

THE SPROUT

OCTOBER 2024

Official Newsletter of Akote Edeke Ministries

Support a Good Samaritan

David and his wife Elizabeth have been taking care of a disabled woman, Grace, since 2019. This story is a true testimony of God's provision. Grace was born normally and at the age of two, she developed a strange sickness that made her parents seek help from a witch doctor because the hospitals were very far away. The witch doctor instructed them to place her in an ant hill for termites to bite her as "treatment." This left her totally crippled from the age of 2 to date. She lost her mother in 2005 and was left in the care of her grandmother who also later passed away in 2019, leaving her helpless. This left Grace with no immediate person to care for her, and changed her life for the worse. It is said she was eating grass and soil for survival while she slept on the bare floor under a ruined roof that rain poured through. Upon hearing this, God softened David and Elizabeth's hearts. They then welcomed Grace into their home and have been taking care of her since. AEM came to know about this through the weekly DBS program where this testimony of love was shared.

During the 2024 summer mission trip, our team members realized that Grace was in neeed of a hut with metal roof and concrete floor. These features will aid in keeping her clean and dry and ease the burden of daily care & hygiene. The iron sheets will be leak proof and last a long time. We have now raised \$1,400 so that construction can begin! However there is still a need for monthly sponsors to assist with Grace's medical needs and nutrition for the family.



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Raise the Fence-Bring Home Our Cows

AEM purchased 4-5 acres in 2022 and have been slowly developing the property as a home for the ministry. The first step was to build 7 huts in order to host short term mission teams ('22) and then pastor trainings ('23) and student retreats ('24). In 2023 we added a pavilion that allows our teams to serve meals rain or shine and is now our most treasured structure providing precious shade and a gathering place for community, fellowship, worship and training. 2024 brought the first season to plant our own crops on the land. The next step was to build a fence.

While the 2024 mission team was in Uganda, God gave another incentive to build a fence. A little girl named Ivy Bea had raised money for two cows by selling pens! To bring home our cows, money for the fence had to be raised. Through the Lord's provision, all \$14,000 has been raised and the fence construction is nearing completion!

Thank you to everyone who gave to this project and invested in this self sustainable beacon of hope to the community. Through a fence you have made it possible to bring home our cows, to grow nutrition for those in need, to have a place for pastors to be trained, and for the love of Jesus to be planted in Uganda!





Lasting Fruit - Child Sponsorship

During the 2024 mission trip to Uganda, we truly had the opportunity to see the fruit of the Child Sponsorship Program. While on the field, we dedicated an entire day to spending time with our sponsored children. During this time, we did lots of crafts, played games and danced. After dinner that night, they had a treat for us that we did not expect. They shared with us two stories about common occurrences in Uganda which focused on drinking and the effects of it on families. They then recited for us Bible verses that they had learned during their discipleship time and the Saturday Program. At the end of the night, they led us in a time of worship all together. It was absolutely beautiful and so heart touching. It was not a performance but a testimony of what God has done in their lives and them raising praises to Him.

Currently there are 18 sponsored children. You can be a part of changing the trajectory of a child's life through education and discipleship. For accountability in the Child Sponsorship program each child has to attend every Saturday Program for weekly check ins with our AEM team. Our in Country Director visits each child's school to build relationships with both the students and teachers while also monitoring their academic success. During the holidays after each term our staff hosts the sponsored children at the AEM Outreach Center. This time together is like VBS camp where their lives are enriched by bible study, games, crafts and worship in song.



Photos from our time together with the sponsored children on the AEM compound.

Each child in the sponsorship program is taught the Word of God and is on a path to become a disciple of Jesus. They are also given the opportunity to receive an education so that they are equipped to provide for themselves and their families. It is \$40 monthly to sponsor a non-boarded student and \$60 monthly to sponsor a boarded student (one who lives at the school during each semester).

Email **brooke@aemlove.org** to learn about waiting children.

I have been to
Uganda five times
since my first mission
trip in 2021. During
these trips, I spent a
significant amount of
time with the
sponsored children.
This past trip blew me
away.

There was a new boldness and confidence when they spoke. They no longer were timid to talk to people but were excited to share about what God had done in their lives.

-Brooke Wallace





Give by Mail:

Donations via check or money order may be sent to:

AEM Love, Inc. 108 Rollingwood Cir. NW Rome, GA 30165

aemlove.org/give



Mission Trip Gratitude

Thank you to everyone that supported someone from the US in making the 2024 Mission Trip. We brought 12 people on the American team and it was such a special trip!

During our time on the ground in Uganda, we hosted two medical clinics and a soccer match that was followed by a gospel crusade. We visited many schools to spread the gospel and went on mercy ministry trips to be the hands and feet of Jesus. We also learned how to make reusable pads using items that were locally accessible then passed that knowledge onto girls in school. We also participated in the work that was already taking place on the ground. For example, we attended DBS in multiple villages and participated in Saturday program. We also spent intentional time with the sponsored children.

We will soon be announcing the dates for the 2025 mission trip to Uganda. So if you are interested in applying to be on our next mission team, keep a close eye on our media platforms!











Give Today:



aemlove.org/give

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Your donation is tax-deductible to the fullest extent the law allows.



Partner with AEM

You can become a Prayer Partner

More than anything, lives are changed when we pray. Our teams both in the US and Uganda depend on the Lord personally and collectively. We prayerfully consider each step we take in fulfilling the vision God has given us to plant the love of Jesus Christ and harvest eternal hope as lives are changed by the Gospel. Through the sacrifice of your time in prayer we will see the Lord provide for and guide the lives of the precious people He places in our path.

Become a Seed Planter

When you choose to partner with AEM Love on a monthly basis with a gift of any amount, you are sowing seeds of hope through the many activities of the ministry. From delivering bibles and monthly medicine & nutrition, to traveling an hour each way to distant villages in order to lead a DBS, our team can't complete their mission without the fuel and maintenance for our vehicle. The harsh environment of the dirt roads in Uganda takes a toll on any form of transportation and we are constantly facing unexpected repair costs. Monthly seed planters are essential to our ability to carry out the overall vision of demonstrating the love of Jesus to the hurting and vulnerable and building relationships in order to share the hope we have in Jesus Christ with everyone. Having partners who sow seeds of love means our team can be Spirit led when we encounter emergency medical needs, unexpected illness, and begin to lift our eyes to the future and take steps to grow food for those in need and be more self-sustainable.

