

Africa Exchange Project Update Summer 2017

Summary of the May Visit

Shadrack Nyaulingo, Headmaster of the Pomerini Secondary School, visited us from May 12 through May 29, 2017. During Shadrack's stay he visited and spoke at many area churches in the Metrowest area as well as preaching at Plymouth Church. He was filmed by Framingham Access Television for a one hour program called Travels with Jack, viewable on demand on Framingham Cable. Together we skyped with Aisha, our Compassion Program child, in Iringa.

Shadrack visited the Needham Public Schools and Framingham Public Schools as well as Boston University and the School of Public Health. He was hosted by many church families and made new friends everywhere he went. Also he was able to visit many Boston area points of interest and institutions on his unforgettable journey. As a result of this visit and fundraising undertaken over the past year the Africa Exchange Project was able to donate the following:

- Healthcare Dispensary renovations and Hot Air Sterilizer - \$11,000
- Secondary School Construction - \$10,000
- Secondary School Textbooks - \$5,000
- Barnabas Chavala Scholarship Fund - \$1,270 (This will allow 2 girls from the village to attend school for one year, including room and board and all school fees. Commitments have been made to provide this amount of support (or greater) each year.)

Update on the Pomerini Secondary School Construction



Shadrack has been a wonderful correspondent for us apprising us on the developments in Pomerini. In June he wrote us to say that roofing timbers had been installed and orders placed for other roofing materials. Iron sheets arrived in early July as the roofing took shape.



*Dear friends,
Today we have ordered the Iron sheets ready for roofing.
We are moving FORWARD. Give my love and regards to all. Shadrack*



Pomerini Secondary School Developments

In July Shadrack began an new initiative to raise funds locally through establishing a Parents Day.

Dear Todd,

I am so happy to inform you that yesterday we had Parent's day. For the first time in the history of our school, we invited parents and guardians of our students for a meeting. We had almost 300 parents come. ..In the meeting I shared with them about success, challenges that our school faces. I told them about my visit to Plymouth Church. Parents were moved with what you did to us and the relationship we have between us. As a sign of appreciation of what you have done, they had decided to join hands with you. We managed to get over \$1500 in pledges. Our focus in this year is construction of Administration Block and buying text books. Next year we will begin building the science laboratories. We are so happy... This meeting will mark a new era for many meetings to come. We will have parent's day once per year. With all my love, Shadrack Nyaulingo



In early July the new textbooks began to arrive...

Dear friends,

*I am so happy to inform you that, yesterday we had a board meeting that took place in our school. We were honored to have Our Bishop, Assistant to Bishop and the General Secretary. They were very much impressed by the progress of the Administration Block. **Yesterday we also received the books we had ordered three weeks ago.** The chairperson of the board on behalf of the members and The Bishop on behalf of the church they asked to convey their sincere heartfelt thanks to AEP and Plymouth Church in Framingham for your donation. They have seen and are truly BLESSED with the difference you are making to this community.....All in all it was a great day for our school. I miss good words to describe how happy am I with what you are doing to this community... We love you. Shadrack Nyaulingo.*



The School has been recognized for several other accomplishments...

On 7/16/17, Shadrack wrote:

Dear our friends, Yesterday the National Examination Council of Tanzania announced the form Six Results. I am happy to inform you that our students have done wonders. 6 students got Division One, 43 got division two and 4 students got division three. Regional wise we are ranked number 1 out of 20 schools. Nationwide our school has been ranked 49 out of 449 schools. We are so grateful for this achievement and I am proud of my teachers and supporting staff for a job well done. I look forward to starting construction of science laboratories next year so that we will be in the position to teach sciences to High School students. ..We feel so blessed to have friends like you and POMERINI will not be the same. Thank you once again for the difference you are making to this village. Give my regards to AEP members and everyone who is involved in the mission of making difference to our community. REMAIN BLESSED.

With all my love, Shadrack Nyaulingo

On 17 Jul 2017, Barnabas wrote:

Hi! Always good things are a result of co-operation, commitment, trustfulness and motivation. You, friends of ours in Boston have and are playing a very big role in the difference of our school in many aspects. School stake holders, students, teachers and supporting staff as well as the community at large have been very much motivated and

revived with your support to our school projects. This has led to the best academic performance of our students. We are very proud of you. I dream Pomerin to be one of the best schools in the Region in a few years to come and many other stake holders and well-wishers from in and outside Tanzania will join you in this holy work you have started. Thank you so much and let God be praised for you and us all. Barnabas.

Dispensary Renovations

Below are some pictures from healthcare dispensary where great progress is being made. The sterilizer for medical instruments we funded has been purchased. Dr. Geoffrey Mahenge who is in charge of the dispensary writes:

Hello, Prof. Robert, thanks for your emails, I think you're doing fine with your family and our friends in Plymouth Church in Framingham, I hope all things are going well. We are improving for our dispensary especially with renovation of laboratory, buying sterilizer, and building of incinerator. (You are) kept in prayers. God bless you. I attach these pictures to show that we are continuing with laboratory renovation. God Bless us all, Godfrey Mahenge,



Financial Summary

The Africa Exchange Project fundraising goals for 2017 total \$34,500. At the end of May our donations totaled \$27,270, well short of our goal for this year. Earlier this month I received word of a \$5,000 gift from former Global Volunteers to Pomerini, given to the Plymouth Church AEP to be directed to the school. This brings us ever closer to our goals. Fundraising efforts will continue as we determine how to sustain infrastructure developments, identify additional challenges for the community, and continue to foster cross-cultural relationships with our neighbors in Pomerini.

Summary prepared and submitted by Rob Schadt, Chair of the Africa Exchange Project August 2017