You Bring Blessings to Uganda

You have blessed the people of Uganda in more ways than one when you made it possible for Matthew Kadavy to serve there.

Matthew arrived in Kabale, Uganda, in January, and his work is already making a difference. Damian Kabot, development director, had the opportunity to visit in May and see first-hand how he manages two tea farms (180 acres), an apple orchard (300 apple trees), a chicken coop which he built from scratch (capacity 1500 chickens), two Catholic bookstores, a procurement center (a store), and a diocesan hotel.

Serving as an effective manager in a very different environment, where kinship and the sense of community often seem to outweigh efficiency, requires time and effort. However, Matthew is working quite effectively as he was well prepared in formation to negotiate the cultural differences. The tea farms and the guest house have started to become sustainable, making it possible to now support the pastoral programs like Domestic Violence Prevention, Lay Apostolate, Religious Education Office, the Pastoral and Retreat Center and others. Other projects will take a bit longer, but Matthew has three years! Thanks to your support, lives are being changed already through these programs.

However, there is another, unintended, or "collateral" blessing of Matthew's service, namely, the creation of jobs. Uganda is called the "Pearl of Africa" for its beauty, and the Kabale region is nicknamed "Switzerland of Uganda" for its picturesque hills; however, the local population's poverty is not a pretty sight. You see it everywhere. Most local families live in single-room homes often equipped with just one light bulb. There is no TV or radio. They capture rain water for consumption and personal hygiene. Some have to bring water in canisters from a village faucet hundreds of yards away. Their prized possessions are the images of Jesus, Mary and the saints which adorn the walls of their homes. Devoutly Catholic, families gather before those frameless pictures for their daily prayer.

Herbert, a 23-year old married father of two, who helped Matthew build the chicken coop, needs $5 a day to provide three meals for his young family. Most days, he is able to do just that by operating a motorcycle taxi. He volunteered his time to build the coop because he wanted to help the Church. However, the hope is that eventually he can work for one of the projects and make that $5 to feed his family every day.

Not just Herbert's, but other families too benefit from this "collateral" blessing of Matthew's projects. Tea farms need laborers to harvest the tea during the rainy season. These jobs are seasonal, but they make a real difference. The chicken coop project has already created one full-time position, and the diocesan hotel offers opportunities for part and full-time employment. Those who

Matthew Kadavy (above right), with Bishop Callist Rubaramira of the Diocese of Kabale, Uganda; a tea farm that Matthew manages (bottom).

otherwise would not have any work are blessed.

The bishop and the people who benefit from the service of our missionaries are very grateful not just to Matthew but to those who made his service possible. They are grateful **to you, and so are we.**

A Legacy of Love

Beverly (Bev) Thornburg, Class of 2001, will send a science teacher to Ghana. She will also put a neonatal nurse at a patient's bedside in Uganda. Though she will never see it, she will do this and more because she gave a legacy of love by remembering LMH in her will.

Bev was single and retired from a career teaching physical education when she left on her assignment to the Marshall Islands. She taught at Queen of Peace High School on Ebeye, Kwajalein Atoll. Girls' sports were not given much attention at the school, so Bev took it upon herself to form and coach volleyball and softball teams.

After Bev completed her mission, she spent several months in Cameroon assisting at a primary school alongside her LMH classmates. And she continued to participate in different LMH activities after she returned home.

Bev Thornburg (top left), Class of 2001, with her softball team.

For more information on specific ways you can include LMH in your charitable giving plan, or to set up a monthly donation, please visit www.LayMissionHelpers.org or call 213-368-1870.

Your Support Sent LMH to Ghana

"I am not bringing God to these people. God is already here!" says Diane Yonga, a Lay Mission-Helper you sent this past spring to serve in the Diocese of Damongo, Ghana. Diane, and fellow LMH'er Karen Hunka, have had a wonderful time settling into their new home. "The people of Damongo are very friendly, especially the children," she says. "It is a beautiful feeling to be so welcomed."

The Diocese of Damongo is a new site for LMH, and our missionaries are considered a great asset by Bishop Peter Paul Angkyier and his staff.

Diane is doing two jobs for the diocese right now: teaching nutrition classes at St. Ann's Senior High School for girls and acting as the school secretary. Karen is using her accounting background to serve in the diocesan finance office and creating financial reports for the school.

St. Ann's is known for providing young women with a good education, and according to Bishop Peter Paul, the parents have added confidence in their daughters' education now that lay missionaries are serving there.

The vast majority of the students are not Catholic. Because of your partnership, you make it possible for Karen and Diane to be an evangelizing presence among them. After hours, the two women often serve

Karen Hunka (top) with students at St. Ann's Senior High School; Diane Yonga (bottom) is teaching nutrition classes at the school.

as counselors for the young women who want to talk about their struggles, and are able to offer faith and hope as they listen and share.

Bless you for supporting missionaries like Karen and Diane, and for sending compassionate servants overseas to be the hands of Christ. We look forward to sending more Lay Mission-Helpers to Ghana, and to building new partnerships with dioceses around the world.