



# November Trip Report 2012

27569 Hawthorne Rd. Sturgis, MI 49091

telephone: 269-743-9161

web: [www.smpionline.org](http://www.smpionline.org)

## The Farm Project Continues to Develop!

The November trip was full of great joy for us! We were able to schedule a full day to visit the farm, meet our workers and get a more complete overview of how it is developing. I am happy to be able to report to you that the farm is doing really well. Our second harvest yielded 5000 kilos of raw shelled corn which ground down into 29—100 kilo



29—100 kilo bags of corn flour is delivered to the school. This truck was able to get to our farm thanks to the new road .

bags of corn flour that will be made into “posho” for the children at the school and the workers at the farm. We were fortunate enough to be at the school the day the flour was delivered.

What a sight to see — bags being off-loaded and placed into storage. One of the kitchen workers at the school told us

the flour would be able to supply the needs of the school until March of 2013, which is when the next harvest will be ready. Yeah! Goal #1 has been accomplished!

The workers at the farm are doing a really good job for us. It's a daunting task to try to keep ahead of the weeds. As

we continue to clear more of our 20 acres for use we will need to add more workers to keep up with the tasks. Once we have grown enough corn to meet all the needs at the/ school our plan is to begin to grow other more profitable crops that can be sold to generate the income needed to cover the costs of the farm.



The house at the farm, has been completed

The new crop planted for harvest in March is once again entirely corn. We anticipate an increased yield this time and should be able to move on to growing other crops next time. It is exciting as each new harvest takes us closer to the goal.



The next crop of corn is growing well. This season should produce a much larger yield

## The Access Road!

The access road to the farm has been a great blessing! Here we are in our Rav4 ready to turn onto the new road that was made possible through several generous donations. This road has opened up the ability to have large trucks drive right onto our farm property and facilitate the transportation of the harvest to the grinding mill and ultimately to the school to feed all the children a noon meal



have large trucks drive right onto our farm property



## Sponsoring The Children!

The sponsorship program continues to expand. Each time we travel to Uganda we carry letters and small



Delivering the gifts from sponsors

gifts to the children from their sponsors. The children are invited out of class to meet with us. We talk with them, deliver the letters and gifts and pray for

them. It is always an amazing time of relating and passing on the well wishes from the sponsors. The children are so blessed and so are we. This is probably Jenni-

fer's favorite time in Uganda. The sponsorship program covers grades from pre kindergarten to high school.

Several of our sponsored children have completed their primary studies and have moved on to study at the high school level.



Sponsored kindergarten children



Some of our high school students

## It's Graduation Time!

Celebration! The three year course of the EQUIP Leadership Training we teach in Uganda was completed this fall in two of our five locations. And so it was graduation time. Certificates are very important to our friends



in Uganda and so we developed a very nice graduation certificate to give the graduates. Special cakes were ordered and a special guest speaker exhorted the graduates. There were two other

locations that were also to complete their course of study and graduate however our trip was interrupted with the news that

Jennifer's mother was not well and in the hospital. Consequently we left immediately to go be at her side. The graduation ceremonies for these other locations had to be postponed until our next trip in April. The Ugandan



people were so wonderful. While disappointed, their culture places a high value on taking care of elderly parents and so they graciously released us to return home. We look forward to further graduation celebrations in the spring.



## Plus One Sponsors

The following businesses are "Plus One Sponsors" of SMPI. Please consider using them if you need the services they provide. They have joined with us as partners to support our efforts in Uganda. If you would like to use your business to support the ministry in Africa, I can show you how with virtually no cost to your business.

Byler Farm Market (261-651-8338)

- fresh fruits, vegetables, baked goods, maple syrup
- G & J Tree Service (269-330-9510)
- complete tree service (24hrs)