



# Align Ministries

February 2009

## Building for Bombo

### Educating The Next Generation

While we were in Bombo in September 2008, we asked a university professor. What is the chance of a child educated in the local Uganda school system to attend college? The professor looked at me and said unless the child has a natural ability and



outside tutoring and the family has school fees there is almost no chance for a child to attend higher education. Our education system is very much lacking and the children suffer. Our Country has suffered because our primary education system is so poor.

As we know, education is the primary way to overcome poverty.

Giving children an opportunity to become all they can be is a passion and vision of Pastor Alex and Millie at Bombo Pentecostal Church (BPC). Align Ministries with your help is empowering them by giving them the tools and resources to STOP and break this cycle of poverty and illiteracy.

Their vision is to give **all children** the opportunity to have a quality primary school education. A quote from Millie, "People bring their kids to Donela because they expect something superior, something different from us - they may not know it, but that difference is Jesus and a rich education. Our teachers need to be a class above what exists in the public schools."

Children who grow up with life skills will make a positive contribution to their families and their communities. In keeping with Bombo Pentecostal Church's vision, children's education is the



key for long term success and sustainability for children raised in an impoverished nation.

We continue to see the **local church** is the most influential source of care and support for the community. The church is equipped to care for the whole person. BPC in **collaboration** with partners, such as yourself through Align Ministries, is at the foundation for educational development. Their program is developed on the knowledge of the child's unique emotional, spiritual, developmental and physical needs. BPC has become the leading model for growth and development in the Luwero District.



Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine according to His power that is at work within us. Ephesians 3:20



FRONT ELEVATION



### THIS IS YOUR MINISTRY TOO

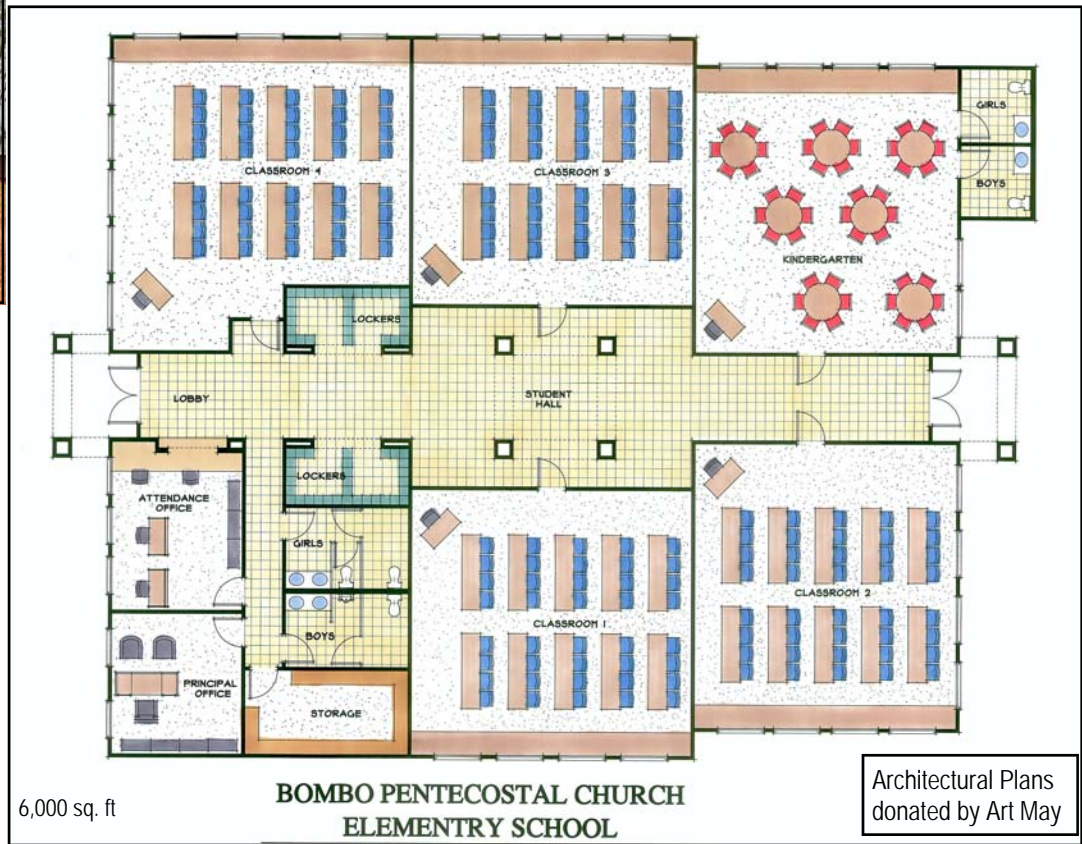
We want you all to feel apart of this ministry and that we need and value your thoughts and in-put. Without you Align Ministries would not exist.

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns or if would like to share anything with Alex and Millie, send it to us and we will forward it directly to them.

Please email us at [info@alignministries.org](mailto:info@alignministries.org).

We are in the process of updating our web site ([www.alignministries.org](http://www.alignministries.org)). We are excited about finally getting it completed so we can keep you better informed.

Thank you Tom Hughes for linking us on your business web site: [www.championpaving.com](http://www.championpaving.com)



### BUILDING HOPE FOR A FUTURE

Above is the first conceptual drawing of this God-sized project. We are in the process of developing a quality education center at Bombo Pentecostal Church. As we join Bombo Pentecostal Church in reaching their vision we are hoping that some of you will also want to see this vision to educate their youth become a reality.

Bombo Pentecostal Church has purchased two additional acres of land for the building project. We need to raise approximately \$350,000 to complete this project, this will include desks, chairs, educational curriculum materials and a kitchen to provide quality meals for each child, often the only meals they will eat all day.

We know, especially in this economy, that a project of this size can only be possible by and through God.

Pray as we continue to seek God's direction.



## LIFE WITH HOPE MAKES THE INVISIBLE GOD VISIBLE

By Millie Ojera



Life With Hope (LWH) is a ministry of Bombo Pentecostal Church with a mission of giving hope to people infected and affected by the HIV/AIDS virus. Various families have benefited from the hope extended to them through LWH. Life With Hope is supported by Align Ministries.

Christine Night Ayena died from HIV/AIDS in November 2007. We first met Christine in September 2007; we saw her lying on the grass under a tree outside Bombo Pentecostal Church with her three children. They all looked worn out, hungry, and desperate. We asked Christine to tell us her story. She explained how her husband, on realizing that she was HIV positive, threw her and the children out of his house in Soroti, a town 5 hours drive away from Bombo. The really sad part is her husband had infected her with the HIV virus. With hardly any money and nowhere to go, Christine Ayena came to Bombo where her parents live. Her parents had nothing much to offer her, except the little two roomed mud house they were willing to share with her.

LWH took Christine and her children into their care. We rented them a house to live in, bought the family food and clothes, and ensured that Christine and her children received the needed medical treatment and medications. We also encouraged her to put her faith and trust in God, which she willingly did. Bombo Pentecostal Church had made the invisible God visible and personal to Christine. By the time we took Christine for a blood count, the results showed that her CD4 count was way below average. She passed away in November 2007 leaving behind her three children; 4 year old Bitendwa Ebarua, 6 years old Opolot, and 8 year old Christine.



Elaine praying with Christine and her children in September 2007

We moved the children to their grandparents' home nearer to the church. LWH, THROUGH Align Ministries pays tuition for Christine at her elementary school and for Ebarua and Opolot at Donela preschool where they receive two meals a day. Christine will be one of the first new students to attend the Primary School we open in February 2009. LWH also provides all of their school requirements, shoes, clothes, medication, and meet any other of their needs as they arise.



Ebarua & Opolot now

When the Ebarua and Opolot joined Donela, they were extremely quiet, reserved, and to themselves. They sat in one place refusing to interact with the other children. Ebarua would not let anyone other than her brother touch her. Slowly but surely, our skilled teachers penetrated through into the children's hearts by showing them love, and giving them hugs and assurance. The transformation in these children is amazing. Ebarua runs for a hug whenever the pastor or her teachers come by. She has brightened up tremendously, put on weight, and is a joyful energetic little girl. Opolot too, is much more outgoing and full of life.

We visited the children's home where their grandparents take care of them. Their sleeping conditions were very poor indeed. Thin torn dirty mattresses lay carelessly on the floor of the mud hut, with no beddings. LWH provided mats, mattresses, and beddings for the children. Thanks to Align Ministries, LWH and Bombo Pentecostal Church's children's ministry, the Ebarua, Opolot, and Christine receive God's love and are nourished spiritually, emotionally, and physically. We are also sharing the Gospel with the children's grandparents. Please pray for them.

LWH is eternally grateful to Align Ministries and their supporters that are standing with us to ensure that lives such as these children's are given hope for the future and a chance to experience the life Jesus Christ died to give them.

We share this story because it explains what Align Ministries has a heart for. Getting behind the local church and changing lives, giving them hope for a future and putting them on a road to self-sustainability and knowing the power of a life with Jesus Christ.

### WITCHCRAFT STILL A THREAT IN AFRICA

Jeff McCarty sent an email to us bringing our attention to a witchcraft practice that uses albinos as part of their rituals and practices. We immediately sent this warning to Alex and Millie in Uganda. This was a God inspired email from Jeff. Alex and Millie would not have had advanced warning of the practice of the witchdoctors and little Deborah (albino child in Bombo, pictured here) would have been abducted and killed by the witch doctor.

This witchdoctor threat to Albinos came close to Deborah. Someone approached her Aunt Debora telling her that little Deborah is worth a lot of money. He did this after trying to send Deborah to the store to buy him something, while a person was waiting to abduct her. Cleverly Aunt Deborah sent someone else to the store so that little Deborah could stay safely home and away from this man's hidden agenda. He then told Aunt Deborah that if Deborah's tooth happens to start shaking, and falls out, he would pay her 50,000 shillings for it!! Many people still turn to the witch doctor for healing and to achieve wealth. We need you to pray for little Deborah and for those that are under the influence of witchcraft. Pray the influence and hope in Jesus Christ spreads and stamps out the evil practice of witchcraft and sorcery.





# Align Ministries

27562 Sweetbrier Lane • Mission Viejo • CA • 92691-6611

1-949-215-7516

www.alignministries.org

Email: info@alignministries.org

## SUPPORTING ALIGN MINISTRIES Help Us to Continue to Change Lives

Unfortunately we cannot continue in ministry without you; we need your prayers and financial support.

We pray and make sure that every dime you send to Align Ministries is going to further the Kingdom of God and make a difference now and in eternity. **Join us, we need you!**

Areas of need in how you can GIVE:

- A monthly gift of \$30 will provide for a family of 4
  - A monthly gift of \$50 will provide for a family of 6
  - Treated Mosquito Nets
  - Clean Water - Wells & Purification
  - SCHOOL BUILDING PROJECT
- Every gift - large or small - is important !!!**

*Suppose a brother or sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you says to him, Go I wish you well; keep warm and well fed, but does nothing about his physical needs, what good is it? James 2: 15 - 16*

### From Islam to Pastor



Bombo Pentecostal Church is promoting reconciliation between man and God and between man and fellow man. They are a testimony to the Great Commandment in Mark 12:30-31.

*"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul*

*and with all your mind and with all your strength. ... Love your neighbor as yourself.*

Pastor Yasin is a former Muslim and is currently the pastor of the church plant in Luwero. He is also attending seminary after receiving a scholarship for college. Pastor Yasin accepted Jesus as his savior with great personal cost, his family. When his father found out that Yasin had converted from Islam to Christ he disowned Yasin as his son and threatened to kill him. Yasin sought refuge in church is now the Pastor of a congregation of approximately 120 members.

## MAKING A DIFFERENCE

When you hear about Muslims or Islam does that strike a nerve of fear? But we have to ask ourselves? Does God want us to live with an unhealthy fear or does He want us to overcome that fear with a deep love and compassion for them. Change is not going to happen until hearts are changed, both ours and theirs. We can build a strong, powerful army, pass laws, draw boundaries and put up walls; that alone will not bring a lasting change, one that will honor God. Much of the time we see them only as an enemy that must be defeated. Our struggle with the Islamic people is not against flesh and blood but against spiritual darkness. Spiritual darkness is lostness, and this is the real enemy that must be defeated.

God is looking for people who will go on a grace offensive; people who forgive and reach out in love. We must love as God commands us to and guard our hearts from fear and hate. The answer to the i threat of radical Islam is "Jesus." We are most vulnerable right now with this economic climate and being distracted with all that is going on and yet we feel so helpless. But actually there is something we can do. God is calling us all to be a part of His army. To love those that hate us and to build a bridge to share the life changing power of Jesus. We are seeing this happen over and over again in Bombo, Uganda through Pastor Alex, his wife Millie and their congregation. They are in the middle of the Nubians, Muslims, Idi Amin's people. This is not an accident but God orchestrated and purposed.

We have seen 300 or more Muslims come to a personal relationship with Jesus through your generosity and support of Pastor Alex and Millie and empowering them to reach out in tangible ways. They are reaching out to them in all areas of their lives. They often ask, "Why do you love us like this?" And of course they answer, "Jesus, because He first loved us, He commands us to love you." Because of these tangible acts of love and kindness lives are being changed forever; the distribution of treated mosquito nets, medical clinics, Donela Pre-school and now a primary school at Bombo Pentecostal Church. So much of the hate and fear is now gone and being replaced with a deep love for one another.

**You may be saying, "This is a crazy time for them to be asking for money for a new school." The economy is so bad, why now?** Again, because God wants us to seize this awesome opportunity that is right before us. God can work in spite of an economic crisis. God goes on working regardless of the climate of the day; education is a huge tool in God's hand. This is a school that now has a temporary site but is already up and running. It is teaching about Jesus but at the same time is "excelling" academically. It will be sought after by all because of the love, encouragement and hope it gives as well as the academic excellence it provides. We think it is important to share with you that many of the converted Muslims are in leadership positions at the schools and churches that have been planted. We are seeing the church as the hub of everything that goes on in the community and thus shining brightly and being the "beacon of hope" for all.

### Two Ways to Give a Tax Deductible Donation

**1. Send your checks to Align Ministries.**

**2. Donate on-line through PayPal [www.alignministries.org](http://www.alignministries.org)**

**ALL GIFTS AND DONATIONS TO ALIGN MINISTRIES ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE AS ALLOWED BY LAW**

Align Ministries is a California Non-Profit Corporation registered by the IRS under Internal Revenue Code 501c3.

No one at Align Ministries receives any form of compensation.

All funds are used at the discretion of Align Ministries towards their intended purpose.