

WELCOME HOME MINISTRIES – AFRICA

But Jesus said, "Let the children come to me. Don't stop them! For the Kingdom of Heaven belongs to such as these." Matt 19:14 NLT

August 2005

Dear Foundation Family and Friends,



Rejoicing at the new Arrivals

A New Arrival Celebration! ! ! No, not a baby, but a wonderful gift from **Samaritans Purse** of two industrial washing Machines and two industrial dryers. Volunteer Randy from Arizona was there to help remove the window which enabled us to get them into the Laundry room which had been prepared for them. We are presently waiting for the connection of the 3 phase power line that has been ordered which is needed to run them. There was much joy and celebration when the truck arrived from the Kenyan border with them. For many months our staff has been doing a yeoman's job laundering our diapers and clothing by hand. We are so grateful to Samaritan's Purse for this wonderful gift to help us care for the children. Our Doctor has told us that the new machines should eliminate most of the pesky skin conditions.

Ruth Alyssia (pictured below with her new mother and sister last Christmas) is one of our little ones who came to America for medical treatment & assessment in July 2004. She has Cerebral Palsy, a lot of eye problems and is profoundly deaf. Life for her would be very difficult in Uganda. At the time of this writing, she is back in Uganda going through the adoption process and will be returning to America with her new mother, Meadow. She and the rest of her family have been hosting her since last year.



"Big" Problems? There is an old saying "*too big for your britches*"; well, at Welcome Home it is *too big for your crib*. To make way for some of our larger babies to have bigger beds and our new little ones to have cribs, some of our older children will be graduating to the next chapter of their lives at another orphanage – the one we've been working closely with is called Watoto. We are licensed by the government to take babies only from birth to the end of their fifth year, and so the children move on quickly. This has always been a difficult adjustment for us as we love all the children dearly and I suppose we, like any parent, believe their children are growing up far too fast. Esther has been busy with her Social Work visiting the villages with William to see if they can find any relatives of the families connected with our children and find if they are in a position to give them a good home before we move them on to Watoto.



We are very pleased with the Watoto Villages who take our children. They care for them all the way through high school, university or trade school until they are settled into jobs and ready to be on their own. Pray for them as our young ones make this big transition next month. They are being prepared for it as a graduation from our pre- school to the big school. Some of you may hear about the **Watoto Children's Choir** as they tour the states. If they do, some of our children might be in that choir. Look for the last name of Hodgkins; many were named after Momma Jackie...

Welcome Home Luncheon: If you live in or near Orange County, California, we welcome you to a luncheon on Saturday the 20th of August to share what is happening with Welcome Home and to present our new DVD. It's a great opportunity to bring friends and introduce them to our orphanage. For information, call Mandy Sydo at 714) 282-7050.

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 partnership, 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, Lukas, 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