



Friends of AICM –updates and prayer needs Spring 2020

Dear friends,

We are living in troubling times as the whole world faces the challenge of the Corona Virus. However, as we face up to the drastic changes and enormity of the problem here, let us join hands with our dear friends in Uganda , for whom the approaching threat of this virus is very scary and threatens potential disaster for many.

We, the Trustees, wanted to share with you some recent updates concerning both AICM and Friends of AICM , so that you can be fully informed as you pray.

First here is a prayer from Isaiah 19:2

“Lord be gracious to us; we long for you. Be our strength every morning and our salvation in time of distress.”

Give thanks for the new build at Murubindi Primary School

Whilst works were underway last year, on the first 2 new classrooms, head teachers office, staff room and latrine, FAICM continued to seek funding for the second phase comprising 2 more classrooms and a separate girls latrine.

However, it has been very difficult to raise sufficient funds but, due to some fantastic giving by our supporters, the FAICM trustees were able to instruct the contractor on the second classroom block during their visit in January and works are now 80% complete.



COMPLETED PHASE 1 BUILDING NEXT TO PHASE 2 CLASSROOMS UNDER CONSTRUCTION

We are still trying to raise funding for the girls latrine block but during these very difficult times with Covid 19 and the financial markets exchange rate we are still about £7,500 short.

Nevertheless, FAICM will continue to look for funding to get this fantastic project completed.

If you feel you could support this exciting project or know an organisation or individuals who could, or you need further information then please contact the FAICM Secretary on

faicm.secretary@gmail.com

Food appeal for the children at Rwamahano and Murubindi

Thank you to the many supporters who have responded, and continue to respond, to our appeals, including the current Lenten appeal which enables AICM to keep up the regular need to feed nearly 300 children at both these schools. We have sufficient funds to ensure this food supply for the next year. We need an estimated £4000 annually and so it is an ongoing need. We pray for continued giving.



Our prayers during this corona virus epidemic is that these children are fed.

Change to our online giving

Sadly, at the end of March, Wonderful.org, our online giving platform, ceased to operate. We have been thankful for its services as it has been successfully used over the past year for various fund raising appeals, raising around £5000 in total. However, FAICM is registered with Stewardship and so we can now use their donation platform, **give.net**, which offers the facility for online regular donations, one off donations and fund raising appeals. The donation button now appears on our website, and you can also use this link :-www.give.net/20036722

How to support and pray for Uganda, AICM , its staff and the communities it serves , as they face the corona virus threat.

Pictured are Stephen, AICM evangelist and Denis , senior officer. Together with Faith and all AICM staff, they are not only faced with the challenge of protecting and caring for their own families but also the challenge of working out how best to safely serve their vulnerable communities. The Ugandan government has instituted severe lock down measures, including the closure of all schools, and public transport, as well



as issuing instructions for social distancing and hand washing. These latter instructions are virtually impossible for many to adhere to. Many face huge risks, including all the children at the two AICM primary schools, which are now closed, and our sponsored students, and all our rural communities especially the Batwa. Curtailment of public transport makes access difficult. Faith is lobbying both national and local government on behalf of the remote communities, as there are promises to get food supplies to them, but the Batwa have often been forgotten in the past. Faith, Stephen and Denis are also seeking to make sure these communities are aware of the threat of the virus and of precautions needed, as many have no access to public communication. FAICM have indicated that funds sent can be diverted and used in any way that can help, and immediately AICM are seeking to get supplies of soap to the communities to enable hand washing.

We are in daily touch with AICM and will keep you updated. Let us all join together in prayer to our Sovereign, Gracious Lord God , through Jesus Christ , praying for His mercy.