

Our Own Home

A refuge for orphans living with HIV/AIDS in Jinja, Uganda



Greetings!

www.AfricaOurOwnHome.org

August, 2009

What an exciting month it has been for William and me! We got to spend five weeks in Casper, Wyoming visiting friends and family! It was especially exciting because it was the first time that William and my parents met in person! To clarify, my parents and William communicated extensively by phone and internet and gave their approval for us to marry. But they were not able to meet in person until now!

We wanted William to really experience the United States, from baseball games to McDonald's! While there we took a trip to Denver to visit the zoo and the museum, went to Cavalry and Ghosts games (arena football and minor league baseball), and visited the amazing Yellowstone National Park! We also had some great times with friends, making s'mores, barbecuing, laughing, and sharing stories.

We would like to extend a special thank you to Highland Park Community Church, Bar Nunn Baptist Church, and Faith Assembly of God Women's Bible Study, for inviting us to speak, supporting our ministry through prayer and funding, and caring so much about Our Own Home and the children who live there! We are also blessed to have a responsible team of staff and volunteers to watch over things at Our Own Home during our absence.

Perhaps the best day of the entire trip was the day we found out that we are expecting a baby of our own! I am pregnant! The baby is due in late March, so next July when we return for a visit, there will be a three-month-old in tow! Please pray for a healthy pregnancy and uncomplicated delivery!



Faizal

We need everyone to join us in prayer for Faizal. He is a seven-year-old boy who has been living at Our Own Home since December 2007. Faizal has a happy-go-lucky personality, and loves to talk! Our greatest joy with him in the past year was seeing him accept Jesus after growing up in Islam. Faizal has a sincere love for the Lord and a desire to reach his Muslim relatives with the truth of Jesus! Faizal has been fighting a liver infection for several weeks now. The doctors believe that it was brought on by the strong combination of drugs he had to take to combat Tuberculosis and AIDS. For two weeks Faizal has been off of all his medication, and his liver has greatly improved! We are so thankful that he seems to have gained strength and his personality has returned, but now we are on borrowed time. Without the medication, the AIDS and TB will run their course and take Faizal's life. With the medication, his liver may fail again. The doctors feel that the only option for Faizal is to put him on a "second line ARV" drug combination. There are several combinations of ARV drugs used in

the treatment of AIDS. Because the drugs must be taken on a continual basis for the patient's entire life, eventually a person's body will reject one combination of drugs and have to be placed on a different combination. This has happened to Faizal 3 times. Now, the only drugs remaining are the second line drugs. They are stronger, but difficult to combine with the antibiotics that treat Tuberculosis. In short, there are no good options for Faizal right now.

We serve a big God. He is a God of miracles, and we have seen miracles at Our Own Home. God brought Faizal to our family for a purpose. When he came to us his health was so poor that if he had stayed in the village without daily food and without proper medical care, Faizal would likely not be here today.

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Most importantly, Faizal found Jesus at Our Own Home, and if that was the only thing we were able to do for these children who come to us terminally ill, it would still be the most important in their lives. You see, this life is not the only one we have, not even the most real of the worlds to which we belong. This life is a breath, but life in Heaven is eternal. In Heaven there is no AIDS and there are no orphans. We want our children to have the best health and quality of life on earth that we can give them, but when their time comes to pass from this world, we want them to be in that place where there is no more sickness or hurting or crying or pain. We want them to know Jesus.

And they do know Him! They cling to Him, love Him, trust Him. Our house is full of praise songs and laughter echoes in the halls. "He's mine, He's mine, Jesus is mine..." they sing. "This world has its temptations, but I am just a passer-by, soon I'll reach my Father's home..." they sing. "I have a Father, He calls me His own. He'll never leave me no matter where I go. He knows my name, He knows my every thought. He sees each tear that falls, and hears me when I call." In life, these children have security in the knowledge that their Father knows their name. He is with them. In death, they have security in the knowledge that they are going home to Him.

Thank you all again for your prayers and support!
You mean so much to us! Be blessed this month!

Mommy Holly



Holly and William in Wyoming

Thank you for your donations toward a second van! Your continued prayers for us to meet this vital need are greatly appreciated.

Our present needs are for deodorant for our teens, bathing suits (4T-14/16, no bikinis, 2-pieces or European style please,) Purel, personal size Vaseline, multivitamins, children's Tylenol and Advil tablets. Of course, generics are fine for any of these items.

Please share this work with your church or others you know who may be interested. Let us know if you would like to arrange a presentation for your group or church. Send an e-mail to your friends with the link to Our Own Home's website.

If you would like to make a donation, please make checks payable to **Our Own Home** and send to: 1075 Beaumont Dr. Casper, WY 82601. We also accept credit card and Paypal donations online at www.AfricaOurOwnHome.org. Donations are tax deductible as permitted by law. If you have any questions at all, please call Joe at 307-267-2712 or write joe@africaourownhome.org.

Please visit our website at www.AfricaOurOwnHome.org! Here you'll find an overview of our ministry, pictures, our newsletter archive, volunteer, contact and donor information. Please share and e-mail this link to anyone who might be interested in learning more about Our Own Home!

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