

Welcome to  
**Crossroads  
Springs  
Institute**

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



*"Save the child,  
Heal the nation"*  
Dr. Meshack Isiaho

www.crossroadssprings.org  
Newsletter #9 December 2008

## Thank you for your help this past year!



Recently fifth graders took mock exams in English, Swahili, and Math. Their high scores ranked Crossroads Springs as #1 among 17 schools! We attribute this great achievement to class size, quality teaching, and food at school. Children who live in the dorms have loving care from housemothers, as well as games and books for non-school hours.



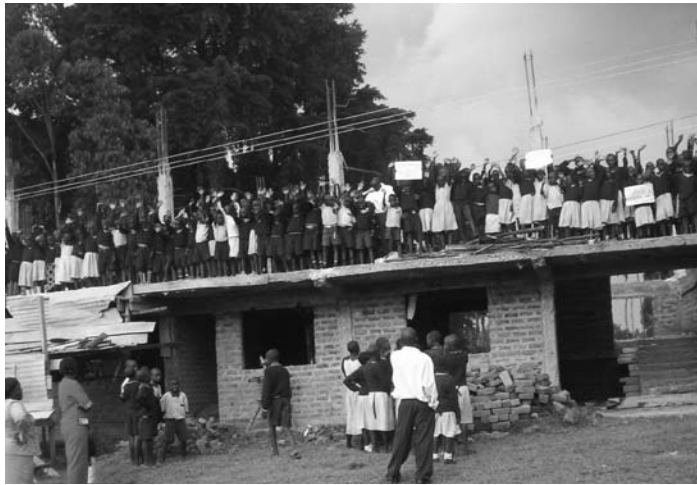
Fundraising successes since the last newsletter include Kidfest for Kenya (left), coin collections, a song fest, lemonade stand, and the third annual Art for AIDS Orphans. Many special gifts directed to the building fund, often honoring someone, came in response to the newsletter. From August through November, volunteers raised over \$15,000.

While we celebrate successful fundraising events and the academic success of students in Kenya (see reverse), we remain focused on our goal to raise enough money to complete the classroom building. To qualify for secondary school or vocational training, the children need adequate space to complete their Grade 8 schooling. The Crossroads Springs Sustainability Committee, a North American group, set mid-November for completing the \$120,000 goal, but we aren't there yet. We recognize that the world economic downturn has probably had an effect. Of course, the campaign will go on into the new year.



Despite what Dr. Isiaho calls “skyrocketing” costs of materials and transport (\$10/gallon of gas), construction presses onward, employing laborers and moving classroom by classroom toward the goal of completion by June 2009. Bricks are now purchased instead of being made on site as the cost of firewood for brickmaking became too high. Decisions like this must be made every day.

Please remember that every gift, every dollar, makes a huge difference at Crossroads Springs. All gifts to the Building Fund go 100 percent to such things as bricks, cement, toilets, doors, installing electricity, and labor. Non-designated gifts go first to orphan support: food, clothing, education, and health care. We all live in challenging times, a time when the needs of orphan children still call us to share what we have. It doesn't take much to “Light the Life of a Child,” as the theme for the recent art event encouraged.



(above) Children at Crossroads Springs hold signs that say “Thank You!”

If you would like to receive this newsletter by email and save postage, contact Alison and Arthur Hyde at [ahyde37492@aol.com](mailto:ahyde37492@aol.com), and please put Crossroads Springs in the subject line.

The Friends Meeting has established a TDAMERI-TRADE account to receive gifts of stock. For more information, contact the Hydes.

Tax deductible contributions may be made online or by check to:  
Crossroads Springs, Orchard Park Quaker Meeting

Mail to:  
c/o Clerk, Orchard Park Quaker Meeting  
6924 East Quaker Road  
Orchard Park, NY 14127