

WELCOME HOME MINISTRIES – AFRICA

“Don't let the excitement of youth cause you to forget your Creator. Honor him in your youth before you grow old and no longer enjoy living.” Eccl 12:1 NLT

June 2005

Dear Foundation Family and Friends,

This last month has been a busy one with many blessings. Every day we joyfully watch our precious little ones grow and develop. We are so grateful to have all our children in good health. From **starvation to thriving**: Last month we shared about Agnes who came to us weighing only 7lb at 9 months of age. Now one month later with lots of love and good formula she weighs 9lb 2ozs. (Pictured at left: Agnes with momma Joy).



Little **Timothy** needs your prayers as he goes to Kampala once again for a thorough medical check up to see if he still needs open heart surgery. **Volunteers**: Sally, from England, is working at our home with her friend Lizzie for 3 weeks before returning home to attend university. She is having fun catching up with many of the children she had met last August, who were petite little babies and now are in the Toddler Gang (where they enjoy lots of attention and have lots and lots of energy). Amy, from California, has volunteered for another month of helping our kids. All three girls have been a wonderful helping in our pre-school classes. We so appreciate them working their vacation time with our children.

Ongoing **Prayer Need** - Our new washing machines and dryers (a grant generously paid for by Samaritans Purse) are still caught up in red tape at the border. We have been working with top Government officials for their release and are hoping for them to arrive soon. It encouraged us a little when we saw another ministry's machines operating in their laundry room, then found that they had experienced the exact same problem and that their machines were eventually released. In the meanwhile our staff is washing by hand and in our wet season our whole house looks like a clothes line.

Yvonne our medical adoptee, is back in the US with her new family!!!!!! (their picture at the right was taken last month) They sent a note to us:

“Our journey to bring Yvonne home began with God nudging us into taking her. We did it in obedience to Him, and in the process we have received some of the greatest blessings of our entire lives. We met the wonderful people who cared for Yvonne last year when she was in the US for medical treatment and through email the lady who persisted in finding an adoptive home for her, and Mandy and her husband Luke. The blessings are just beginning...many people in our area donated clothes and other items for Welcome Home and took great interest in our journey... a journey to AFRICA; 3 of the 4 of us had never even been on an airplane! Africa held many more blessings for us in its beauty and its wonderful people, and we so loved getting to know those who are so dedicated to all the children at Welcome Home. We miss them very much, and certainly had a journey of a lifetime. While we were in Africa our 17 year old daughter rose to the occasion of caring for our adopted special needs 5 year old son while we were gone, (she was blessed with a closer relationship with him and the added confidence). More amazing still was our 15 year old daughter Kelly, who came with us to pick up Yvonne - she had been hesitant about adding another child to our family (our son has many emotional challenges) but the Lord filled her heart with love for Yvonne so that now she can't even imagine us not having her! Kelly and her friend Carrie were so blessed when they helped with the children at Welcome Home that they are planning to go back again soon. We were blessed with the financial means to pursue this adoption; the cost has exceeded \$25,000.00 and the Lord has provided every bit of it (we still have no idea how)! My husband was able to leave his business for 3 weeks and return to it still intact and with plenty of work to keep him busy. Now the biggest blessing - Yvonne. She is an extremely beautiful girl both inside and out. You would need to have a heart of stone to meet her and not fall in love. She loves to smile and laugh and play and we have all learned that to just sit down and play with her is one of the most special blessings our family has ever received. We're looking forward to the rest of the journey...it sure has had a wonderful beginning!” *Cheryl, Dave & family*



Please continue to pray for Welcome Home, our babies and staff. We survive and are blessed by your bountiful prayers and support. We know that God answers prayer and that He uses loving, compassionate people, like you, to accomplish His vision at our orphanage. Thank you again for your faithful prayers and giving, and may God's richest blessings be yours.

Your Welcome Home family in Africa

PREEMIE HOUSE: Agnes, Grace, Isaac, Jeremiah, Sarah, and Timothy

BABY HOUSE: Allan, Andrew, Elizaphan, Jeremiah, Jesse, Joel, Joseph, Joshua, Lawrence, Lucas, Noah, Rachael Mukisa, Richard, Shammah, William, and Wilson.

TODDLER HOUSE: Amos, Andrew, Becky, Billy, Cissy, Dafin, David, Emily, Hayley, Hope, Jackie, Jenay, Jeremiah, John Otata, Jonah, Jonathan, Joshua, Juliet, Linda, Lisa, Lois, Lora, Maria, Mark, Martha, Mary Claire, Matthew, Michelle, Paul, Peter, Rachael, Raymond, Rhoda, Rosie, Victoria, and Zachariah