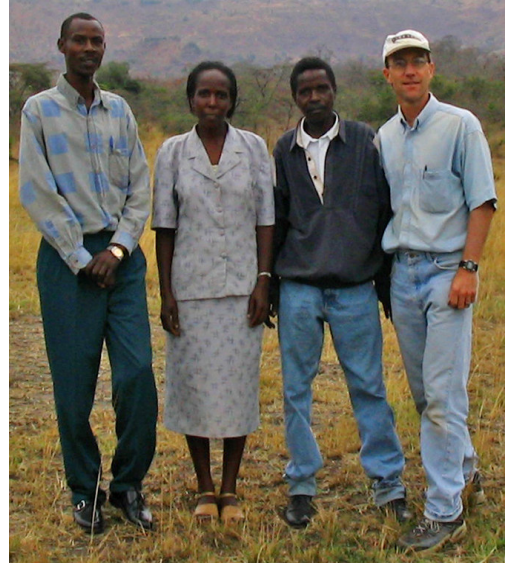


## SCHEER'S MAY UPDATE

### The other side of ministry

Ugirashebuja (Ugira for short; accent on --gi--) has done odd-jobs for us and the Bennetts for years. He's a small man who has a wife and 4 children. He has no schooling, doesn't know how to read. His odd-jobs barely kept he and his family supplied with the bare essentials of living. Then Ugira went crazy. A couple years ago he began reliving the days of the genocide. More than once he got his family out of bed in the middle of the night to flee because "they're killing everyone in the neighborhood!" Eventually Ugira was living full time in this other reality. He was a danger to his family. Today Ugira lives under sedation. Once a month his wife takes him to the psychiatric hospital for his shots. They're not much by our standards, but with the taxi out there and back, it costs about \$18. We pay for Ugira to get his shots every month. It's the other side of ministry in Rwanda.



*Ugira, next to me, in better days (2003) when I took him and our other workers to the game park.*

### Good happenings of praise

1) We continue to be encouraged by the \$600 Club. The \$600 Club is those who have committed to give \$600 a year to help one Rwandese pastor study in the Pastoral Training School. In the last UPDATE we reported that 17 commitments had been sent in. Now there are 25! And we've given out over 30 cards. That leaves only FIVE to reach our goal of 30 commitments by the time we return to Rwanda in August! Let us know if you'd like the chance to help in this strategic work. We've said it over and over again as we've visited churches -- training Christian leadership is the most strategic thing we can do spiritually for Rwanda today!

2) A couple weeks ago Laurie and I spent 4 days babysitting Kaylie, our 13 month old granddaughter! A picture's worth a 1000 words!

We ALSO got to see a lot of our son, Andy. The special treat was getting to see him in his "natural habitat" at Stanford with his friends, going to one of the InterVarsity events with him. He graduates June 17th!!



### Take these to the throne

1) We're heading into a month of trips -- 4 of them with but 1 to 3 days home between each. It's good stuff, but it will get tiring. Pray for stamina for us. Here's what it looks like:

May 31 to June 5 -- Phoenix with Laurie's family

June 7 to June 11 -- Salt Lake City to see a supporting church and Gary's sister

June 13 to June 18 -- San Jose for Andy's graduation from college

June 21 to June 24 -- Aspen to visit a supporting church

2) Pray for our churches here in the States! Sunday I preached at our home church in Denver and shared with them this fact: Of the 13 churches that support our work in Rwanda that we've seen recently only 3 are doing well; two are plateaued and asking questions; eight are going **downhill!** Oh, and another has basically folded up and no longer supports us! Most of these are churches that were thriving, growing, exciting, 30 years ago, and are now tired, stiff, slowed down, aging. That's a crisis. Pray that the life of Jesus, which should enliven and empower the church, might renew and revive these churches again!

### **Keep lifting these up**

1) The Library Project -- we didn't exactly have the phone ringing off the hook with offers on this one. BUT at Prescott, Arizona, we had a member of a group of Christian businessmen take this challenge to heart. He's going to approach his friends in the group with the opportunity to help establish the first and foremost study library for Christian leaders in Rwanda. Pray that they'll be excited about the prospect.

Also at Prescott we met a woman who had worked in a Christian ministry -- her job was getting books for their libraries! She's said she could probably help us get started getting books!

Keep praying -- we'll need many hands to make light of this great task.

2) Let me remind you again to keep praying for our longest standing request -- Rwandese staff for the PTS. We'd like to hire one or two more by March of 2008. Good people make good ministry and excellent people make for excellent ministry! Pray for excellent staff for New Creations Ministries, Rwanda.

### **And finally about the request for advice or recommendations**

Many of you responded with suggestions for a mountain bed and breakfast near a stream. Thanks much! Now the challenge will be to find the time to do it before we go back.

### **Wisdom from Rwanda**

*Umwijuto w'ikinonko ugira ngo imvura ntizagwa.*

-- The self-satisfaction of the dirt-clod thinks that rain will not fall --

Picture this big hard dry dirt-clod in the field, thinking he's really something! What happens when a good rain falls? So you get the picture, and probably the interpretation as well.

It can have to do with pride of our position or power, indeed, like the dirt-clod, thinking we're really something. Someday the rain will fall -- if not in this life, then when the final inevitable event of life strikes -- death.

Or it can have to do with a sense of self-sufficiency and security -- "I'm OK; I'm set; I've got it all taken care of." The rain will fall one way or the other.

Good proverb -- good reminder. Sounds a lot like what Jesus said in Matthew 7:25-27 and Luke 12:16-21 -- look them up if you're interested.

Partners in Him,  
Gary and Laurie Scheer