

Kibidula News

January - March 2010

We have nothing to fear for the future Thomas Riederer

We have nothing to fear for the future, except ...

For eleven years now I have been privileged to witness God's leading in the work here at Kibidula. Over the years He has clearly shown His hand at work and with conviction I can say that Kibidula is not ours, but His. We were fortunate to observe the birth of our Lay missionary training school, the Agricultural school and the Primary school and every time His providential leading was obvious. Having experienced His presence it becomes hard to believe that Kibidula is just a human construct, as others may suggest. True, human accomplishments always look like "nothing" as did the temple of old in the time of the prophet Haggai. But as with the worker then, He has promised to be with us, and looking back I can testify to His faithfulness.

Also, our 35 Lay missionaries experience God's presence daily in their work in unentered areas. Another tool in God's hand

is Kibidula's Publishing work through which millions of people have been blessed throughout Tanzania. We personally might never know everything these books and tracts have accomplished, but we know that in God's hand even our smallest effort will someday bear fruit.



As long as frail human nature is involved in cooperating with God there will always remain many challenges, but it is reassuring to see God's mighty hand at work in the lives of people we come in contact with. Just yesterday, I re-read a letter

of a parent who sent us their teenage child. She was concerned about her spiritual well-being and almost didn't dare to hope that the time at Kibidula would change her from being a child that readily lied, ran away from home, was disorganized and involved in drugs. Today her "trouble child" is a sincere adult Christian with a completely changed outlook in life, a positive influence in society and has a sincere desire to serve Him. Only God is able to work such a transformation of heart and we thank Him that He has chosen Kibidula to be His tool.

There will always remain room for improvement: to be more loving, to do our jobs better and more efficiently. But with God's help, everything is possible.

"We have nothing to fear for the future, except as we shall forget the way the Lord has led us, and His teaching in our past history."
Life Sketches p. 196

Agricultural School *Jean-Luc Waber*

Sewing has not much to do with Agriculture. But since we have only girls left in the third year we thought of offering them tailoring classes. This skill will open up more possibilities for their future. An experienced tailor teaches three afternoons every week the basics of tailoring. The seven students are very happy to produce nice and useful bags, shirts and skirts. The Kibidula staff was given the opportunity to see the results. We are looking forward to seeing more nice dresses produced by our students.

Meeting two of our graduates

Not long ago we met a farmer who started a vegetable farm nearby. He has hired two former students of the Kibidula

Agricultural School and said he was very pleased with them. Miss Bellow Lugusi is responsible for four big greenhouses and supervises several workers. She is doing her job very well and with a happy spirit.

The farmer asked us if we could recommend more of our graduates. This was very encouraging to us.

As we visited the farm, these two former students asked us to tell our current students they should really take their studies seriously and make good use of the opportunity to learn. It is sad to see many young people grow up without a goal in



Bellow and Ephraim at work.

life and with the unrealistic expectation that everything will fall into place for them – and this without any effort on their part. To see two of our former graduates being valued as faithful and skilled workers is encouraging. We pray that the work for and with the young people at the Agricultural School of Kibidula may bring more fruit to God's Glory.



REACH Switzerland is a permanent sponsor of Kibidula, supporting students of the Agricultural Training Center.

Miracles of Grace *Irma Bauder*

In January I started reading a new devotional book; the title is "Miracles of Grace", published by the Publishing Department Headquarter of the SDA Church in America.

It is a compilation of experiences of Literature Evangelists (LE) all around the world. Every morning I now get freshly inspired by what books and magazines

are able to do, when placed in the hands of searching souls who are willing to be guided by the Holy Spirit. All these stories talk of miracles of grace, which would not have happened if there would not have been a LE willing to go and sell the books!

In 2009, Kibidula sold 56'422 books and magazines to LEs, who in turn sold them to their customers. 56'422 times a seed was planted, and the number can easily be multiplied 2, 3 or even 4 times, as most literature here in Tanzania gets read by more than just one person! What an inspiring thought, not only in terms of the number of books that went out, but rather what this literature is able to achieve in the readers' hearts!

I am sure that many miracles of grace happen also in Tanzania, we will one day hear of them, when we get to meet those readers in Heaven!

Two containers with tracts from Light Bearers Ministry, USA, arrived safely in November and December. The first ones to benefit from the 15-part Bible Studies in Swahili, were our Lay missionaries who had their bi-annual meetings end of December. They were very happy to get those tracts, which will allow them to have Bible studies with the people in their villages. In January, distribution started among the 6 SDA Conferences in Tanzania, who were all very eager to get the tracts in their hands. Church members are keen to witness about the truth to their neighbors, and with these tracts they have a tool, which will surely produce more miracles of grace!



Lay Missionaries sorting tracts into sets.

Lay Missionary Focus *Watson Kiwovele*

As we begin the new year, it is well to give a summary of the work done last year by our Lay missionaries. We have 35 Lay missionaries; one is working with 5 schools, 2 are doing prison ministry, 1 is assisting in agricultural training and the other 31 are engaged in giving Bible studies in remote villages. In 2009, the following was achieved: 28 Guest-Sabbaths and 25 evangelistic efforts were held, 181 people are attending baptismal classes, 408 are actively involved in Bible studies, 8 prisons were visited, 28 prisoners who had accepted Adventism in prison were released from prison, 280 people registered for Voice of Prophecy studies and 200 people successfully completed the Discovery Bible Course. The total number of baptisms attributable to the work done by the Lay missionaries was 195.

In this newsletter, we will look at recent troubles that one of our Lay missionaries was facing:

In January 2010, he found himself in a problematic situation. His nine year old daughter, along with two other young girls, were abducted by a number of men and taken to a nearby bush. There, the two other girls were raped, and for an unknown reason his daughter was spared. The parents became worried when their children were not home at the usual time, and began to en-

quire if anyone had seen them. They picked up on rumors of the abduction and organized a search party. The frightened children were found slowly making their way home. They related their ordeal to the search party and also identified the culprits. It did not take long for the village leadership to arrest those responsible for the heinous crime. However, one of the men implicated, a rich and influential businessman, bribed the parents of the two girls who had been violated as well as the leaders responsible for trying the case.

When our Lay missionary went to the village offices to find out how the case was proceeding, he discovered that the other parents had not only dropped their charges, but they now insisted that the accusations had been baseless and that the rapes had never taken place.

Soon word spread that the Lay missionary had been following up on the case. This angered those who had been paid off and a smear campaign against him and his family was set in motion. It soon became evident that, as most of the village had turned against them, that they had limited protection. They were now living in constant danger of being attacked while visiting people for Bible studies, going to their fields or fetching firewood and water.

The situation had become tense and untenable. After negotiation and me-

diation had failed, it was decided that for the sake of his well-being and



Our Lay missionary facing trouble

that of his family, that they leave the area immediately and get some rest in their home area.

Even though our Lay missionary has just been through this nerve-wrecking experience, he insisted that what he needed was not rest, but to be moved to another village where he could set about working for God. The population of the area to which he and his family moved is 95% Muslim and the enormity of the task before him should not be underestimated.

We are, however, thankful that even though his family has gone through such difficult times in the recent past, he is willing to continue to sow the seeds of God's love to those with whom he is working.

Goodbye for now *Jetro Dias Vieira*



There is an end to all things whether good or bad. My stay in Kibidula has come to its end. As I look back on the 4 years spent here, I realize I have come a

long way. So many things have happened during my stay. The most important of all is that I got to know God better. I had no connection to Him prior to my coming here. I got to meet and know God as I worked here

and experienced Him for myself firsthand. He was very patient with me, as were the staff at Kibidula and I surrendered in the end. I was baptized in September 2007 as a member of the Kibidula SDA church.

God used Kibidula to draw me to Him. This place has been like a sheltered place where the young seedling that I am has been able to grow. Now the time has come for transplantation. I will sorely miss my students at the Agricultural School where I taught English and other subjects, but I am ready for the next stage in my development. I will be returning back to my family in Belgium this March. I will be doing my best to find a job despite the

economic turmoil our planet is facing. I will spend a full 6 months working and speaking at churches about the needs in Missions. Then in August, I will be going to Norway to study at European Bible School (EBS). There I will get schooling about how better to live and share my faith. It is time to get out some more and meet other Christians. God has shone his light on my life path, and I must move ahead with the light or risk being left behind in darkness. I want to thank everyone at Kibidula for their kindness and support. I want to thank all of you for your prayers and generous contributions to this institution. I do not know if we will ever meet; but if not on this earth then: 'See you in Heaven!'

Kibidula's current project needs

Completion of Hanger Building for New Airplane

\$9 000 Still Needed

Dental Assistance to Villagers: Running Costs

\$1 700 Still Needed

School of Evangelism: Running Costs

\$6 500 Still Needed

Prison Ministries

\$2 000 Still Needed

Lay Missionaries: Goal For 2010 - 35 Missionaries at \$90/month

12 %

\$25 040 Still Needed

Received

Kibidula Primary School: Running Costs

18 %

\$7 400 Still Needed

Received

Lord Lead Me

Poem by Ariane Riederer

Lord lead me today. I give you my life
Please guide me on the way
May my life Lord today only alone point to you
Help me hid in Christ to stay

Help my "I" to stay dead, Lord please live in me
Let self no longer live
Help me love all around me, with love wholly yours
Help me others encouragement give

Please use my life to be a blessing to others
Make me selfless and humble too
May each word which I speak, each action I do
All only point to you

Lord give me a burden to share your great Word
Make me a light in this dark world
Please use me to reach people lost out in the dark
And those who have never heard

May the life that I live speak truly of your love
Help it a powerful sermon preach
Please make me a blessing to sad, broken hearts
Help me hopeless souls to reach

Lord use me today I give you my heart
Keep me humble so I can learn
To be selfless and loving, humble and kind
And your still small voice to discern

Help my eyes stay on You, so I don't stray
Hold my hand and lead me I pray
Make me steadfast when temptations at me are hurled
Help me by your side to stay.

Donations

You can donate online with your **Credit Card**. Go online to: www.outpostcenters.org and click "Get involved" - "Donate to Missions" - "Donate by Credit Card"

Checks 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.

Transfers from Europe

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

Thank you very much for your help!

Kibidula

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