Bearers Ministry is planning to send us a container of Swahili tracts next year for free distribution.

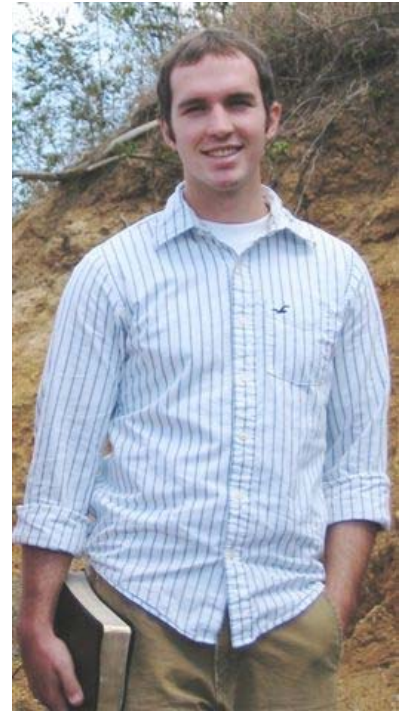
We praise God for the faithful literature evangelists (now up to 1,400) in Tanzania who are going house to house with these silent messengers.

If you feel called to help us by joining our publishing team here in Tanzania, let us know. We actively solicit your prayers and support for the soul winning work of books and literature.

Maranatha.

New Student Missionaries

-by Christopher & Amy Armstrong



Christopher on his first Sabbath in Africa.

Christopher and Amy Armstrong (brother and sister) arrived here at Kibidula the very last day of August. After a grueling three-day trip from Orlando, Florida, USA to Gatwick International Airport in London, UK, to Heathrow International Airport, London, UK, to Dar-es-Salaam, TZ, to finally arrive in the beautiful Iringa region of Tanzania, they were very happy to find a few small comforts. Hanne Lise soon showed them how to start a fire in the water heater, and the beds had plenty of blankets to keep them warm on chilly nights.

The days and nights here at Kibidula are strangely reminiscent of winter in the Armstrong's native state of Florida, upper 40's and low 50's during the night, then climbing to 70 or 80 degrees during the day. Although they call Florida home, Christopher has just graduated from Andrews University in Berrien Springs, MI with a Bachelor of Science in Biology and Physics and with plans to go on to earn both MD and Ph.D. degrees. Amy has completed her first year at Southern Adventist University and has been accepted into the Department of Education. Both are extremely excited

(continued on page 5)



New and re-printed Swahili books have boosted the sales tremendously.

New feet and hands

-by Irma Bauder

You may remember the article "Beat's Experience at Kibidula" in a Newsletter edition earlier this year (Jan-March 2007). He talked about a boy he had met in a nearby village with fingers and toes badly damaged by fleas' eggs laid under the nails.

I traveled to that village in early June and was curious, how that child has been doing since February. When Hanne Lise, Sedeck and I reached the house, we could see that the surrounding was rather dirty. We found the child (which turned out to be a girl), alone at home lying in the dark hut, covered with rags. It was the child Beat had written about, and it

(continued from page 4)

about spending nine months here at Kibidula.

The new student missionaries have actually settled into their new roles quite well. Amy is teaching three classes at the Iva Werner Primary School under the direction of Hanne Lise Vik, and the students there absolutely adore her. Christopher has



Amy quickly found new African friends.

proven very useful at the construction sites, where he supervises the distribution of people and equipment and is always willing to lend a hand at building a roof or painting a wall.

This labor of love is the fulfillment of a lifetime of short-term mission trips that have inspired both the Armstrongs to devote this year and their lives to God's ministry. For Amy, Kibidula marks the beginning of many years of long-term service in foreign countries. For Christopher, this year promises to be a reminder and a commitment that his highest ambition is not to be a doctor nor a scientist, but a missionary to Tanzania, America, or to whatever country God calls him.

looked even worse than in February: Feet and fingers were covered all over with deep sores from the jiggers. On our way home we discussed how we could help. We found a couple from the Kibidula church (Elder Sanga and his wife) who



The boy's foot and the girl's hand in June.

were willing to host the child for a few weeks to provide the needed care.

Upon our visit one week later, we met the girl again at home, this time together with her older brother. And he looked even worse than his sister! He had lost most of his hair due to worms and malnutrition, and we realized that he needed even more help than she did.

The mother agreed for us to take care of the two children till the hands and feet were healed. And Sangas were willing to take both of them, which turned out to be a good idea, not to separate the siblings.

Mid June I took the boy (8 years old) and his sister (4 years old) to Iringa town to get them checked at the hospital. Both of them were too small for their age and had serious underweight. We got medicine against worms and a solution to treat the fingers and toes every day.

Back at Sangas place, the children soon appreciated the hospitality of the elderly couple. They did not just get good nutritious food, but also lots of love and attention, and they learnt more about God's love. I visited the children every day, to



The girl's hands in June.

bathe hands and feet in order to get all the jiggers out. It was a demanding process and sometimes quite painful. But after six weeks we had all the jiggers out and the children were able to walk normally without pain. You see their happy smiles on page 6! It was a joy to see them playing with other children in the yard, jumping and running around!

I continued working on the nails, which were strongly deformed. After totally three months, the children were able to return to the village, jumping and laughing and without any pain in their hands or feet.

The situation of the family had deteriorated since February because the father was in interrogation camp since Decem-



The boy's feet in September!

ber, and the mother liked to drink a locally produced bamboo beer. Left alone with the two children she was struggling with the whole situation.

Meanwhile God has done several miracles for the family:

- The children have healthy hands and feet, almost like new;
- the father is back from prison since August;
- the parents started to regularly attend church on Sabbath;
- a church member from a nearby SDA church is currently trained to be a missionary to that village;
- friends from my former workplace in Switzerland sent money to build a new hut for the family!

I am very thankful how God has been leading this whole project. In the begin-



The girl's hands in September!

ning I was a bit worried, but God has sent the people to help just at the right time. And God organized the means, much more than I would ever have dared to ask for!

Kibidula's current project needs

- **New Engine for Mission Airplane: \$28,000**

\$27,950

Still needed

- **Publishing of the Book 'Education': \$15,000**

32 %	\$10,240
------	----------

Received

Still needed

- **1000 Bibles in 2007 / \$4.50 each**

74 %	\$1,163
------	---------

Received

Still needed

(Kibidula gave away 645 Bibles in 2006)

- **Building churches in unentered areas**

Goal: 10 churches / \$1,500 each

52 %	\$7,250
------	---------

Received

Still needed

- **Kibidula Primary School costs for 2007: \$4,000**

19 %	\$3,255
------	---------

Received

Still needed

- **Lay-Missionaries: Goal for 2007**
30 Missionaries / \$60 per month each

100 %	THANK YOU!!!
-------	--------------

Received

- **School of Evangelism Sponsorship**

Goal for 2007: 20 Students / \$250 each

100 %	THANK YOU!!!
-------	--------------

Received

Donations

from USA

Please write to:

Outpost Centers International (OCI)

5340 Layton Lane

Apison, TN 37302, USA

Please write your check to "OCI" and specify "Kibidula" and the Kibidula project you want to support.

from Europe

Please contact us, or visit our website ("How to Assist Kibidula"), for bank details in Switzerland.

Thank you very much for your assistance!

Kibidula

P.O. Box 17, Mafinga
Tanzania, East Africa

mail@kibidula.org

www.kibidula.org



Kibidula Mission Statement

Kibidula is a supportive ministry of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Being a culturally and socially diverse team, it is our mission to be united and empowered through Christ and to joyfully serve the individual needs of every person we come in contact with, through interdependent cooperation with God and each other.

This we accomplish through:

- Education
- Evangelism
- Health- and Community Services.