

Welcome to Crossroads Springs Institute

... a school and care center
for children orphaned by
HIV/AIDS in Hamisi, Kenya.



*"Serve the child,
Heal the nation"*

Dr. Meshack Isiaho

www.crossroadssprings.org

Newsletter #12 April 2010

HARAMBEE!

Harambee means "pulling together" in Swahili. In so many ways, all of us – in North America and in Kenya – have been pulling together for the sake of the next generation and its great potential.



This summer, a group of visitors from USA will bring greetings to the staff and students at Crossroads Springs. We will make and renew friendships, continue construction work on the building, and ask a lot of questions about life today in Kenya. We

are especially interested in talking to the Grade 8 students about their plans and dreams for secondary school and life beyond. (We expect 25 students to pass the Kenyan standard exams and graduate; already we have sponsors for 11 to continue their studies in boarding school.)

In June 2009 Alison Hyde received the "Spirit of Vassar" award for her volunteer efforts exemplifying "an enduring spirit of community and caring." The award recognized her commitment to Vassar College and the world at large, and in particular recognized her co-founding Crossroads Springs with husband Arthur and their friend Dr. Isiaho. Alison wishes to share this honor with everyone who has pulled together to make Crossroads Springs successful. "Your spirit makes all the difference!" she says.

Pulling together to pay for essentials, the Farmington-Scipio Friends (NY) recently gave a grant to pay for textbooks. Also, Kenmore (NY) Rotary and the Kenmore West Both Your Hands/Interact Club, along with individual donors, contributed money to help pay for new school uniforms. A group of Kenyan widows is making the uniforms as part of "Peg's Project," named after North American Peg Smaltz, a widow who worked as a seamstress to support her family of five.



With 320 students, the school now occupies seven classrooms in the new building. Thanks to major grants from East Side Methodist Church, Euclid, OH, and the Segal Family Foundation of Watching, NJ, louvered windows, balcony railings, and finished stairwells mean safety and comfort for students and teachers. We give thanks for these amazing grants and to all who have given

UPCOMING BENEFIT EVENTS:

June 4-5, 9 am - 4 pm

Crossroads Springs Yard Sale,
First Presbyterian Church, East Aurora, NY

June 17, 5 - 7 pm

Taste of Africa Benefit Buffet,
Fox Run, Orchard Park, NY

July 10, 3 - 7 pm

Kidfest for Kenya, Firemen's Field, East Aurora, NY

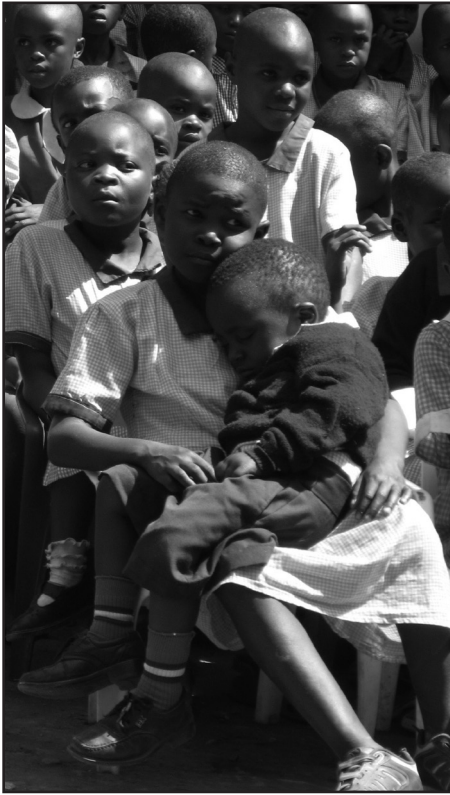
October 3, 3 - 4:30 pm

Faithful Folk Concert,
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Pearl River, NY

November 19, 6 - 10 pm

Art for AIDS Orphans, Roycroft Inn, East Aurora, NY

If Western New York or New York's Hudson Valley are too far for you to travel, try these where you are! We would be happy to help you get started!



to the Building Fund! Of course there is still more to be done — Dr. Isiaho plans to keep costs down by hiring plumbers and carpenters to make some items on site (e.g., windows and door frames).

Your generous unrestricted gifts support essentials of feeding, clothing, health and teaching. Dr. Isiaho reports a need for alternatives to increasingly expensive and scarce firewood; toward that end, a committee is researching solar power. Looking toward improving nutrition, developing student survival skills, and increasing the school's self-sufficiency, a "Pigs and Poultry" project is planned.

We are also hoping to raise money for all 25 of our high achieving Grade 8 graduates to enter secondary school in Jan. 2011. For \$600 you or your group can support a student for a year in boarding school, a special gift for a child who may have no other place to go.

CONTACT US!

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Subject: Crossroads Springs



If you have missed any of the history and newsletters, please see the website (www.crossroadsprings.org). Also, please tell us if you would rather get the newsletter by email.

HOW TO DONATE: Think of possibilities for teacher gifts, graduation, special occasions, memorial and "in honor" gifts, Mother's Day, Father's Day!

Tax deductible contributions may be made online or to:

Crossroads Springs/Orchard Park Meeting
c/o Clerk, Orchard Park Quaker Meeting
6924 East Quaker Road
Orchard Park, NY 14127

YOUR GIFT GOES 100% TO CROSSROADS SPRINGS!

How is this possible? Crossroads Springs Africa (USA) board members pay for all mailings and other administrative costs as their in kind gifts to Crossroads Springs.

