



December 7, 2011

Issue #10

As 2011 draws near to a close, we wish to praise God for all He has done and to thank you, our faithful friends, whom the Lord has raised up for the purpose of supporting His work at Bush Fire. Your words of encouragement, prayers, material gifts and financial support have helped to bring about many powerful changes. When we stop and reflect upon the growth that has taken place since its beginning, we stand humbly amazed at what the Lord has accomplished in the past few years. We would like to share with you some highlights from 2011.



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This August marked the eighth anniversary of the building of the first home for the care of orphaned and high-risk children at Bush Fire. To celebrate this special occasion, relatives of the children were invited to attend a celebration and witness what the Lord has done at Bush Fire and in the children's lives. After sharing a meal together, the children sang and performed dances. The families of the children and saw a large display of products made by the vocational training students. The feedback received from these visitors was that of amazement in all that the Lord has done for these children.



This year also marked a change in the educational structure of the children at Bush Fire. Previously, the younger children attended Bush Fire Primary School, while the secondary age children were sent to a boarding school in Jinja. As discussed in our previous newsletter, this situation was not found to be suitable for many reasons, and the secondary children were removed from those settings and reintegrated into Bush Fire with secondary classes and more intensive vocational training being added to the Bush Fire School.

Both academic and vocational training programs continue to grow at Bush Fire. The vocational aspect includes such skills as woodworking, metal working, tailoring, and construction. Daystar University, which is a Christian University based in Nairobi,

Kenya, conducted staff and student training at Bush Fire in November and December for a certificate level in “Communication for Development” and “Small-Scale Enterprise.” This partnership with Daystar will help the children to go beyond the actual crafts to learning necessary business skills such as marketing, communication, and community business development. Classes will continue to be taught during school holidays so that interested students outside of Bush Fire will have the opportunity to attend as well.

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In June, Bush Fire Director Samuel Kitalya was invited to speak once a week on a radio station in Jinja. Through his teaching and preaching, many listeners were powerfully impacted as they learned the truth of God’s word and were awakened to the evil of witchcraft as well as the destructiveness of certain lifestyle choices such as gambling and polygamy. The overwhelming positive response, which includes testimonies of reconciled marriages and rejection of witchcraft, has caused the program to expand. The Bush Fire church now presents a one-hour program on Wednesdays and Thursdays through the station in Jinja, which can be heard near Bush Fire. This led to a recent water baptism in which 117 believers were not only baptized,



but many also publicly denounced witchcraft by bringing with them their fetishes for burning. Please pray the the Lord would continue to use this radio ministry mightily to impart His truth and that those listening would have hearts willing to receive it. Pray that these individuals whose lives have already been changed would grow stronger each day in their relationship with the Lord and that He would use the testimony of their changed lives as a tremendous witness to their unbelieving family, friends and neighbors.



In our last newsletter, we shared about the large numbers of people that were surrendering their lives to the Lord and the growth of three satellite churches that were formed through the evangelistic outreaches by the church at Bush Fire. The number of believers has been growing by the hundreds. One prayer request was for a suitable structure in which to meet in nearby Wangobo, as the small, rented building was not large enough to hold the growing congregation. That prayer was answered with the provision of this newly constructed building. Please also pray that these churches would continue to grow, to thrive and to bear fruit for the glory of God.



This year's weather in Uganda has had a tremendous impact on the crops in that country. Production by Bush Fire Farm was down significantly as a result of a severe drought that took place during the planting season. The extreme conditions led to the decision to focus on lowland rice and peanuts, both which could be planted on plots of



lands receiving sub-irrigation as a result of their location near swampy areas. The Lord was faithful, and Bush Fire Farm produced 1,120 kilograms of rice and 1,855 kilograms of peanuts. Please pray for the 2012 planting season, both that the Lord would provide the rains when necessary and that He would give the farm management wisdom to know what should be planted in the coming year.

As we move forward, please continue to pray for the Lord's timing and direction in all aspects of this ministry, both the U.S.-based Bush Fire Project and Uganda Family Resource Link, which runs the Bush Fire Community in Uganda. We need to continually remain open and sensitive to God's leading, learn from past experiences, make changes where appropriate or necessary, and trust completely in Him as He is the one who is doing the work. Pray also for the many other hands around the world who continue to be a support and a blessing.

Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, to God who alone is wise, be honor and glory forever.

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