



GREETINGS FROM RUGARAMA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Photo: Rugarama Presbyterian Church

UPDATE FOR MOIRA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

APRIL 2017

GREETINGS FROM RUGARAMA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH!

Warm greetings!

It was wonderful to receive your Elder Trevor Reaney and learn all of the good news from your church over this last quarter. He gave me your wonderful collection of songs on CD. We enjoy listening to these, and we look forward to a few of you potentially visiting at some point in the future.



Photo: Trevor with Tearfund's country representative, Emmanuel and the Cycle of Hope team who cycled across Rwanda in February to raise money for Tearfund.

WHAT WE ARE WORKING TOWARDS

CCMP, also known as Umoja or 'togetherness' in Swahili, is a way for the church to work with their local community to see lives transformed, both materially and spiritually. Together they work to analyse the problems they have been facing, and discover their own unique strengths as a community, using these to effect a lasting change.

Through Tearfund partner AMU, Moira Presbyterian Church are helping to enable the Church and Community Mobilisation Process (CCMP) within communities across Rwanda. Through AMU, Moira Presbyterian Church have entered into a partnership relationship with Rugarama Presbyterian Church.

Over the coming three years this partnership will be helping to provide support to the local church as they mobilise their resources through initiatives like Savings and Credit Groups who will be an essential part of enabling socio-economic transformation.



Photo: Members of Twisungane Savings and Credit Association show the handcrafted bags which they sell

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING?

Over this last quarter, we have been very busy preparing the grounds for our new project!

In January AMU organised an 'awakening' meeting so that they could share the concept of self-help groups. It was amazing to see the numbers gathering - 198 people from 14 existing saving and credit groups met in Rugarama parish. Tearfund's country director, Emmanuel, visited with his team and were able to hear some of the many successes encountered by the members of the groups.



Photo: One of the Savings and Credit groups hold their envisioning meeting

AMU and the Church leadership of Rugarama were also able to discuss their working plans for the next 6 months. To prepare, the team at Rugarama have painted one of their rooms and offered it for vocational training that began in April. The church have so far managed to recruit 40 young people, who started their training on the 3rd April.

Members of the church have also paved the house of the pastor and they are painting it as finish up phase.

On the 12th March 2017 we had a wonderful Women's Day, with an exhibition of the women's group.

And, we have put the fertiliser down in our modern banana farm

WHAT WE'RE DOING NEXT

From the six months between February and July, 269 members of 15 existing saving and credit groups will be trained about various life skills including leadership, nutrition, the creation and running of small businesses and the management of income generating projects.

The 15 Saving and credit groups will also be equipped with Self-Help Group (SHG) skills, and 7 new SHGs formed, mainly from the surrounding community, with an encouragement for them to form at least 2 Cluster level Association (CLAs).

50 members of the Self Help Groups (most of whom will be from the surrounding community) will be learning new vocational skills and how to apply them.

Please pray:

- That we will be able to raise money for building a new fence for the church.
- For our work plan over the next 6 months; that it will bring holistic change to members of Rugarama Presbyterian Church by the end of the planned period.
- That Rugarama Church will be salt and light within its community and that community members will turn back to God because of what Rugarama Church is doing there.

Thank You

With many blessings,

Pastor Ingabire Marie Louise

tearfund

Following Jesus where the need is greatest