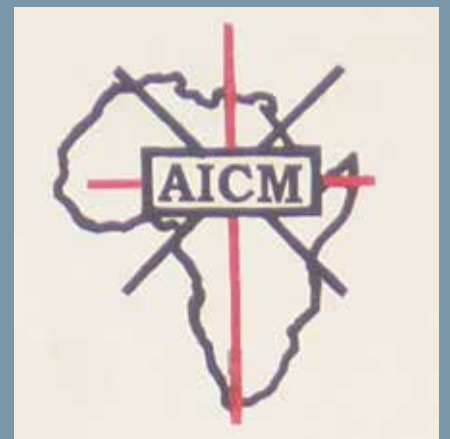




Annual Report 2019

*Changing hearts, lives
and communities*

**Friends of African International
Christian Ministry (FAICM)
Supporting AICM in S.W. Uganda**





A message from our chairman

Welcome to this report on an exceptionally busy year for FAICM and AICM in Uganda. There have been many highlights. I shall point to just one: the appointment of our new evangelist.

Due largely to the encouragement of Magezi Stephen, this has been a year when I have seen staff moving forward according to the words of 2 Peter chapter 1 verses 5-7 " Make every effort to add to your faith, goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; and to godliness, brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness, love."

I strongly recommend a visit to AICM to see this great love in action. Of course, none of this great work could have been done without astonishing, sacrificial giving. Some of the money for the Murubindi project has come from trust funds but much has been given by individuals. Many, many thanks.

I promise we will not continue to scrape funds from individuals for building projects. However, we do need a considerable increase in regular monthly giving in order to continue to pay key staff. We also need more sponsors for secondary students.

Sadly, we said goodbye, in November, to our dear friend and former Chairman Trevor Williams. He was staying in a care home in Edinburgh when he died, near to his daughters. A full obituary will be published in our next news letter.

Please enjoy reading this report. Thank you again for your support.

Colin Townsend



Solar brings light to Rwamahano Primary School



Batwa enjoy learning handicraft skills



What fun! Enjoying art in our new classroom



Encouraging saving and sharing

Solar Power – much needed evening light for the AICM office

In the spring of this year we were grateful to receive a grant from The Grail Trust of £1000 and also £600 from South Leigh Church, near Witney. This enabled AICM to have solar panels installed at their offices in Kabale. As a result the office staff have light in the evenings and also power for a lap top. This extends their working time into the early evenings when necessary. This provision has proved very useful as much of the day time hours are used for field, community and school visits as well as meetings.



Installation



AICM staff outside their offices



Dennis at work

Thanks for the new evangelism officer for AICM

We were very sorry to lose Andrew Buhingiro in January this year. His committed and faithful work as evangelist for AICM was greatly valued. He had not been well and made the decision in January to leave AICM. Evangelism is a high priority for AICM and this is an important post. We have been so thankful for the appointment of Stephen Magezi as evangelism coordinator in his place. Stephen

is a family man, married, with three children, has experience in teaching and previous ministry service in a diocese in Rwanda. He is a native of Kabale and so has returned home. He has already made a significant impact in leading staff and college devotions, in evangelistic programmes in the two primary schools, and in his oversight of the sponsored students within the AICM communities.



Stephen with children and staff at Murubindi Primary School



Stephen visiting a sponsored student and family

Rwamahano Batwa Primary School

The school is thriving in its new class rooms with staff appreciating the facility of a staff room and head teacher's office. The school role has risen to around 200 pupils. Staff have continued to be paid from the monthly remittance sent by the Friends, and is one reason why monthly giving is essential to preserve the education of these children.



New class rooms for Murubindi Batwa school



Building under construction July 2019

After seeing the impact of the rebuilding at Rwamahano school trustees were determined that we should provide the same new facilities at AICM's other Batwa School at Murubindi, where facilities have been totally inadequate for many years. In May of this year we had raised £56,000, thanks to many generous supporters, and also to various trusts, including the Allen Trust who were major donors for Rwamahano, who gave a generous £10,000. This enabled trustees to commission Geses Uganda Ltd., who had successfully built the class rooms at Rwamahano, to begin the first phase of the build for Murubindi, designed once again by Mike Peachey. This was to provide two new classrooms and a head teachers office plus a

new four stance latrine. In July when two trustees visited, this construction was underway, and by autumn these buildings were complete. Trustees are continuing to raise funds and hope that they will be able to ask the builder to complete two further class rooms and a staff room during 2020. Ideally the school needs a latrine and wash room for girls. It is our prayer that sufficient funds can be raised to enable this also. These facilities will have a profound impact on the lives of the whole community. We thank God for His provision.



Completed class room block and latrine

The boarding initiative

A meeting between AICM and the two Batwa school communities of Rwamahano and Murubindi early in the year decided that measures needed to be taken to encourage Batwa students to remain in school beyond primary three and to encourage this decided to try and board 8 older students at Rwamahano, using the old timbered building which has been lined for extra warmth and rain protection, and a spare room in the teachers house. By means of gifts purchased



through our Alternative Gift scheme of mattresses, school kits, school meals, girls underwear and shoes, and an initial extra start up gift to enable purchase of beds, FAICM were able to facilitate the start of this scheme. Trustees also voted to increase funding to the

AICM Batwa Fund by £39 monthly. It was good to see these students settled and working well when trustees visited in July.

Let there be light!

An exciting development in June of this year was the provision of solar panels for Rwamahano school, providing light for the teachers house, head teacher's office and staff room, two classrooms and security lights. Also plugs for a television and lap top. The funding for this was a gift collected by the children of Stanton Harcourt Primary School near Witney in Oxfordshire who have been partnering both AICM schools for the last two years.

Enormous thanks goes to the staff and pupils at Stanton Harcourt Primary School for their commitment and for this life enhancing gift. The staff, children and whole community at Rwamahano are so very grateful.



Changing the lives of young people

During 2019 FAICM supporters sponsored secondary education for 20 young people. This is one of the most positive ways in which we can transform the life of a severely disadvantaged young person. For £30 monthly, increasing to £35 for sixth form or further education, it is possible to effect a life changing difference to a young person, their family, their future and their community.

The young man pictured is one such fortunate student, a Batwa, very bright, pictured with his mother, who would have no means of affording him secondary education were it not for a generous sponsor here in the UK.



Our students were monitored regularly by Stephen Magezi, AICM evangelism coordinator, who visits families, organises youth conferences for them, and looks after their welfare during their holidays. Most students attended Nyaruhanga Secondary School, and the head teacher Robert, consults regularly with Stephen.



Contact faicmsecretary@gmail.com if you could offer help in this way.

Sponsored students at Nyaruhanga School pictured in July with the visiting team from St Ebbes Church, Oxford.

The crucial personal touch to FAICM's support for AICM

Once again in July 2019 a mission team from St Ebbes Church, Oxford, along with Colin and Sue Townsend (chairman and Secretary of FAICM) visited AICM. The value of these regular visits is almost impossible to measure but some things stand out.

The team together with AICM staff were involved in evangelism amongst AICM college students and staff, in Batwa communities, in the local hospital and the local prison.

Much support was given to both AICM primary schools – a vast amount of school equipment was delivered, including an enormous quantity of art materials. This enabled delivery of art lessons probably for the first time for students. Bible teaching was delivered and a great deal of fun and fellowship enjoyed by team, staff and children.

The team were able to personally deliver to community representatives some of the gifts purchased through the Alternative Gift Scheme. Several thousand Pounds worth of gifts was given in 2019.

We delivered sheep, beehives, savings boxes, crop sprayers and local language Bibles. The team also brought with them and distributed around 50 Good News Bibles to students.



Valuable friendship and fellowship with AICM staff



Morning bible teaching at the AICM College



Presenting sheep and beehives



Murubindi children enjoying art

Thanks to our friends and supporters during 2019

We have been thankful for many generous and praying friends during this year. During the year Colin (Chairman) and Sue (Secretary) visited Newland Methodist Chapel in Witney and Trefoil Guild in Kennington, Oxford to talk about the work of AICM. The ladies of the Trefoil Guild have since been knitting hats and vests for Batwa and other

vulnerable babies. St Peters School, Alverscot, near Witney had a Uganda Day, and Stanton Harcourt School near Witney continued its wonderful partnership with the two AICM Batwa Schools. The Ebbes team in July was also fortunate to meet up with another long term supporting school:- Rydal Penhros in North Wales who were visiting their projects in Uganda, including AICM, and this school has generously donated £1000 to the Murubindi School Building Project.

Supporting the continuing ministry of AICM

Throughout 2019 FAICM continued its regular monthly support to AICM. These enable Faith and her key staff to direct and implement the various ministries. Some staff have been helped by partnership with other NGOs, in particular, Pilot Light from the USA, who partner AICM in their work amongst the Batwa communities, focussing on housing, hygiene, health, agriculture and income generation. Also there is an important partnership with Self Help Africa and the EU, who provide some

extra staff and resources and are focussing on twelve villages around Lake Bunyonyi working in various areas of agriculture and land preservation to improve farming around the lake and also improving livelihoods through Village Loans and Savings Schemes.

Throughout the year FAICM have also been supporting AICM in the daily provision of food at the Batwa Schools.



Good farming around Lake Bunyonyi



Health intervention among Batwa



Breakfast at Murubindi



How FAICM supported AICM through the generosity of their supporters during 2019

AICM Uganda office costs.....	£3,518
AICM Uganda Office Solar Power.....	£1,720
Alternative Gifts.....	£3,208
School meals and educational materials for the Batwa Primary Children.....	£2,907
Sponsored students.....	£6,535
Rwamahano Primary School Solar Power.....	£2,100
New Buildings at Murubindi Primary School.....	£45,150
Teachers, Evangelist, Field & Office workers salaries.....	£40,863
TOTAL	£106,001

NOTE: All figures as at 31 December 2019

A full statement of FAICM accounts for the year ending 2018 can be found on the Charity Commission website.



Thank you Friends of AICM from Faith and the team in Kabale.



African International Christian Ministry (AICM)

"I am come that they may have life and have it to the full"

John 10:10

Patron:

Most Reverend John Sentamu,
Archbishop of York

Trustees:

Colin Townsend (Chairman)
Sue Townsend (Secretary)
Mick Lloyd (Treasurer)
The Venerable Gordon Ogilvie
Mike and Helen Peachey
Mike and Gill Henderson
Kate Potter
Revd. Roger Smith
Betsy Glasgow

Friends of AICM Contact details:

Email: faicm.secretary@gmail.com
www.aicm.org.uk
Facebook: AICM-UK Friends

Treasurer:

Mr M. Lloyd, Greenleas, Orchard Way,
Cranbrook, Kent TN17 3LN

We would be so grateful for donations.

To make a donation by bank transfer:

Account: Friends of African International Christian Ministry
Account Number: 00011431 **Sort Code:** 40-52-40

To commit to regular giving please contact the treasurer on
01580 712161 or email mwlloyd123@btinternet.com
or visit: www.give.net/20036722