

The Link

“Unseen Strength Behind Mission Link International”

“MLI has been blessed through dedicated servants of God.”

Spokes on a wheel give it balance, stability and strength. Mission Link International has a number of key individuals (spokes) that enables the "mission hub" to function. One key component is the office administrator. Glassell Williamson has given over 16 years of her life to missions. In early 2003, Glassell retired from corporate life only to begin a journey that would require her to once again work full-time (8:30 to 5:00, five days a week and occasional weekends). Glassell answered the call to take on the responsibility of running the MLI office. Without question, her role over the years has been the unseen strength behind Mission Link International. After almost 24 years of directing MLI, I have witnessed those involved mission organizations doing acts of charity to satisfy an ego or to feel important or needed, or to feed an insatiable desire for recognition. Glassell simply wanted to answer the call to be an integral part of the Great Commission. She has worked tirelessly over the years receiving very little compensation and giving much of her resources and time to ministry. In fact, coupled with my precious wife Candy, Glassell enabled me to spend long periods of time in various foreign countries while single handedly caring for all the administrative details. Keeping the books, taking care of the mail, printing out receipts and making deposits were her major responsibilities, yet she went far beyond what would normally be expected to insure functionality of the office. Folding, stuffing and mailing monthly newsletters, answering the phone, greeting those who visited the office, helping me organize team trips and handling

anything I needed, gave me confidence/peace while overseas. Yet beyond caring for the office, Glassell participated in numerous mission trips. In Africa, her “name” came to life—GLASSell. She managed the testing and giving out of reading glasses. Over the years, she distributed hundreds of reading glasses affording Africans the ability to see clearly words on a page. Above all, she always conducted herself in a godly manner exuding a peaceful & kind spirit in the office & on the mission field.

Recently, Glassell handed her mantle over to Candy Sadler so she could spend time with her ailing husband. Ray had a serious medical issues that required her to take on the most important mission in her life—her husband.

Thank you Glassell for the many years you invested enabling Mission Link International to carry the gospel to the utter most parts of the world. I said to Glassell one day that I probably will not see her in heaven; she will be so close to the throne of God, that I will have to travel a great distance to see her. Without question, this woman of God was a gift from God to the ministry and to me.

Glassell has now trained Candy who has volunteered to fill the administration gap as God continues to direct MLI into a new ministry chapter. We do not know what tomorrow holds for MLI, but we continue running the race that God has set before us.

Rick

Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your father who is in heaven.

(Mat. 5:16)

Glassell Wearing Many Hats!



Your Help is Needed...Pandemic Plays Havoc!

GENERAL FUND: MLI is the “financial link” for national support and ministry projects. The pandemic has been challenging for both churches and 501(c)3 ministries. Mission Link is no exception. Your support to the General Fund is very very important and greatly needed.

- **Motorcycle Needed (Has been met!!)** Pastor James will receive the new motorcycle while passing down his motorcycle to Pastor Stanley and Stanley’s motorcycle to Emma.
- **MLI TEACHERS:** Paul Akise of Uganda and Julius Lusinda of Tanzania each need **\$100 per month** salary. Even if 1/2 the amount is given, this will help our general budget.
- **DOCTOR MOSES:**—Our Ugandan Doctor has a **\$850** debt. Your assistance is needed.
- **WIDOW SUPPORT:** Your gift to the **Widow’s General Fund** helps those who do not have a donor. It also gives flexibility to help critical needs that some widows may incur.
- **OTHER IMPORTANT NEEDS:** The **Medical Fund** is constantly being used especially during the current pandemic. **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 SPECIAL NEEDS AND PROJECTS: PTL!** One usable used **laptop** received and **one (1) still needed. PEACE—Our Faithful Cook,** needs **\$850** to purchase land for her family. She has saved \$600 from her small salary. **SHELIA,** MLI receptionist, is learning accounting—The fees per term is **\$125. MILLING PROJECT FOR WIDOWS:** We are ready to finish the first phase by completing the walls and install the roof. We have gotten a new estimate of about **\$1500.**
- **STREET KID’S FUND:** MLI is helping many street kids through education/vocational training, sheltering, feeding and clothing. **Your gift is important.**
- **DR. SAM:** Still needs **\$1600** to fulfill a income making project at his home. He is worthy!
- **DEAF CHILDREN’S SCHOOL:** Mission Link has now secured over 3 acres to build a school, dorms, showers/bathrooms, classrooms and kitchen. This is a **VERY NEEDFUL PROJECT. We do not have an estimate of funds needed,** yet the first priority will be classrooms, two dorms, bathrooms and a water well. If you ever thought of helping some of the most needy children in all of East Africa, this project is a worthy investment. There have been several donors that have sustained this school, but we need others to come on board.

Street Kids are Part of MLI’s Family

What does one do with a street boy who is on paraffin (sniffing kerosine) 24/7 and refuses to change? LOVE HIM! When I am in country three times a year, I usually see Joshua on a daily basis. Many times he will invite himself to my office and sit and talk. His needs are great, but the greatest need is to be loved. After food and a soda are given, many times a staff member will demand that he shower and wash his clothes—or in some cases, put on new clothes. (MLI has 2 external showers allowing street kids to bath and wash clothing.) Our staff continually shares with Josh that God has a purpose/plan for his life. Before my departure in March, Joshua was abused/caned by the police & taken to his alcoholic father who lives next to Lake Victoria. The police stated: “The next time we find him on the streets, we will either break his legs or kill him.” Philip reported that Joshua has recently ceased from sniffing paraffin. A miracle! Please pray for Joshua and his dad (see their picture on page 3). Praise God for Director Philip’s love and care that he has for street kids!




IMPORTANT!!

DUE TO THE PANDEMIC, ALL TRIPS TO UGANDA ARE POSTPONED UNTIL SOMETIME IN 2021. ALSO, PLEASE PRAY FOR A WINDOW TO OPEN FOR RICK’S RETURN TO UGANDA THIS SEPTEMBER.

PLEASE SIGN UP FOR OUR “NEWS BRIEF” EMAIL. GO TO THE BOTTOM OF MLI’S HOME PAGE TO SIGN UP: www.missionlink.org.

WE WILL BE REDUCING THE NUMBER OF MONTHLY NEWSLETTERS MAILED EACH MONTH. IF YOU ARE READING THIS ANNOUNCEMENT, YOUR NAME IS MOST LIKELY SECURE AND YOU WILL CONTINUE RECEIVING “THE LINK.”

NOTICE: Again, April/May is a continuation of MLI’s cell phone collection. Please ask your family, friends, Bible study group and church (Pastor) to donate their old cell phone to Mission Link. Also needed are laptops, tablets, electronic keyboard, and cameras. Thank you for helping!




Thirty dollars a month brings great happiness to our African Widows!

Will you prayerfully consider adopting a widow? (James 1:27)

Irene Mutesi is 69 years old (1951) having 3 children. Irene states: **“My husband died of an unknown disease in 1993. I thank God for my life.”** Irene is grateful for the provision and care given through Mission Link Int’l that has improved part of her life (soap, stove, medical, some financial support, etc.). Her challenge is school fees for the children. Irene fellowships with the Church of Uganda.”



Like in America, there are special people that come across my path that leave an indelible mark on my life. Margret was such a woman. In the month of April, she transitioned to her eternal home. I have never met an Ugandan who was so full of the Spirit. Each time I visited, Margret and those in the house would greet us singing praises to the Lord. They would often bring tea and bread as we enjoyed each other’s fellowship. Before leaving, we would pray and then she would grace me with a bouquet of flowers. Margret had opened her home to Pastor James, MLI’s head teacher, when he taught in Bewenge. She had a special room where he stayed for a week each month during the year when taught students the Bible. This woman of God was so filled with the Holy Spirit, that being next to her I could fill the presence of God. I cannot wait to see her when I arrive in heaven!



OUR "LIGHT" IS SHINING FOR HIS GLORY—MATT. 5:16

MLI has been very busy for the past two months! The Mission Link staff pictured on the right is Thomas Kunya. Due to vehicles not allowed on the road, a generous donor purchased a bicycle so Thomas could travel to the MLI office to keep the ministry functioning. In fact, he has been the driving force behind all the ministry tasks in Uganda. Over fifty million shillings has recently past through his faithful hands. Thomas obtained permission from the government to transport food in a rented truck. The first two rows of photographs show both widows from two villages and boda bodas—those who transport people on motorcycles conducting their services next to MLI Headquarters. The letter on page 4 is from the widows in the village of Itukulu expressing to donors their deep appreciation for the love and care shown. Widows have been given assistance twice in the last two months. During the past distribution, over 120 widows received both food and quarterly support. The third line of pictures is where MLI joined Ms. Flavia to help feed the albinos in Central Uganda. Some albinos had mobile money wired to them due to their homes being in a remote area or too difficult to reach. Far right is a picture of Joshua (street boy) and his Dad. The bottom row of pictures is MLI sharing food with Pastor Willy and the teaching staff of Jinja Hill school. Next picture is Evangelist Richard transporting his daughter who had a critical ear infection. Above right is Pastor Charles's child being treated for pneumonia. Pastor Timothy, not shown, required two million shillings for a prostate issue. MLI medical fund has rescued many. The last picture shows tremendous flooding. Consequently, MLI assisted 2 pastors with their weak/damaged homes due to heavy winds and rains.





Pastor Euticals Wambua Caring for Kenyans

Pastor Euticals has a tremendous heart for his people. His life exemplifies an African's walk with Christ. He Pastor's a large Baptist Church on the edge of the Korogocho Slum and has established several schools to educate the poor. Donors give generously tens-of-thousands of dollars through Mission Link for Pastor Euticals to care for the needy in Kenya. Pictured is food, sugar and detergent recently purchased and distributed to over 500 residents in the Korogocho Slum in Nairobi. Thank you Pastor Wambua for the GREAT WORK you are doing in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Mission Link International in Uganda

Below left is a letter given by Director Irene and the widows of Itukulu, Uganda after Mission Link International distributed food, soap and funds to over 120 widows (representing widows in both Mafubira and Itukulu villages). Donors have now given well over fifty million shillings in the last six weeks to assist Ugandans during the pandemic.

