



## News & Updates

March 2026

### New Year: A Story of Hope and a Future

As we settle into this New Year, we want to extend a heartfelt, though slightly delayed, official welcome to 2026. Please accept our sincerest apologies for the lateness of this message; our team has been hard at work ensuring our children started their school terms with everything they need.

Your partnership with Orphans Light Inc. remains the heartbeat of our mission. Because of your kindness, children aren't just dreaming of a better future—they are living it.

Take Joshua, for example. Years ago, the path to an education seemed closed to him. Without a sponsor, he couldn't even attend primary school. But because someone stepped in, his story changed. We are overjoyed to share that Joshua has just graduated from High School and is headed to university! His journey proves that your support doesn't just provide a uniform; it unlocks a lifetime of potential.

As we look forward, we are reminded of Jeremiah 29:11: ***"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."***

Your partnership is the bridge to that "hope and a future." However, many more children are still waiting for their own bridge. This year, we invite you to share Joshua's story with your friends, family, or church. As Hebrews 13:16 says, ***"Do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased."***

Thank you for being the hands and feet of Jesus. May your year be filled with the same joy you've given to children like Joshua.

With the deepest gratitude,

**Kathi & Rick Palmer, Annette & Richard Mutaawe and Johnson & Agnes Lwondo**



**Joshua 2017:** He had no hope for education. He was preparing the family's only meal when the news of his sponsorship came.



**Joshua 2026:** Waiting to join university. We are very thankful for the sacrifice by another family to send him to university

## Celebrating Remarkable National Tests Results

The release of the latest national examination results—the **Primary Leaving Examination (PLE)**, **Uganda Certificate of Education (UCE)**, and **Uganda Advanced Certificate of Education (UACE)** - marks a significant milestone for students across Uganda. For our sponsored children, these results are not just grades; they are the fruit of your unwavering belief and financial support.

Your sponsorship removes the barriers—tuition, uniforms, and learning materials—that often force brilliant children to drop out. This support has led to life-changing outcomes.

Sponsored students have consistently taken top slots. For instance, **Sharon Nabukeera**, a student from a background of extreme poverty, was one of the best students UACE level in Biology Chemistry and Mathematics.

These results belong to you as much as they do to the students. By providing the tools for education, you are not just sponsoring a child; you are building a doctor, an engineer, or a leader for Uganda's future.



Sharon wants to be a doctor and her sponsors are committed to supporting her dream. She will be seeking for admission in medical school in May.



Agnes needs a sponsor to be able to start school. The family survives by providing labor in other people's garden in exchange for food. Agnes wants to be a teacher.

***“John answered, “Anyone who has two shirts should share with the one who has none, and anyone who has food should do the same.” ~ Luke 3:11 (NIV)***



**Johnny Worker:  
Learning how to Learn.**

For more information, please contact Brenda at [bdell.joy@aol.com](mailto:bdell.joy@aol.com).

Thank you so much to everyone who has picked up a copy of Johnny Worker! Your support truly means the world to us and the entire Rakai community. If you enjoyed the journey, please consider sharing it with your friends, family, or colleagues. Spreading the word or even grabbing an extra copy as a gift is the most impactful way to help this story reach new readers while directly supporting our mission in Rakai.

**For purchases, please contact  
[kathi@orphanslight.net](mailto:kathi@orphanslight.net) /8636602262**

## A Christmas to Remember: Your Gifts in Action

We are filled with gratitude as we share the incredible happiness your Christmas gifts brought to your sponsored children and their families. This year was truly special - 2025 saw the largest number of holiday gifts in our program's history, a testament to your overwhelming kindness.

For many of our children, the excitement began with the shopping experience. The rare opportunity to visit a shop and personally pick out their own new outfits and shoes for the Christmas service was an empowering milestone, filling them with a sense of dignity and pride.

Because of your thoughtfulness, homes were filled with the aroma of traditional shared lunches—a precious luxury that brought entire households together. Beyond the celebration, your support provided lasting comfort through essential items like mattresses, blankets, and basins, which have significantly improved daily life for many families.

More than these physical gifts, you sent a powerful message to your sponsored child: "You are loved, you are remembered, and you are special."

Thank you for going above and beyond to make 2025 a season of tangible hope and for creating memories that will last a lifetime.



Ronald with his cow, bought from his gift



Redempter with the items from her gift



### Post 2026 Uganda Election Update:

The 2026 Uganda General Elections have concluded, and the Electoral Commission has officially declared incumbent President Yoweri Museveni the winner with 71.65% of the vote. We extend our profound gratitude for your prayers for peace throughout this season.

As an organization, we move forward with the conviction that leadership is guided by divine providence and that God remains fully aware of our nation's circumstances.

While the election period was marked by instances of violence in certain regions and a government-imposed internet blackout, we are thankful to report that the communities we serve remained safe. We did not lose any members of our programs, and daily life has since returned to a state of stability.

However, the needs on the ground remain great and, at times, overwhelming. Many individuals within our programs continue to be unreachable by the limited scope of public initiatives. This reality underscores the critical importance of our mission to fill the gaps where essential services do not reach.

The vulnerable children we serve know nothing of politics; they look to us as a vital source of hope. Thank you for standing with them.

## Praise Report & New Prayer Needs

We are writing with hearts overflowing with gratitude to share how God has moved in our ministry recently. Your faithful partnership has truly been a cornerstone of these victories.

*"The Lord has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy" (Psalm 126:3).*

We are writing with hearts full of gratitude to share how God has moved in our ministry recently. Your partnership has been a cornerstone of these victories, and we are honored to share this progress with you.

### Answered Prayers

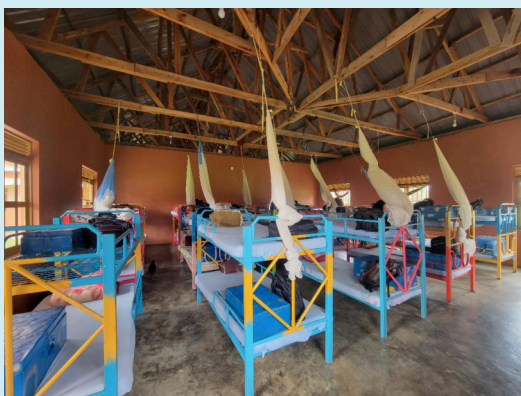
- We celebrate several significant milestones and provisions:
- The 2026 presidential and parliamentary election process concluded peacefully.
- Our sponsored children remained safe with their guardians during the holiday season, and our entire staff has returned in good health for the new term.
- The 2026 school year has started well. We have welcomed 6 more sponsored children, including 2 at the university level.
- We have successfully provided furnishings for 74 additional children at the High School.

### Continued Prayer Needs

As we move forward, we invite you to stand with us in faith for these specific requirements:

1. **Student Furnishing (\$24,000 total):** We currently have 80 students sharing beds with one another. We are seeking **\$300 per student** to provide individual beds and the dignity of their own space.
2. **University Support:** Two of our students, **David Matovu** and **Josephine Nakabuye**, excelled in their recent national tests and will be accepted to university. They urgently need support of **\$3,000 per year** (\$12,000 full degree) each.
3. **School & Community Van (\$45,000):** We are raising funds to purchase a reliable van to ensure the safe transportation of our students and community members.
4. **Girls' Dormitory (\$45,000):** We have an urgent need to construct a new dormitory to provide a secure and supportive living environment for our female students.
5. **More child sponsors!** There are many children needing a sponsor to go to school.

We are constantly reminded that the prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective. Thank you for your unwavering commitment to these children and our community.



Inside the girls' Dormitory at Act High Sch



Calvin at school. He is sponsored by OL

*"The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field" ~ Matthew 9:37-38*

## Why the Rakai District of Uganda?

The Rakai district of Uganda is ground zero for AIDS. Since the disease was discovered in Rakai in 1982, more than a million people have died, leaving behind more than 1.2 million orphans.

In Uganda, HIV/AIDS has significantly reduced life expectancy, depleted the labor force and reduced food security. Many children are being raised by elderly relatives, and these children often have no choice but to work as laborers, rather than attend school.

We need your help to change the lives of these children.

***Coming together is a beginning, staying together is progress, and working together is success. ~ Henry Ford***



**We are praying for God's provision to buy a new school bus**



**Vanessa preparing a family special Christmas meal**



Our mailing address is:

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For more information about, please contact:

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