

The Link

The Virgin Birth

Is the Virgin Birth important?



Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call His name Immanuel (Isaiah 7:14).

The book of Isaiah was written 700 years before the birth of Christ. **Isaiah** means "The Lord is Salvation." This important Old Testament writing foretold the coming of the baby Jesus through the Virgin Mary. Many skeptics deny the virgin birth labeling it as foolish and absolutely

preposterous. Yet, the Word of God states that an Angel of the Lord said to Mary: "...the Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; and for that reason the Holy Offspring shall be called the Son of God" (Luke 1:35).

Although, there are many skeptics regarding the virgin birth, much has been written about this important miraculous event. Even the Quran (Islam's holy book) recognizes the special calling of the mother of Jesus and the virgin birth. In fact, Mary is the only woman mentioned in Islam's sacred writings. Nevertheless, Muslims classify Mary's Son **NOT** as Immanuel—God with us—and **NOT** as the second person of the Holy Trinity, but one of many prophets. Most Muslims believe that Mohammed is the last and the greatest of the prophets sent by God.

The virgin birth was necessary for the Son of God to enter history as an unblemished man to be the perfect/acceptable sacrifice for the sins of the world. Please understand—If Mary was with child due to relations with Joseph, then Jesus would **NOT** have originated from the

seed of heaven but from the seed of Adam. Hence, Christ would have inherited a dirty heart. In other words, He would have been like you and me—born with a sin nature. For that reason, **Mary conceived a child which was of the Holy Spirit** (Matthew 1:20). The baby Jesus was the first and only child ever "born" with a clean heart. He is thus called **Immanuel meaning "God with us"** (Matthew 1:23).

Unlike any other religion in the world, God comes seeking to redeem man. Jesus (God/Man) was on a mission to rescue the world from eternal destruction. It required the Creator to enter history to save His creation. Christ became sin that the human race may have a way to escape the wrath to come "...that we might become the righteousness of God in Him" (2 Corinthians 5:21). This is the supreme and life-changing **GIFT!** We no longer have to fear death (Hebrews 2:15). Jesus declared to Martha, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me shall live even if he dies; and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die" (John 11:25-26). He then followed His declaration with a question that every person must answer from their heart, "**Do you believe this?**" The Apostle Paul pinned similar words in Romans 10:9, "**If you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in their heart that God raised him from the dead, you shall be saved**"—called the **REDEEMED**. The **GIFT** above ALL gifts—**Jesus Christ!** Consequently, you and I will one day stand before God as a redeemed child covered by the precious blood of the Savior.

Christmas is the celebration of God's **GIFT** entering into history 2000 years ago as the Christ Child—the Savior of the world. You may have many gifts under the tree and throughout life, but our precious Jesus is the greatest of ALL gifts. He is truly the reason for the Christmas season. **Merry Christmas!!**

Rick

Merry CHRISTMAS

The Directors of Mission Link

International are very grateful for all the prayers and consistent support

given for both projects and to the General Fund in 2019. God has accomplished much this year through our faithful friends. Wishing you an awesome Christmas celebration and a very blessed New Year!

Top Left to Right: Wendell Drumheller, Vice Pres.; Jim Masloff, MD - Medical Director; Jeff Dalton, CPA - Treasurer; Jack Sadler, Dir.,

Bottom Left to Right: Candy Sadler, Dir., Glassell Williamson, Sec., Garry Rund, Dir.; Charlie Kardos, Dir.; (Rick Sadler, Pres. not pictured)



A Christmas Gift for MLI's General Fund



IMPORTANT: This past year MLI's General Fund has been encumbered by special projects and administrative issues. **A special year end gift** enables our mission to enter the new year on positive footing. Many reading this appeal may not fully understand what is required to keep a ministry afloat both in the USA and in East Africa. Contributing to the General Fund gives MLI the flexibility to use donated dollars for the most crucial needs. It also helps to keep MLI operational. **Please—prayerfully consider a special year end gift. God bless!**

HELP IS NEEDED: MLI is the "link" from USA donors to nationals and ministry projects. Below are "some" current needs.

- Motorcycle for our teacher at **\$1500** dollars that includes insurance & tags.
- Monthly support for teacher Paul-**\$100** (PTL! George S. Sempebwa supported!!)
- Monthly support for teacher to start new school in Tanzania—Kinas-**\$100**
- Christmas Bonus for the Ugandan Staff and Christmas party **\$465**
- **WIDOW PROJECT SUPPORT:** Our Itukulu widows **milling project** is bricked half way (pictured below) and latrine is dug. Due to the rainy season, we must get the building under roof as soon as possible. **Any gift appreciated.**
- **DR SAM CHOLI:** Sam, a medical worker and friend of MLI, needs your help to fence in his compound so he can raise chickens for an income and to keep thieves from stealing. He has been an important friend of MLI for many years. Dr. Sam kindly request **\$1650** to make this project a reality.
- **OTHER IMPORTANT NEEDS:** The **Medical Fund** is constantly being used. **Any amount is appreciated.** Also, please keep the **Street Kids Fund** coming. **Any amount is appreciated.** Monthly salaries for several **staff members \$50** and two pastors at **\$70** (Pastor Emma and Pastor Wasawa). Thank you!
- **OTHER MLI PROJECTS:** Uganda Office needs new portable phone system (four phone set) **\$60; 2-laptops used.** ZACK (Street Boy): Zack wants to start a business cutting grass. He desires to be productive. It will cost about **\$775** to purchase equipment, string, gas can, glasses and petrol. Our staff will oversee his work and help him save and succeed. Shelia, MLI Receptionist, school fees **\$125.**



REAGAN



Top left to right: Milling Building has begun. Next, house given to Pastor Geoff by donor in 2011. Rick is presenting a Bible recently given by donor in October; Reagan:—street boy wants to go to school (boarding) and learn to read and write (\$200 x 3 terms per year). New generator given to Pr. David for Bwenge Church. MLI challenged the church to contribute 1/2 of the funds. Within 2 weeks, the church members had half of the funds!

LAST CALL: Trip to FEB Trip Uganda

February 1-14, 2020: MLI has purchased tickets for our team to Uganda. Each trip is different and filled with exciting opportunities to express Christ's love for the African people. It is still not too late to sign up as long as we can obtain airline tickets. If you notify MLI within the next week, we may be able to get you on the same flight schedule as the team. Email MLI info—thelinkoffice@gmail.com

June 4-18 (1st wave of volunteers) & 13-26 Trips to Uganda: Catawba Valley Baptist Church is leading the way with a sizable team signed up to travel to Uganda in 2020. We have a few tickets still available, so connect with our office soon. Much is planned for this trip.

NOTICE: for DECEMBER

Is a continuation of MLI's cell phone collection. Please ask your friends, Bible study class, church, and family to donate their old cell phone to Mission Link.

Also needed laptops, electronic keyboard, and cameras. Thank you for helping!

Thirty dollars (\$30) a month brings great happiness to an our African Widow! Will you prayerfully consider adopting this dear widow?

Aidha Mutesi was born in 1962 and is 57 years old having six (6) children. Her husband died of an heart attack 9 years ago. Aidha use to be a drunkard, but **God saved her through Mission Link widow's fellowship.** She praises God for the support from MLI of some basic needs. Aidha is taking care of orphaned children which has not been easy. Her house is in need of renovation and children needing school fees which are two critical needs.

GENERAL WIDOW'S FUND

This fund helps support the many widows in Itukulu who do not have a sponsor. The needs in this village is great as many are peasant farmers. **Any amount given** will bless our widows. Thank you so much!