

Celebrating 15 Years



Last week the Association of Grace churches celebrated 15 years of existence. A 6 1/2 hour service was held in a soccer stadium to celebrate. It was a good time of reflecting on God's faithfulness. Only 15 months after Grace church came into existence the genocide hit and all of the top leaders were either killed or fled the country.

For the next three years the association limped along without any central leadership. Even then God was protecting it. After those difficult years the association began growing and a number of new churches were started. The current challenge facing the association is that two of the three churches in Kigali have had their land taken from them by the government for other development projects. Replacing what they have now will be very challenging financially under the new building codes and sky rocketing land prices.

“That will never work!”

This has been a common reaction

as people have seen some of the things we are trying in our agricultural demonstration garden. The comment “we don't do it like that” is also a common response. One “unusual” idea we are trying is to use aquaponics to grow vegetables as part of a bio filter to clean water from a Tilapia tank. Until people see it with their own eyes they always say, “You can't grow a plant without soil!”



We are also using a drip irrigation system to grow tomatoes in a plastic covered green house. In our vegetable gardens, we are implementing a system called “farming God's way” which was developed in Zimbabwe. (www.farming-gods-way.org) The basic principle is to grow crops using minimal tillage and eight inches of mulch. This prevents erosion, keeps the sun from baking the soil rock hard, and helps hold in the moisture. So far, the results have been very encouraging. When we tell people about it their first response is always, “That won't work in Rwanda,” but then, after they see it working they begin to get excited about the possibilities.

We are also raising turkeys, goats

and chickens and would like to raise a dairy cow. At this point, we have pretty much exhausted our resources. Would you like to be a part of this life changing project? Your partnership can help us expand. Please join us by giving to the **Rwanda: Agricultural Demonstration Center #6402-909** at WorldVenture's address below or give online at WorldVenture.com, keyword: Give.

Bush's Visit

Last week President Bush visited Rwanda for a few hours. Half of the city was shut down and everyone was kept off the main streets. Even though we are Americans, as we tried to stand along the motorcade route we were chased away by soldiers with AK 47s.

I was struck by the fact that we seek to give glory and honor to humans by making them totally inaccessible and isolated. Yet, the only one who is truly worthy of worship is totally accessible and is also totally interested in my personal concerns. Amazing!



Prayer Needs

1. Safety as we travel to Kenya in March for a conference.
2. Kigali Shepherd leadership conference in April with top church leaders.
3. Wisdom on whether or not to build missionary houses here in Kigali.

080087 • Additional Support Needed: \$956 per month



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1. Multiply followers of Jesus Christ
2. Demonstrate compassion
3. Establish reproducing churches
4. Equip leaders for the church
5. Cultivate international missions partnerships

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