



children's FOR KINDERGARTEN AND PRIMARY LEADERS
MISSION

EAST-CENTRAL AFRICA DIVISION
Fourth Quarter 2006

MAKING MISSIONS FUN!

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Language Fun

Three languages are featured this quarter. Choose two of them to enhance your mission presentations. The specific countries and languages we focus on this quarter are Kenya (English and Swahili), Ethiopia (Amharic), Uganda (English and Luganda), and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (French [not included] and Swahili). During the first half of the quarter, teach the children some words or phrases and “Jesus Loves Me” in one language, and repeat, using a different language during the remainder of the quarter.

Mission Potluck

Plan a mission potluck featuring the foods and cultures of eastern Africa. (See recipes on pages 6, 8, and 10.) Label the foods with their name and country.

Decorate the church fellowship room with the mission mural you make or other scenes from eastern Africa, such as enlarged drawings of African wildlife. Decorate the center of each table with small African animals, huts the children have made, or woven mats.

Ask the children to greet people in one of the languages they have learned this quarter.

Early Bird Activities

Mission activities provide great incentives to get children to Sabbath School early. Use pre-session time to color the mural, the mission map, or the flags (see page 26); or work a puzzle (see page 4 or 12). Provide a listening corner with recordings of favorite mission stories from this or earlier quarters.

Mission Mural-Offering Device

Pencil a rolling landscape on poster board or a long strip of paper. Draw a few acacia trees (the flat-top, small-leaved trees) and a shallow pond. On separate paper, draw various African animals to color, cut out, and tape or glue onto the mural. Add one animal to the mural every time the class meets its mission offering goal.

Special Features

Invite a guest who has traveled to or lived in eastern Africa to speak to your class. Ask them to wear traditional clothing, and bring appropriate items for the children to see and touch. Or feature a nature story on a favorite African animal.

Try a craft. See page 24 for instructions to make a mission bank.

Game Day. Invite the children to your home or a park for an African playtime. Teach them to play some games from eastern Africa (see page 22), and let them make a kid-friendly treat (see page 10) to introduce them to one food from the region.

Thirteenth Sabbath Program

On pages 29 and 30 you will find material and ideas for a Thirteenth Sabbath program. Review the program early in the quarter so that you can assign parts well ahead of time.

Create a Mission Resource

Each division is featured once every three years. Save your copies of *Children’s Mission*. Past issues will provide extra puzzles, craft and activity ideas, and recipes that you might want to use again.

Cover Photo: Hans Olson, Office of Mission Awareness

Answer to puzzle on page 12:
Tell the world that I am coming soon. *JC*.

children's MISSION news

Fourth Quarter 2006
East-Central Africa Division

Jambo [JAHM-boh]! And karibu [kah-REE-boo]. Jambo means “hello,” and karibu means “welcome” in Swahili [swah-HEE-lee]. Swahili is a language spoken in most of eastern Africa.

This quarter we will meet children from four countries in eastern Africa—Ethiopia [ee-thee-OH-pee-ah], Kenya [KEHN-yah], Congo, and Uganda [yoo-GAHN-dah]. Children in Africa love to share Jesus with their families and friends.

Today we will meet a boy and a girl from Nairobi [ny-ROH-bee], the capital city of Kenya.

Meet Lycia

Lycia [LEE-cyah] is 9 years old and in the fourth grade. She wants to be a doctor when she grows up. But she does not have to wait to grow up to tell others about Jesus.

Lycia attends public school where students must take a religion class.

One day Lycia noticed that her friend Ann was not paying attention.

After class the two girls walked home together, for Ann was going to stay overnight with Lycia. Lycia asked Ann why she did not listen in religion class. Ann answered that her family does not attend a church, and she knows nothing about religion.

That evening before bedtime, Lycia’s family had worship. Mother read John 3:16, and then Lycia prayed. As the girls were preparing to go to bed, Ann asked Lycia, “Who is this God?”

Lycia was not sure how to explain who God is, so they asked Lycia’s mother.

The next morning Lycia invited Ann to come to church with her, and Ann promised to ask her



parents. On Friday Ann went home with Lycia again so that she could attend church with her friend. On Friday evening at family worship, Mom told simple Bible stories so Ann could understand.

On Sabbath morning Lycia and Ann went to church. Ann liked Sabbath School, and wants her parents to go with her next time.

Now Ann pays attention to the teacher in religion class, for she has learned more about God from Lycia.

Bismark

Bismark also is 9 years old. And he has shared his faith with his friend Edwin. When their religion teacher told them that Sunday is the day of worship, Bismark whispered to Edwin that he worships on Saturday, as the Bible commands.

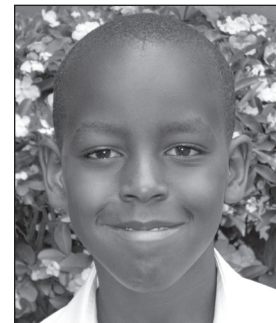
One day during recess Bismark gave Edwin a small Bible to read and invited him to visit an Adventist church near his home. The boys did not live near each other, so Bismark could not take Edwin to church.

A few weeks later Bismark’s family attended a program in another Adventist church. To Bismark’s surprise, he met Edwin at church! The boys sat together during Sabbath School.

After worship, Bismark asked Edwin why he had come to church. “Because you invited me,” Edwin told his friend.

This week you can do as Lycia and Bismark have done: Invite someone to Sabbath School. You’ll be glad you did.

Kwaheri [kwah-HEH-ree]. That means “goodbye.” 🌿



Animals of Eastern Africa

Help the animals of eastern Africa find their way home in the puzzle. Each animal has only one home. Count the number of boxes in each word, then find the animal with that many letters in its name. If more than one

animal has the right number of letters, look at the clues in the letters already in place in the boxes to help you decide which animal lives there. Cross off each animal as you find its home.

3 letters

gnu

4 letters

kudu

lion

oryx

5 letters

bongo

eland

hyena

6 letters

baboon

dik-dik

monkey

serval

7 letters

cheetah

gazelle

giraffe

gorilla

leopard

ostrich

warthog

9 letters

crocodile

10 letters

rhinoceros

wildebeest

12 letters

hippopotamus

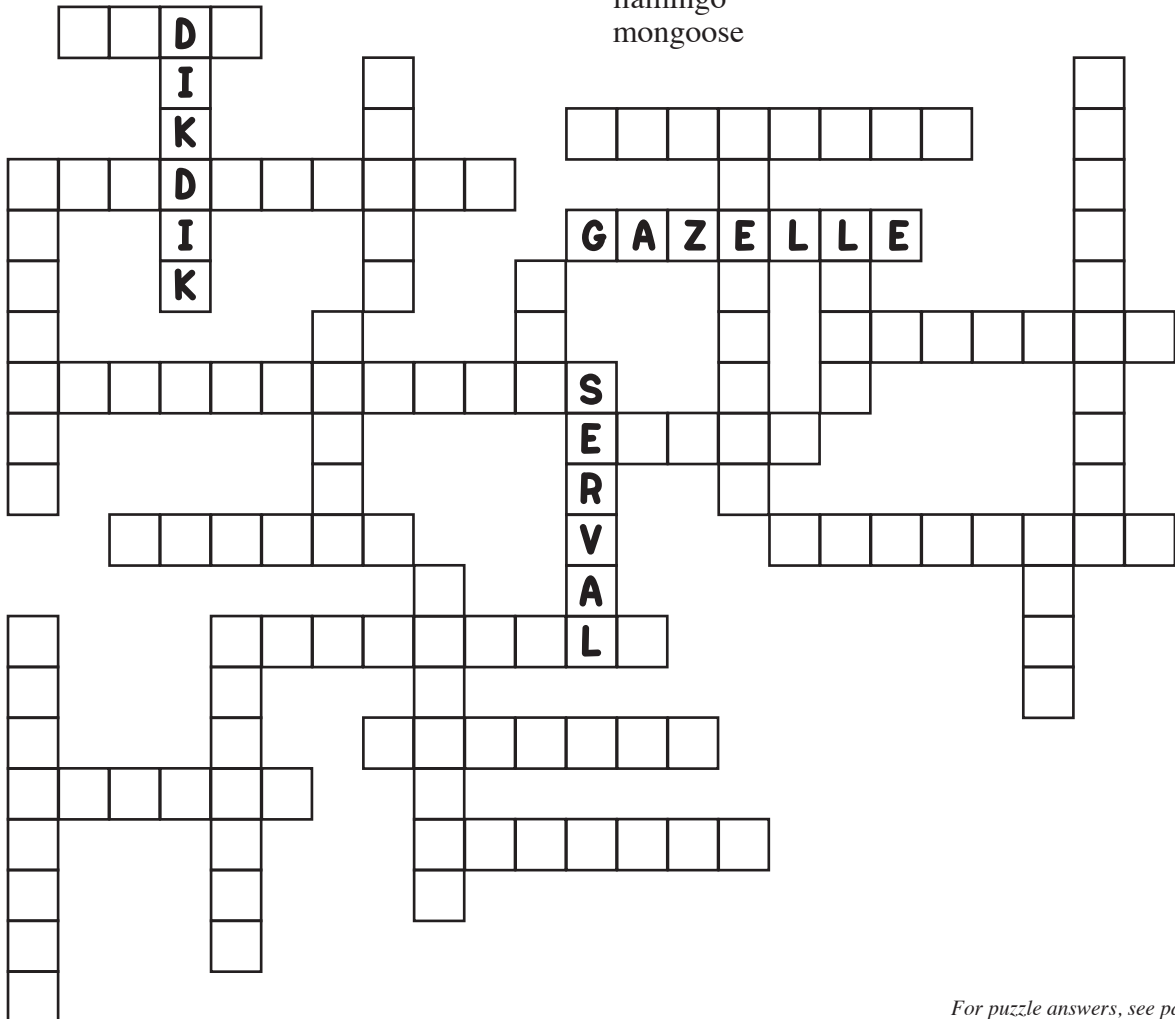
8 letters

antelope

elephant

flamingo

mongoose



For puzzle answers, see page 31.

A New Friend for Jesus

GraceLink Connection: Service.

Steve



Steve approached the man sitting alone by his hut, a bottle of beer in his hand. "May I be your friend?" he asked.

Steve is 12 years old. He lives in western Kenya [locate Kenya on a map]. One day Steve and his family were walking along the river when they saw a man sitting in front of a little thatched hut. He looked young, but his shoulders drooped like an old man. They could tell he had been drinking.

A New Friend

Steve learned that the man's name was Kibogo [kee-BOH-goh]. Steve visited Kibogo when he went for a walk along the river. Sometimes Kibogo was friendly; but when he had been drinking, his actions frightened Steve, who learned to be careful around the man.

One day during family worship, Steve said, "We are supposed to help the poor. Kibogo has nothing but rags to wear. Can we give him some clothes?"

Mother and Father looked at each other. They did not have much money, but they had a home and clothes to wear. "Yes," Father said. "I think we can find something for Kibogo."

Clothes for Kibogo

Mother and Steve found a shirt, trousers, shoes, and socks for Kibogo in the marketplace. That evening Father and Steve walked along the river and found Kibogo sitting outside his thatched hut. "We brought you something," Steve said, giving Kibogo the bag. "I hope they fit." Kibogo opened the bag and pulled out the shirt and trousers.

"Thank you," Kibogo said quietly. "Why did you do this?"

"Your clothes were torn," Steve said. "I wanted you to have something new." Steve waited a minute as Kibogo tried on his new shirt. It fit well. "You know, Kibogo," Steve said, "if you stopped drinking and smoking, you could earn money to buy food and clothes yourself."

"I know," Kibogo said sadly. "I've tried to stop, but I can't. It's too hard."

Steve and his father said goodbye and turned toward home. "How can we help him quit drinking?" Steve asked.

"I don't know," Father said. "We can encourage him and pray for him. But God has to do the rest."

Kibogo, the Family Project

Sometimes Steve took a plate of Mother's home-cooked meals to Kibogo. He often found Kibogo listening to his portable radio outside his hut. One day when Steve and his father arrived, Kibogo was upset. He had heard a news report saying that several people who drank the locally brewed beer had died. "That's all I drink!" Kibogo said. "I don't want to die. What can I do? Can you help me stop drinking this stuff?" he begged, holding out the bottle.

Steve and his father visited Kibogo almost every day to encourage him and pray with him. "Let God help you stop drinking," Father urged. "Only God can free you from these addictions."

A New Family

Steve invited Kibogo to come to church, and one day he agreed to go. He arrived at the church and was welcomed warmly. During testimony time Kibogo said, "I have been drinking for many years, but I want God to forgive me and take away the desire to drink." The church members hugged Kibogo and welcomed him to their family. Steve and his parents sat with Kibogo to let him know that they were glad he was there.

Kibogo started attending church every week. Steve was excited to see how God was changing Kibogo's life. One Sabbath at church Kibogo stood and said, "I want to follow Jesus and be baptized." People in the church said, "Praise God! Hallelujah! Amen!" Steve was so happy.

On the day that Kibogo was baptized, Steve and his family were so happy! The pastor thanked them for being Kibogo's friends and helping him find Jesus.

Kibogo, God's Friend

Kibogo still lives in his small house. But now he works as a security guard and is saving his money for a new house.

"Kibogo is my friend," Steve said. "We are brothers. We both belong to Jesus. Sometimes we go fishing together on Sundays."

Today Kibogo is a church elder. He tells others about Jesus just as Steve told him about Jesus.

Boys and girls, we can tell others about Jesus too. And our mission offerings tell people everywhere that God can change their lives, just as He changed Kibogo's. 🌱

Recipes

Photocopy onto heavy paper and cut apart, or fold on dotted line.

<p>Vegetables and Gluten</p> <p>8 to 10 medium potatoes, washed, peeled, and cut into chunks 1 tablespoon salt, or to taste 5 or 6 carrots, washed, peeled, and sliced thin 1 large onion, sliced or diced 2 large tomatoes, peeled and cut into large pieces 1 to 2 cups gluten or soya chunks seasonings as desired (mild curry powder, garlic powder, etc.) chicken-flavored gravy mix or cornstarch to thicken</p> <p>Cook potatoes in salted water until just tender, about 10 to 15 minutes; drain. Fry carrots and onions until tender. Add tomatoes, gluten or soya chunks, and seasonings, and simmer a few minutes to season through. Thicken with cornstarch or gravy mix. Add to potatoes and stir gently to mix. Serve hot with ugali (see recipe), chapatis (Indian fried bread), or rice.</p> <p><i>Ruth Walensa, University of Eastern Africa, Barton, Kenya, provided this recipe.</i></p> <p>Nsima (Ugali)</p> <p>12 cups water 4 cups <i>ufa</i> (cornmeal) butter or margarine (optional)</p> <p>Heat water in a large saucepan until lukewarm. Mix half the cornmeal, a little at a time, with the water, stirring with a wooden spoon to be sure no lumps form. Bring to a boil, stirring well, then lower the heat and let it boil gently for a few minutes. The mixture will look like a thin transparent porridge. Sprinkle the remaining <i>ufa</i> over the liquid mixture, a little at a time, stirring constantly to avoid lumps, until the desired consistency is reached (should be thick and smooth). Keep stirring until nsima is very smooth. Stir in a little butter or margarine, if desired, and serve with an entrée or vegetables.</p>	<p>Matoke (Fried Plantains)</p> <p>Plantains are a variety of bananas that are larger than eating bananas and usually green. They are not meant for eating raw, but are often used in cooked dishes. Sweet potatoes can be substituted for this dish with delicious results.</p> <p>4 medium plantains, peeled oil for frying salt to taste</p> <p>Peel bananas and cut in half. Slice into 1/2-inch pieces and drop into the hot oil. Fry for a few minutes until golden brown. Drain and sprinkle with salt.</p> <p>Note: You may also slice plantains lengthwise and fry them in a small bit of oil. Serve warm.</p> <p>Boiled Groundnut (Peanuts) Sauce</p> <p>1 cup water 1 cup peanuts, finely ground or processed in a food processor (or use one cup natural peanut butter) 1 small onion, finely diced pinch of salt</p> <p>Thoroughly mix water, ground peanuts or peanut butter, and onion. In a saucepan, bring mixture to a boil; turn heat down and simmer for about 20 minutes or until mixture thickens slightly. Add salt to taste. Serve over plantains or nsima.</p>
<p>Kenya</p> <p>Eastern Africa</p>	<p>Eastern Africa</p> <p>Uganda</p>

Ronny's Stolen Tests

GraceLink Connection: Grace.

Ronny



A boy learns that God is willing to help us when we ask.

Ronny is 11 years old. He lives on the shores of Lake Victoria in western Kenya [locate Kenya on a map]. Ronny likes school and does well in his studies. But there was a time when he did not do so well and did not get good grades. His solution got him into big trouble. Ronny shares his story with us today.

Ronny's Problem

When I was in the second grade, I would rather play with my friends than do my schoolwork. My grades showed it, and I often scored poorly on tests. I did not want my parents to be disappointed in me, so I thought about how I could get better grades.

That day the teacher gave us back some test papers, and mine had a zero on top. The girl next to me scored 98. I had an idea. When she left her desk, I took her test paper, erased her name, and wrote my name at the top. That evening I showed my parents the stolen test paper.

Mother saw the grade and smiled. "Well done!" she said. But I felt guilty. Even though I had not said a word, I was telling my parents a lie.

I did not score well on the next test we took. So again I took someone else's paper home to Mother.

I had a math assignment I did not understand, and I asked Mother to help me with it. She tried to explain it to me, but I couldn't get it. Then Mother said, "These problems are not that different from those you did on your last test, and you did well on the test." I realized that my little scheme was not working.

The Teacher's Plan

Later that week Mother visited my teacher. "Ronny is still having trouble with his math, but according to these tests, he is doing well. I don't understand." Mother gave the teacher the test papers I had brought home.

The teacher opened her grade book and showed Mother my true test scores. Mother and the teacher decided it was time to teach me a lesson in honesty.

The teacher passed out the next test papers just before

recess. We left our papers on our desks and went outside to play. I stayed behind and looked at every child's test paper. I found one with a high grade and erased the student's name and wrote my own. Then I wadded up my own test paper and threw it away on my way outside to play.

Found Out

When we returned to our class, the teacher said, "I want you to look at your test results for a minute." I picked up the test paper and waited for the teacher to begin. But Joseph raised his hand. "Teacher, I can't find my paper."

The teacher walked around the room checking everyone's paper. She stopped at my desk, looked at the paper in front of me, then at her grade book. "Ronny, where did you get this paper?" she asked.

"I took it from Joseph's desk," I said. "Ronny, go to the staff room," Teacher said. "I will meet you there in a few minutes."

I walked slowly to the staff room. I knew I would be punished for taking Joseph's paper. When the teacher came in, she asked, "Do you understand what you have done?"

Ashamed, I mumbled, "Yes, Ma'am."

She wrote a letter and told me to take it to my parents. I gave it to them that evening, and they read it. They punished me again for lying and stealing, then they prayed with me. I prayed too, asking Jesus to forgive me and help me to change.

A New Ronny

My mother asked me how I could raise my grades. I said I needed to work harder on my school assignments. "You spend a lot of time playing with your friends. If you spent that time studying, you could get good grades without cheating," she explained. I knew she was right.

It was hard giving up my playtime, but my parents promised to help me study. My teacher helped me too.

Now when I take a test, I do well. I don't have to cheat. I like the feeling that I get when I do my best, and I know that Jesus is blessing me. Jesus will help you, too, if you ask Him. 🌱

Recipes

Photocopy onto heavy paper and cut apart, or fold on dotted line.

Injera (Ethiopian Flat Bread)

Ethiopia

Injera is a pancake-like bread that is light in color and spongy in texture (something like French crepes). Usually made from sourdough, it tastes slightly fermented. Traditionally, injera is made in large circles from teff, a flour sometimes difficult to find outside Ethiopia. Try this adaptation of injera. Or look for ready-made injera at an Ethiopian market. To eat it, tear off a piece of injera and use it to scoop up a bite of sauce, called wat, from a bowl. No utensils are needed.

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 4 cups self-rising flour | 2 cups club soda (carbonated water) |
| 1 cup whole-wheat flour | 4 cups water |
| 1 teaspoon baking powder | |

Combine all ingredients. Mix into a smooth, thin batter. Heat a large, non-stick skillet until a drop of water bounces on the surface. Pour enough batter to cover the bottom of the skillet. Pour quickly and swirl pan to cover bottom evenly. When small holes appear on the surface of the injera, and the moisture has evaporated, take the injera out of the pan. It is cooked on one side only and is not browned. If it is pasty, it is undercooked; spread the batter more thinly in pan. Injera should be spongy and pliable, not crispy. Stack the injera, keeping them covered with a damp cloth to keep them from drying out. Serve them with thick stew. Tear off pieces of injera and use them to scoop up the stew or beans.

Lentil Wat

Ethiopia

(Serves 6-8)

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| 2 cups red lentils | 5 to 6 cups water |
| 2/3 cup chopped onion | 1 teaspoon ground turmeric |
| 3 cloves garlic, finely chopped | 1 teaspoon salt |
| 3 to 4 tablespoons oil | 2 to 3 teaspoons hot green pepper, finely chopped |

Soak lentils in water for 50 to 60 minutes, then cook for 30 minutes (or use canned lentils). Stir-fry onion and garlic with oil for 2 or 3 minutes over moderate heat. Add lentils, turmeric, salt, and pepper; mix well. Cook for 3 or 4 minutes to thicken the sauce. The puree should be thick and well spiced. If too thick, add a small amount of additional water. Serve with injera or pita bread.

Vegetable Wat

Ethiopia

(Serves 5 or 6)

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| 1 cup onions, finely chopped | 1 cup cubed potatoes |
| 2 cloves garlic, pressed | 1 cup chopped tomatoes |
| 1 teaspoon sweet Hungarian paprika | 1/4 cup tomato paste |
| 1/4 cup vegetable oil | 2 cups vegetable stock, seasoned to taste |
| 1 cup beans, cut into thirds | 1/4 cup chopped fresh parsley (optional) |
| 1 cup cubed carrots | |

Sauté the onions, garlic, and paprika in oil for 2 or 3 minutes. Add beans, carrots, and potatoes, and continue to sauté for about 10 minutes, stirring occasionally to prevent burning. Add chopped tomatoes, tomato paste, and vegetable stock. Bring to a boil and simmer slowly for 15 minutes, or until the vegetables are tender. Season to taste and add parsley if desired. Serve with injera (Ethiopian bread) or bread and plain yogurt or cottage cheese.

Cindy's Secret

GraceLink Connection: Service.

Cindy



Cindy has learned to love Jesus, and she wants to tell others, but she cannot tell her father.

Cindy* is 10 years old. She lives in Nairobi, the capital city of Kenya [locate Kenya on a map]. Cindy is a good student and enjoys school. She likes to wash dishes and help her mother around the house. And she likes to play hide-and-seek. Someday Cindy wants to be a teacher or a doctor. Cindy is a pretty normal girl. But Cindy has a secret.

A New School

Cindy's father is not a Christian; he follows another religion. Father's religion operates a school in Nairobi, but Cindy did not want to attend that school because some of the school rules the children must obey made her feel bad. Her parents had heard that the Adventist primary school was a good school that taught high moral standards. They decided to send Cindy there to study.

Cindy likes her new school. She likes that her teacher does not shout if a child does something wrong. And she likes the students. "Sometimes the students at my former school made fun of one another, but the children in the Adventist school are polite," Cindy says.

Cindy did not know about the Bible before she started studying at the Adventist school. But in Bible class she has discovered many things that make her happy. She enjoys learning the Bible stories and singing the worship songs. She especially likes to pray. Her family prays morning and evening, but their prayers are more formal.

Cindy's Secret

"Studying at the Adventist school has helped me want to follow Jesus," Cindy said. "I like knowing that God is my friend and that Jesus loves me. This is something we did not hear in my father's religion."

Cindy has learned how to pray to God as she would talk to a friend. "The first time I prayed, I asked God to help me be a good girl and do well in school. And Jesus has helped me a lot. I know that God hears my prayers."

Cindy has told her mother about what she is learning in school. She has told her that she wants to be a

Christian. But Cindy knows that it is not the right time to tell her father about God or Jesus, because he will be upset. So Cindy obeys her parents and tries to be the best little girl she can so that when her father learns that she wants to be a Christian, he will see that God has done good things for her.

School on Sabbath

Most schools in Kenya hold classes on Sabbath, but the Adventist school holds Sabbath School on Sabbath. The children come to school, where they study their Bible lessons, sing worship songs, and recite their Bible verses, just as we do in Sabbath School. Then they go next door to the church for divine worship.

"I love Sabbath School," Cindy says. "We sing songs, and sometimes we put on programs for the adults. I would like my family to be Adventist Christians," she adds. "But that will take some time. In the meantime, I pray that God will help me be the best daughter I can be and do my best to be like Jesus. I tell my mother what I am learning in school and in church, and I invite her to special programs. She sometimes comes to these programs, and she likes them."

Cindy's Hope

Cindy hopes that one day soon she will not have to keep her love for Jesus a secret from her father. She would like to tell her father that she is a kind and obedient daughter because she has given her heart to God. Then she hopes he will want to come to church and learn what God can do for him.

What would Cindy like to tell us today? "I would tell other children to pray every day and night so they can go to school and attend Sabbath School. Pray that they will be perfect in what they are doing. God will continue blessing them if they honor Jesus. I would like them to pray for me and my family so that we all can become Adventist Christians. I want them to pray that my father will let Jesus come into our home." 🙏

* Not her real name.

Recipes

Photocopy onto heavy paper and cut apart, or fold on dotted line.

Mango Ice Cream

Kenya

- 1 cup heavy cream
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 4 or 5 ripe mangoes, peeled and mashed to make 2 cups
- 2 tablespoons grated lemon peel or lemon zest
- 1/2 cup condensed milk
- 1/2 teaspoon salt

Whip the cream, sprinkling in the sugar a little at a time, until cream is stiff. In a separate bowl, combine mango, lemon peel, condensed milk, and salt; mix well. Fold in whipped cream. Freeze in freezer trays or a 6-cup mold.

For a simpler mango desert, purée the mangoes with 3 tablespoons sugar. Chill and serve with whipped cream.

Banana Fritters

Ethiopia

- | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 1/2 cups flour | 1 cup milk |
| 3 tablespoons sugar | 6 medium bananas, mashed |
| 1/4 teaspoon ground ginger | oil for deep-frying |
| 1/4 teaspoon ground cinnamon | confectioners' sugar |
| 2 to 3 eggs | |

Combine flour, sugar, ginger, and cinnamon. Beat in eggs, one at a time, with a wire whisk. Gradually add the milk, beating until smooth and satiny, about 5 minutes. Stir in the bananas and let mixture sit for several minutes.

Heat oil in a heavy saucepan until it reaches 350° F. Pour 1/4 cup of batter into oil and let brown 2 to 3 minutes. Turn with a slotted spoon and brown on bottom. Remove when the fritters are a rich golden brown. Drain on clean, absorbent cloths. Continue process until all the batter has been fried. Sprinkle with confectioners' sugar just before serving, if desired.

Doro Wat

Ethiopia

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| 3 cups onions, chopped fine | 2 cloves garlic, minced |
| 3 tablespoons butter or olive oil | or 2teaspoons of garlic powder |
| 1/2 teaspoon cayenne pepper | 1/4 teaspoon ginger |
| (or 1 to 3 tablespoons berberi paste) | 1 cup water |
| 1 teaspoon paprika | 3 12-ounce cans FriChik, cubed |
| 1/2 teaspoon black pepper | 8 hard-boiled eggs,
peeled and scored slightly |

Brown the onion in a large Dutch oven or heavy pot with butter or olive oil. Add seasonings, water, and FriChik (including broth, if desired), and stir well. Cover and let cook over low for 10 minutes to allow flavors to mix. If stew is too thick, add water; if it is too thin, thicken with 2 tablespoons flour dissolved in 2 tablespoons of water. Add eggs and continue cooking a few minutes before serving.

Other Foods Popular in Eastern Africa

Chapatis, or Indian fried bread, are popular throughout eastern Africa. If chapatis are not available, cut pita bread into quarters and serve instead.

Other Favorite African Vegetables

Butternut squash or sweet potatoes: Peel squash or sweet potatoes and cut into 1-inch cubes. Steam until tender. Salt if desired.

Bananas

Fried: Cut very green eating bananas in half and slice each half into 3 or 4 thin slices. Fry in a small amount of oil until crisp. Serve warm.

Baked: Cut the ends from *unpeeled* bananas and bake at 425° F for 15 minutes or until the skin bursts and turns black. Turn bananas over and bake 5 more minutes. Remove from oven and peel; slice in half lengthwise. If desired, top with a dab of melted butter and sprinkle with brown sugar and lemon juice.

Catherine's Problem With Lies

GraceLink Connection: Grace.

Catherine



“Who took the sugar?” Father asked. Catherine quickly answered, “Missy took it.” But the evidence was on her face.

Catherine is 9 years old. She lives in Kenya [*locate Kenya on the map*]. Catherine has learned some important lessons that she wants other children to know, lessons about obedience and truthfulness.

The Missing Sugar

Catherine loved sweets, as most children do. One day she found that Mother had left the sugar bowl on the table. Carefully Catherine lifted the lid and looked inside. The sugar sparkled in the sunlight. Catherine dipped her finger into the sugar and licked it off. *M-m-m, that's good!* she thought. She dipped her finger into the sugar again, but only a little sugar stuck to it. She wanted more than a little sugar. She found a small cup and spooned some sugar into it. Then she scrambled down from the table and stuck her tongue into the cup. *This is much better*, she thought. Her father's footsteps on the wooden floor interrupted her. She set the small cup down and ran to her father. “Hi, Papa,” she said. Then she ran outside to play.

A few minutes later Papa called, “Catherine, come here please.” Catherine ran to her father. “Catherine,” he asked, “I found the sugar bowl open, and part of the sugar is missing. Do you know who took it?”

Caught in a Lie

Caught by surprise, Catherine blurted out, “Missy took it.” She hoped that Missy, her mother's part-time helper, would not get into trouble.

“I will go talk to Missy,” Father said.

Suddenly Catherine was afraid. She wanted to run ahead and tell Missy to say she had used the sugar. But Father was already nearing Missy's house. Then he turned and looked at Catherine again. “What is that white stuff on your mouth? Are you sure it wasn't you who ate the sugar?”

Catherine realized she had been caught. She walked to her father and said quietly, “I ate the sugar, Papa.”

Catherine was punished for lying. Father reminded her that Jesus is sad when we take things that are not ours and when we lie.

The Missing Coins

One day Catherine found a coin lying on the table. She picked it up and felt its round form in her hand. She thought of the cookies that this coin could buy. Before she could change her mind, she slipped the coin into her pocket and ran to a nearby shop to buy a package of cookies. *M-m-m*, she thought as wiped the crumbs from her mouth.

One day Catherine wanted a piece of candy. She searched for some coins on the table, the cupboard, and even on the floor, but she found none. *Where can I find a coin for candy?* she wondered. Then she saw her father's coat hanging on a peg on the wall. She touched his pocket and felt a coin inside. She reached for the coin and turned to go to the little shop. Then she saw her father coming.

She knew that her father would ask her where she had found the coin, so she ran to her cousin, who was playing nearby. “Please, Ruth, keep this coin for me. But don't tell Papa where you got it,” she whispered. Catherine ran to greet her father, then returned to the house.

Father saw little Ruth playing with a coin. He stopped and asked her playfully, “Where did such a little girl get so much money?”

“Catherine gave it to me to hold. She told me not to tell you where I got it.” Catherine heard Ruth speak her name, and her heart felt as if it had dropped into her stomach! She turned to run outside, but her father stood in the doorway with Ruth.

“Come into the sitting room, Catherine,” Father said. Catherine took the coin and ran into the backyard to hide it. Then she walked into the sitting room, where Father was waiting.

“Catherine,” Father said, “Ruth told me you gave her a coin. Where did you get it?”

Catherine lied. “She stole the money, Papa,” Catherine said, hoping her father would believe her. “And now she wants me to get in trouble for it.”

“Where is the coin now?” Father asked. Catherine hesitated.

“She hid it in the yard,” Ruth said, and she jumped up to find it.

Father stood and walked to where his coat hung on the peg. He felt his pocket.

“Catherine,” he said, “I had a coin in this pocket, but now it’s gone. Is this where you found the coin Ruth showed me?”

Catherine hung her head. “Yes,” she said, trying not to cry. “I wanted to buy some candy from the shop, so I took the coin. I gave it to Ruth when I saw you coming. I’m sorry.”

Catherine’s father talked to her about the importance of obedience. “God hates lying and stealing, and He even wrote it into the Ten Commandments,” Father said. “And

He said that children must learn to obey their parents or they may never learn to obey God.”

Catherine received two punishments that day—one for stealing, and one for lying. She learned her lesson. Later, when she found a pretty pencil that belonged to another child, she was tempted to keep it, but she remembered that keeping it was stealing. So she returned it to its owner.

Catherine says that now when she is tempted to take things, she tries to listen to Jesus’ voice and do what will please Him. 🌱

Eastern Africa Puzzle

Test what you know about the area receiving the Thirteenth Sabbath Offering this quarter. In the word bank find the names of the countries that make up the East-Central Africa Division, the projects our offering will help sponsor, and a word to describe how we can help make these projects happen. How many can you find in this puzzle? When you finish the puzzle, look for the message from Jesus hidden in the unused letters.

Burundi	M	D	J	I	B	O	U	T	I	H	T
Congo	I	E	E	R	I	T	R	E	A	O	H
Djibouti	S	O	M	A	L	I	A	L	L	S	E
Eritrea	S	T	H	R	W	A	N	D	A	P	A
Ethiopia	I	E	B	U	R	U	N	D	I	I	L
Kenya	O	W	O	U	G	A	N	D	A	T	T
Rwanda	N	R	T	A	N	Z	A	N	I	A	H
Somalia	O	C	L	D	T	H	A	T	I	L	C
Tanzania	F	O	A	M	K	E	N	Y	A	S	E
Uganda	F	N	O	F	F	E	R	I	N	G	N
Hospitals	I	G	C	O	M	I	N	G	S	O	T
Health center	C	O	O	N	S	C	H	O	O	L	E
Mission office	E	T	H	I	O	P	I	A	J	C	R
School											
Offering											

For puzzle answer, see page 2

A Different Oda

GraceLink Connection: Grace.

Oda



Oda struggled to sit still and listen in church. Then he joined Pathfinders, where God changed his heart.

Oda was not always an obedient boy. He often interrupted people when they were talking, and he did not obey his parents. He created disturbances in school and quarreled with his classmates and friends. No, sometimes Oda was a naughty boy.

Oda's uncle Yakob is a Seventh-day Adventist. Uncle Yakob often invited Oda and his brothers and sisters to attend church with him. His older sister, Solane [soh-LAH-nee], often went. Then one Sabbath Oda went to church too. He did not enjoy sitting still and listening to the teacher, and he did not like to pray. Solane had to remind him to sit still and be quiet. But Oda kept coming.

When Solane joined the children's choir, she invited Oda to join, too. Oda had never sung in a choir before, but he decided to try it. *Singing in the choir is more fun than sitting still and listening*, Oda thought. Oda liked singing in the choir. The choir director was patient with him and helped him learn to sing the notes. Oda learned to follow the choir director's commands.

Pathfinders on Parade

One day the Pathfinders led the worship service. They wore their green uniforms and bright yellow kerchiefs. *Wow*, Oda thought, *they march so smartly and look so good. I want to be a Pathfinder too!* After church Oda asked Solane how he could become a Pathfinder. When Oda asked his parents for permission to join Pathfinders, his father agreed.

Oda loved Pathfinders, for he did not have to sit still. He worked hard learning to march, and he tried to obey the drill captain's commands. He learned how to build a campfire and what to take on a camping trip. While Oda had fun in Pathfinders, he was learning to listen to his unit leader and obey club rules.

One day Oda's unit leader asked him to pray during Pathfinder worship. It was the first time Oda had prayed before others. Later he was asked to write a story that he could read in the church worship. Oda agreed, for it meant he could wear his Pathfinder uniform!

Oda wrote his story carefully and practiced reading it until he had almost memorized it. He invited his parents to attend the worship service on Pathfinder Day and listen to him present his story.

A New Oda

Oda's Pathfinder Club went on a four-day camping trip. During free time Oda joined four of his friends, who were talking about their favorite Bible stories. As Oda listened to his friends talk about Jesus, he felt a strong desire to know more about Jesus. Oda's friends were from Adventist families, and Oda wished that he knew as much about God as his friends did. He wished his family worshipped together and prayed together, as his friends' families did. On Sabbath the camp director asked Oda to tell the mission story, which was about a girl who led a boy to Jesus.

Oda thought about the story he had presented. *If this girl can lead someone to Jesus, maybe I can too*, he thought.

On the way home from the camping trip, Oda's unit leader talked to him. "You did a good job with the mission report, Oda," he said. "And I noticed that you did not become angry with anyone all weekend. You obeyed your leaders, and you were helpful to others. I'm proud of you."

Oda smiled. Yes, God was changing him. His parents noticed the changes too. When Oda was invested into Pathfinders, his father came to the program. He thanked the church and the Pathfinder leaders for helping Oda be a better boy. His Pathfinder leader told Oda's father that it was not the Pathfinder Club that changed Oda; it was God.

Now Oda enjoys worshipping in church. He sits still and listens to his Sabbath School teachers and to the pastor's sermon. Oda wants to help other children learn about Jesus. He prays that the children in his school and his neighborhood will give their hearts to Jesus.

Boys and girls, God wants each of us to learn to obey our parents and our Sabbath School leaders, for that is how we learn to obey God. When we give our mission offering on Sabbath, we are helping others, such as Oda, to learn to love and obey God, too. 🌱

Fun With Swahili

Swahili is spoken by 45 million people in eastern and central Africa. Vowels are *a* as in ah, *e* as in bet, *i* as in bee, *o* as in oh, and *u*, as in boot (written *oo*). The accented syllables are written in capital letters in the pronunciation column.

Common Phrases

Write It

Pronounce It

Hello	Jambo	JAHM-boh
Good morning	Shikamoo	shee-KAH-moo
How are you?	Habari gani	hah-BAH-ree gah-nee
Fine, thanks.	Sijambo asante	see-JAHM-boh ah-SAHN-the
My name is _____.	Jina langu ni _____.	JEE-nah LAHN-goo nee_____
What is your name?	Jina lako nani?	JEE-nah LAH-koh NAH-nee
Yes	ndiyo	n'DEE-yoh
No	hapana	hah-PAH-nah
Please	tafadhali	tah-fahd-HAH-lee
Thank you	ahsante sana	ah-SAHN-the SAH-nah
Welcome	karibu	kah-REE-boo
Come here	kuja hapa	KOO-jah HAH-pah
Go there	nenda pale	NEN-dah PAH-leh
Goodbye	kwa heri (to one person)	kwah HEH-ree
	kwa herini (to many)	kwah heh-REE-nee

Days of the Week

Sunday	Jumapili	joo-mah-PEE-lee
Monday	Jumatatu	joo-mah-TAH-too
Tuesday	Jumanne	joo-MAHN-neh
Wednesday	Jumatano	joo-mah-TAH-noh
Thursday	Alhamisi	ahl-hah-MEE-see
Friday	Ijumaa	ee-JOO-mah
Saturday	Jumamosi	joo-mah-MOH-see

Counting

One	moja	MOH-jah
Two	mbili	em-BEE-lee
Three	tatu	TAH-too
Four	nne	n'neh
Five	tano	TAH-noh
Six	sita	SEE-tah
Seven	saba	SAH-bah
Eight	nane	NAH-neh
Nine	tisa	TEE-sah
Ten	kumi	KOO-mee
Eleven	kumi na moja	KOO-mee nah MOH-jah
Twelve	kumi na mbili	KOO-mee nah em-BEE-lee

The 10-Year-Old Bride

GraceLink Connection: Worship.

Jemila



She wanted to go to school, but her father wanted to marry her to an old man.

Most 10-year-old girls spend their time studying in school, helping their families with chores, and playing with their friends. Sometimes they dream about getting married. But some 10-year-old girls have never been to school, spend their entire day working, and dread the day they will marry.

Jemila

One of these girls is 10-year-old Jemila [jeh-MEE-lah]. Jemila lives in Ethiopia. Her father has two wives and 12 children. Her parents are farmers, and everyone in the family has chores. Some feed the cattle, some milk the cows, and some tend the garden.

Jemila stopped working to watch the children walk to the little village school. She wished she could attend school and learn to read and write. But Father refused. “Girls do not need to read or write,” he said. “Girls need to work and have babies for their husbands.”

Jemila sighed and returned to work. She knew the custom of her people. Girls her age marry so their fathers can collect their dowry.

Marriage Plans

One day Jemila’s father called her into the house. There stood an old man who looked at her, then nodded. “I have arranged for this man to marry you,” her father said. Jemila bit her lip to keep from crying. “You don’t have to live with him yet,” her father said. “Just visit his home for a week or two, then you can come home for a year or two. Then we will have a big wedding!”

Jemila’s mother touched her shoulder and motioned for her to leave the room. “I understand,” Mother said. “I was a child bride. I will not let this happen to you.” Relief flooded over Jemila.

After the man left, Jemila heard her parents talking. Their voices rose, and they quarreled angrily about Jemila’s future until her father stomped out of the house. After several minutes her mother entered the room.

“I would not let him take you,” she said quietly. “He has gone to live with his other wife.”

Jemila learned that her father had divorced her mother because she would not allow Jemila to marry the old man.

A Place of Safety

A few days later Jemila’s mother told her, “You must leave here. Father may still try to marry you off. I have friends who work at an Adventist college. You can live with them and work for your room and food. You can go to school and learn to read and write. Perhaps your life will be better.”

Jemila smiled shyly. She knew the sacrifice Mother was making to help her.

The next day Mother took Jemila to the Adventist school. She met the family she would live with and work for, and she enrolled in the primary school. Then Mother returned home.

Jemila works at the school to pay her school fees and works for the family she lives with to pay for her room and her food. She works hard, but she is happy, for at last her dream of an education is coming true. Best of all, Jemila is learning about Jesus, who loves her. This year she gave her heart to God and asked to be His child.

Visits Home

Sometimes during school holidays Jemila can visit her mother. But she must be careful not to leave her mother’s land. And she must not tell her father where she is living, for he might try to take her away and marry her to someone else to collect the dowry. Jemila tells her mother how much God loves her and hopes that her mother will give her life to God.

Jemila is grateful to the Adventist Christians who have protected her and helped her receive a Christian education. Her life is difficult, but Jemila knows that God is her Father now, and He will never leave her nor forsake her. Jemila wants to be a good example of God’s love to others so they will accept Him as their Savior, as she has.

Let’s pray for Jemila and the other girls in Ethiopia and around the world who want to learn to read and write and who have never heard of Jesus. And let’s give our mission offering every week so that more children and their parents will hear about God’s love. 🌱

Fun With Amharic

Amharic is the most common language spoken in Ethiopia. This ancient language is related to Arabic, but it uses its own alphabet. Vowels are pronounced as follows: *a* (as in ah), *aw* (as in hot), *ay* (as in say), *ee* (as in bee), *eh* (as in bed), *ih* (as in fit), *oh* (as in oh), *oo* (as in soup), and *uh* (as in hut). The sound *nao* is pronounced as in “now,” and the *eh* sound has a hard, almost guttural h.

Common Phrases

Happy Sabbath
[literally, I wish you nice Sabbath]
Welcome
Hello
[more formal, used for more than one person]
Good morning.
Thank you
You're welcome
[literally, “thank you too”]
Yes
No
Please
Goodbye
My name is _____.
What is your name?
How old are you?

I am 10 years old.
Happy Birthday
Where is Ethiopia?

Counting

One
Two
Three
Four
Five
Six
Seven
Eight
Nine
Ten

Days of the Week

Sunday
Monday
Tuesday
Wednesday
Thursday
Friday
Saturday (Sabbath)

Pronounce It

MEL-kahm SEN-bet

en-KWAHN DEH-heh-nah meht-ah-CHOO
TAH-deh-ahs
EHN-deh-men ah-LOO
EHN-deh-men ah-DEH-roo
ah-meh-SEH-geh-nah-loh
ah-meh-SEH-geh-nah-loh

AH-woh
ay (or) m'bee
ah-BAH-kohn
deh-NAH hoo-NOO
sih-MYEE _____ SEE-bah-lahl
sim-UH mahn YEE-bah-lahl
ed-mye-WOH sint nao (to a boy)
ed-myahch- sint nao (to a girl)
ed-MYEE _____ ah-met nao
mel-KAWM LIH-det
yeh Ethiopia hah-gehr yet nao?

ahnd
hoo-LET
sawst
ah-RAHT
ah-MIST
SIH-dihst
sah-BAHT
sih-MINT
zeh-tehng
AH-sehr

eh-HOOD
sahng-YOH
mahk-sahng-YOH
reh-BOO
HAH-moos
AHRb
keh-DAH-myeh (SEN-bet)



The Strange Offering

GraceLink Connection: Worship.

Why are the children marching toward the church carrying an armload of wood?

Jeremiah is 7 years old. He lives with his parents and his brothers and sisters on a farm in southern Ethiopia [locate Ethiopia on a map]. The family has cows and goats and even a few sheep. They have a garden where they raise vegetables to eat.

Jeremiah the Cattle Herder

During the week Jeremiah takes care of his father's cattle. He leads them to where the grass grows thick and they have lots to eat. Then he leads them to the river to drink. When the cattle have eaten all they want and had a long drink, Jeremiah leads them to the shade of a large tree, where they can rest and chew their cud. This is a big job for a 7-year-old boy, for the cattle are his father's wealth. If the cattle get sick or die, the family suffers too.

Jeremiah's stomach rumbles with hunger, and he eagerly waits for his older brother to come home from school and take the cattle so Jeremiah can go home and eat. Soon Solomon comes running through the grass toward Jeremiah. "You can go home now," Solomon says. "Mother has your food ready."

Jeremiah is tired and hungry, but he has done his work well.

In southern Ethiopia farmers depend on their children—both boys and girls—to help care for the animals, plant and weed the garden, and do other chores around the house. The family works together to be sure that the work gets done.

An Armload of Firewood

On Sabbath morning Jeremiah, Solomon, and their sister Marta wash their faces and put on their best clothes. Their Sabbath clothes do not look much nicer than the work clothes they have worn all week, but they are clean and saved for Sabbath. The children hurry out the door, eager to get to Sabbath School on time. But they stop at the woodpile, where they each pick up several pieces of firewood that father has cut and stacked. When they have as much wood as they can carry, they march off toward Sabbath School. Other children come marching across fields, along pathways, and down the

dusty road, each carrying an armful of firewood.

We wonder why the children carry the firewood to church. So we watch them. The children approach the church, but they do not enter with their wood. Instead they walk around the back of the church to a small shed. There they carefully unload their armfuls of wood and stack it neatly in the shed.

The Strange Offering

But what is the wood for? we wonder. So we ask the head elder about the armloads of wood the children have brought.

"Ah," he says, smiling. "The children have brought their offering to Sabbath School!" The elder sees our puzzled look and explains further. "Our members do not have money and cannot bring a cash offering to support the church, so the children bring an armload of wood instead. When the woodshed is full, church members sell it to provide for the needs of the church."

Children's Church

We notice that mostly children fill the church. Where are the adults? we ask. Again the deacon explains. "Most of our members are farmers with herds of cattle. The cattle must be cared for every day, even on Sabbath. So the children come to Sabbath School while the adults milk the cows and feed the small animals. Then the adults come to church to worship, and the children return home to take the cattle out to graze. When the cattle are ready to lie down in the shade under the tree and chew their cud, the children rest with them and sing songs about Jesus."

The children in this village understand the meaning of Psalm 23:1, which says, "The Lord is my shepherd," for they are the shepherds and the cattle herders for their family.

Boys and girls, whether we bring armloads of wood or bills and coins, Jesus loves a cheerful giver. Let's be cheerful givers today as we give our offering to Jesus so that children in Ethiopia and around the world will know that God loves them. 🌱

Told by Gebre Hana Badulo, Sabbath School and Personal Ministries director of the South Ethiopia Field.

Fun With Luganda

Following are some words and phrases in Luganda, the majority language in Uganda. Use these in your program to make missions come alive for your children. Vowels are pronounced as follows: *ah* as in father; *ai* as in eye; *ay* as in hay; *ee* as in bee; *eh* as in bet; *ih* as in tip; *oh* as in toe; *oo* as in boot; *uh* as in butter; *u* as in ewe. The accented syllables are written in capital letters.

Common Phrases

Happy Sabbath
Welcome to Sabbath School
Good morning
Please
Thank you
Yes
No
You're welcome
Goodbye
My name is . . .
What is your name?
Where is Uganda?

Pronounce It

SAH-bee-tee eh-NOON-jee
too-sahn-yeh-seh oh-koo-VAH-lah vah
wah-soo-zeh oh-TYAH-noh
VAHM-bee
WEH-vah-lee
yeh
NEH-dah
WEH-vah-lee
bah-TOO-lah-vee-leh
VAHM-pee-tah...
vah-KWEE-tah ah-NEE?
Uganda eh-lee-WAH?

Numbers

One	eh-MOO
Two	BEE-lee
Three	SAH-too
Four	nyah
Five	TAH-noh
Six	muh-KAH-gah
Seven	muh-SAHN-voo
Eight	muh-NAH-nah
Nine	mwehn-DAH
Ten	KOO-mee

Days of the Week

Sunday	ohl-SOH-kah
Monday	ohl-WOH-koh-vee-lee
Tuesday	ohl-WOH-koh-sah-too
Wednesday	ohl-WOH-koh-nah
Thursday	ohl-WOH-koh-TAH-noh
Friday	ohl-WOH-muh-KAH-gah
Sabbath	sah-BEE-tee

Japheth and the Black Mamba

GraceLink Connection: Grace.

Japheth



A boy learns firsthand that he can trust God to save him.

Japheth [JAY-feth] is 9 years old, and already he has lived in four countries—Philippines, where he was born; Ethiopia, his homeland; Zimbabwe [Zihm-BAHB-weh]; and Uganda, where his parents teach at Bugema [boo-GEH-mah] University. [*Locate Ethiopia, Philippines, Zimbabwe, and Uganda on a map.*] We could say that Japheth and his younger brother and sister are children of the world.

The Black Mamba

When Japheth lived in Zimbabwe, he had an experience he will never forget. It taught him some important lessons about God’s loving care for him. The family’s house stood on a shady road, surrounded by bushes and trees.

One day Japheth went to the bathroom to wash his hands. As he turned around, something caught his eye. He saw a black snake slithering across the floor. Japheth realized that this was a black mamba—a snake whose poison can kill a human. The snake stopped when it saw Japheth, and coiled up in the doorway, as if it would strike.

Japheth stood very still and screamed, “Mommy! A snake! A snake! Come!” The snake poked its forked tongue out and in and made hissing noises. Japheth knew that if the snake struck his bare feet, he would die before his family could get him to a hospital.

Mother Comes

Mother was sweeping the floor when she heard Japheth’s screams. She dropped her broom and ran toward the bathroom. When she saw the snake coiled up in the doorway, prepared to strike her son, Mother skidded to a stop. The snake sensed her presence and turned to face her.

Mother had nothing in her hand to kill the snake, which was making small striking motions toward her. She prayed loudly, “In the name of Jesus, in the name of God the Father, . . .” She never finished her sentence, but God heard her prayer.

Japheth tells us what happened next. “I never took

my eyes off that snake, but when Mother prayed, the strangest thing happened. The snake, which had looked large and powerful and ready to strike, suddenly seemed as if it could not move. And it seemed to get smaller, as if it were shrinking! It looked as if it had been puffed up, but now had lost its air.”

Mother saw it too. The snake became smaller and seemed glued to the floor. Mother called to her helper to come and bring a stick. The helper came with a stick, but when she saw the snake, she screamed and ran away. The snake uncoiled its body and straightened out. It started moving slowly toward Japheth, then it stopped.

Father to the Rescue

Father had been working outside in the yard and heard the screaming. He ran into the house. “What’s happening in here?” he asked. Then he saw the snake lying on the floor. He grabbed a long umbrella with a pointed tip and whacked the snake on the head. The snake shook a bit, then stopped moving. It was dead.

Mother scooped up the snake with a broom and tossed it outside where no one would find it.

“We all started talking at once,” Japheth said. “We told Father how Mother had prayed and the snake had shrunk and stretched out as if waiting to be killed. Surely God protected us from that poisonous snake that day! Boy, was I glad that my mother knew to call on Jesus. It surely made a difference!”

Don’t Be Afraid

“I know that if I face a big problem like that snake, I don’t have to be afraid. I can call on Jesus, and He will be there, just like in my memory verse: ‘When I am afraid, I will trust in you’” (Ps. 56:3, NIV).

“I told my class at school how God had protected us from that snake. I told them that He will protect them, too. And now I tell you. If you have a problem, go to God; He will help you.”

Boys and girls, Japheth learned a valuable lesson. What was it? [*Let a child respond.*] Yes, we don’t have to be afraid when we trust in God, for He will help us.

Our mission offerings help people around the world learn that God is their help in times of trouble. Let’s give our offering gladly today. 🌱

Sing “Jesus Loves Me”

Children around the world sing this favorite song. Practice singing this song in Swahili, Amharic, Luganda, and French for the Thirteenth Sabbath Program.

Swahili

(Spoken in much of eastern Africa, including Kenya and Congo)

Yesus Yiwodegnal

Yesus Endemiwodegn
Kidus kalu Negeregn
Tanashoch Yersu Nachew
Sidekmu yaberetal

(Pronunciation)

Yeh-soos ehn-deh-mee-wah-deng
Keh-doos kah-loh neh-geh-rehn'g
tah-nah-shohch yehr-soo nah-chao
see-dehk-moo yah-beh-reh-tahl

Chorus:

Yesus wodognal
Yesus wodognal
Yesus wodognal
Wengelu negerognal.

Yeh-soos wah-doh-nyal
Yeh-soos wah-doh-nyal
Yeh-soos wah-doh-nyal
Wehn-geh loo neh-groh-nyal

Amharic

(Language of Ethiopia)

Yesus Yiwodegnal

Yesus Endemiwodegn
Kidus kalu Negeregn
Tanashoch Yersu Nachew
Sidekmu yaberetal

Yeh-soos ehn-deh-mee-wah-deng
Keh-doos kah-loh neh-geh-rehn'gn
tah-nah-shohch yehr-soo nah-chao
see-dehk-moo yah-beh-reh-tahl

Chorus:

Yesus wodognal
Yesus wodognal
Yesus wodognal
Wengelu negerognal.

Yeh-soos wah-doh-nyal
Yeh-soos wah-doh-nyal
Yeh-soos wah-doh-nyal
Wehn-geh loo neh-groh-nyal

Luganda

(Principal local language of Uganda)

Yesu ye anjagala,
Bw'atyo bwe yayogera;
Abaana (a)bato babe,
Beyaw (a) omukisa gwe

yeh soo yeh ahn jah gah lah
bwaht yoh bweh yah yoh geh rah
ah bah nah bah toh bah beh
beh yah oh moo kee sah gweh

Chorus:

Ayagala nze
Ayagala nze
Ayagala nze
Yayogera bw'atyo

ay^ah gah lah en zeh
ay^ah gah lah en zeh
ay^ah gah lah en zeh
yah yoh geh rah bwaht yoh

Caren's Dilemma

GraceLink Connection: Worship.

Caren



The children could not attend church, so they prayed at home, ever watchful lest their father catch them worshipping God.

How many of you children are glad that you can come to church today? Did you ever have to stay home from church when you really wanted to come? Today's story is about a girl who is happy to worship God in church.

Caren is the youngest of several children. She lives in Uganda [locate Uganda on the map]. Her mother taught Caren and her brothers and sisters to love God, and for several years she took the children to Sabbath School and church. They did not mind that the church members stayed at church after worship services so they could attend the afternoon youth meeting.

But Caren's father did not go to church with the rest of his family. He was a member of a different church, though he seldom attended Sunday worship services. Then when Caren was 8 or 9 years old, her father told the family, "If you are going to go to church, it will be *my* church."

"Please Let Us Go"

But Caren's mother refused to attend Father's church. She said that the Sabbath is the Sabbath and that she would worship God on the day He set aside for worship. Father was not happy with Mother's choice, but he let her go to church on Sabbath.

Caren and her brothers and sisters wanted to go to church with Mother. They pleaded with Father, and they even tried sneaking away to church. But when Father learned what they were doing, he found ways to keep the children away from church.

When Father had business on Sabbath morning, he often took the children to their grandmother's house. The children did not like going to Grandmother's house because she made them work in the garden on Sabbath. Other times, if Mother went to church before Father went out, he would leave the children with the family's helper.

Worship in Secret

The children missed Sabbath School and church. Often they went to their room to pray or read the Bible or sing. They listened for Father's return, for if he caught them worshipping, he would punish them. They tried to

be outside playing when he returned so that he would not be angry with them.

Sometimes Father would go out of town for several days, and Mother could take the children to church. Mother prayed with the children in the evenings when their father was out of the house, but if Father came home, they quickly stopped praying, for he would be angry.

New Job, New Home

Mother was a teacher. One day she learned that the Adventist elementary school at Bugema University had an opening for a teacher. She decided it was time to do something to help her children grow in faith. She was accepted to teach at the school and told Father the news. She invited him to move to Bugema with her, but he refused. So Mother and the children moved without him. Father was angry at first, but he did not try to change Mother's mind.

Mother and the children now live at Bugema, where they are free to worship on Sabbath and during the week.

Free to Worship

Caren is glad she lives at Bugema, where she can pray without fear of punishment and study in a Christian school. The children work hard to help their mother, for she is busy teaching school and preparing her lessons. She needs their help to get the family's work done. Caren does much of the housework, and Mother works in the garden with the children.

Caren would like to tell other children to be faithful to God, and if their parents refuse to let them go to church, they should pray that God will make a way for them to worship Him. "God is faithful," she says. "He helped us find a way to get to know Him, and He will help others, too.

"Mother prayed that God would provide enough money for our school fees and food to eat. Mother now is studying at Bugema University in order to get her degree in education. God is providing, and we are doing well.

"Please pray for our father," Caren asks. "I want him to give his heart to Jesus, just as I have."

Boys and girls, let's pray now for Caren's father.
[Close with prayer.] 🌱

Eastern Africa Activities

Dress Up

For the Thirteenth Sabbath let the girls “dress up” in typical African wraps. Or let a child wear a wrap to collect the offering each Sabbath. Use a woven basket for an offering device.

Most people in Africa wear Western-style clothing, but often men will wear traditional African shirts sewn from tie-dye or other brightly colored cotton. Often these are ornately decorated with machine stitching, but simple shirts are more common. (See drawing for an idea of what these shirts look like.)

Women often wrap a length of cloth around their waist to protect their clothes while they cook or clean or go to the market.

To make a girl’s costume, purchase two one-yard (one-meter) squares of matching cotton fabric. The material should be bright and bold. If you wish, you may hem the cut edges, but that is not necessary.

Wrap one piece of fabric around the child’s waist with the selvage edges on the top and bottom. Tuck the end in at the waist. If the material is too long for some children, simply fold the excess fabric over at the waist.

While children seldom wear hats or head coverings, women often cover their heads with a matching piece of fabric, 36 to 45 inches (one to one and a quarter meters) square. Fold the fabric to form a triangle, then fold over again (along the folded edge) about three or four inches to form a band. Place the folded edge on the child’s head low and over her forehead, letting the point of the triangle fall onto the back of her neck. Wrap the two ends of the scarf around the back of the head (and over the point of the triangle), then bring them around to the forehead and tie in the front.



Amagende, the five-stone game

Draw a circle in the dust or sand about 24 inches (60 centimeters) across. Place five smooth stones inside the circle. For best results, stones should be between three fourths and one inch in diameter. Two or three children sit around the circle. One child places one of the stones on the back of their hand and tosses the stone into the air by rapidly moving their hand upward. Then they grab a stone from the circle and catch the stone they have tossed into the air before it touches the ground. If they successfully catch the stone, they place it beside their place and continue tossing a stone and picking up one of the stones remaining in the circle. If they catch the four stones inside the circle, they toss the stone from the back of their hand and catch it, winning the round. If they miss a stone any time during their play, they return all five stones to the circle, and play moves to the next child. If the child successfully catches all five stones, they win that round.

For more challenging play, attempt to pick up two stones each time the stone is tossed into the air. If they succeed at this level, try picking up three stones and still catch the stone they tossed up.

Cock-a-Doodle-Do (Ethiopia)

This is a type of hide-and-seek played in the villages of Ethiopia. The children cast lots to be the mother and the rooster.

Mother sits on a low stool, a rock, or on the ground, feet straight out in front. Rooster covers his eyes with his hands and hides his head in the mother’s lap. The other players then run away and hide.

While the players are hiding, Rooster asks the mother, “Cock-a-doodle-do?”

The mother replies, “No. The sun is not up yet. Go back to sleep.”

The rooster rests again, crows again, and finally the mother says, “Oh, the sun is up! Go look for the chicks!”

Rooster runs to look for the hiders. As he finds each one, both the rooster and the hider race back to Mother. If Rooster catches the hider before the hider touches the mother, then the hider is out. If the hider can reach Mother first, then he gets to go hide again.

The game continues until all are caught.



Mwema's Mission

GraceLink Connection: Service.

Mwema



A boy's dream to share God's love with others came true sooner than he thought.

Mwema lives on the eastern border of the Congo [locate Democratic Republic of the Congo on a map; trace the eastern edge that borders Rwanda]. One day he sat near his mother as she was cooking the family's dinner of rice with vegetables. "I want to be a pastor and lead many people to Jesus," he said.

Mwema's mother stopped stirring the big pot of steaming vegetables and smiled at her son. "How did you decide that?"

"Last year when we saw those satellite evangelistic meetings in church, I listened to the speaker talk about Jesus. He told us that everyone should tell other people about God's love. I want to do that. I want to start now, but I don't know what to do."

"Why don't you talk to the pastor?" Mother suggested.

The Children's Bible Club

Mwema told the pastor about his dream. "I have started a children's Bible club in my yard," Mwema said. "We—my brothers and sisters and some friends and I—meet three times a week, on Friday night, Sabbath afternoon, and Sunday evening, to share Bible stories, sing songs, and pray together. Sometimes we play Bible games. Last week we had about 26 children between 9 and 13 years old. My father gave us some felts and Bible pictures to use, and he helps me prepare my stories to tell. Now some of the older children lead the songs or tell a story. But I preach," Mwema said.

The pastor leaned back in his chair. "You have made a great start," the pastor said, smiling. "It sounds as if you have done a fine job laying the groundwork for evangelistic meetings. If you would like to hold meetings, I will guide you."

Mwema thanked the pastor and hurried to tell his family. "The pastor said we should hold evangelistic meetings, just like the ones we saw on the satellite programs!" Mwema told his family. "I want to do that."

Evangelistic Meetings

It was vacation time, and Mwema had time to devote

to his Bible club activities. The group continued to grow as children invited their friends. Mwema asked his father to help him prepare his sermons for the planned evangelistic meetings. He urged the children to invite their friends and their parents to the meetings. And every spare minute Mwema worked to memorize the sermons his father had helped him write.

The time came for the evangelistic meetings, and Mwema was ready. Every afternoon for three weeks, children and their parents came to the clearing to listen to Mwema preach about God's great love for them and His gift of Jesus. Mwema invited the children and the adults to give their lives to Jesus, and many did. A large number of the young people asked to be baptized, but many of the children were too young to be baptized or could not get their parents' permission. Even Mwema was too young to be baptized.

Mwema was disappointed that only four of the people who had come could be baptized, but the pastor encouraged him. "You've sown some good seed, Mwema. We must continue to water that seed, and one day we will see a good harvest." Mwema hoped that when he was old enough to be baptized, some of his Bible club members would join him.

Mwema's Dream

Soon after the evangelistic meetings ended, Mwema and his elder brother packed their bags and boarded a bus. They were going to study at the Adventist school a day's journey from their home. Mwema was not afraid to leave home, but he was sorry he had to leave his friends and the children's Bible club. Many of the children who had attended the Bible club were leaving home to attend other schools too, and there would be no leader during the school year.

"When I return home from school, I want to start the children's Bible club again," Mwema says. "I have not given up my dream to share God's love with others."

Boys and girls, Mwema's dream should be our dream, too. We all can share God's love with our friends, our playmates, and our family, no matter where we are. And when we give our mission offerings, they help tell people all over the world that God loves them. 🌱

Mission Activities

On a table or large board, place a cluster of African houses (see directions below). Include trees made from twigs and sphagnum moss. Away from the cluster of houses, place toy wild animals (buy these at a toy or variety store), such as wildebeest, zebra, giraffe, elephant, lion, and warthog, that live in the savanna. Make people from clay and place them in the “village” or nearby. Women should have a bundle or bowl on their head and a baby on their back. Make some bent over, as if tending a fire or cooking.

Make an African Hut

Use the instructions below to make huts for a village scene or for mission banks for the children to take home. If you are making banks, use the peanut cans, use the peanut cans and cut a slit for money rather than the door.

For each hut you will need:

- 1 round peanut can (about three inches tall and four inches in diameter)
- 1 piece of thin cardboard or poster board slightly larger than diameter of the can
- brown construction paper
- X-acto knife
- glue or glue gun and glue sticks
- straw or small twigs
- mud and dry grass mixed with small amount of all-purpose glue (optional)
- sphagnum moss
- paper for flag, about one inch by five inches
- toothpick

To Make Mission Banks

Before the children arrive:

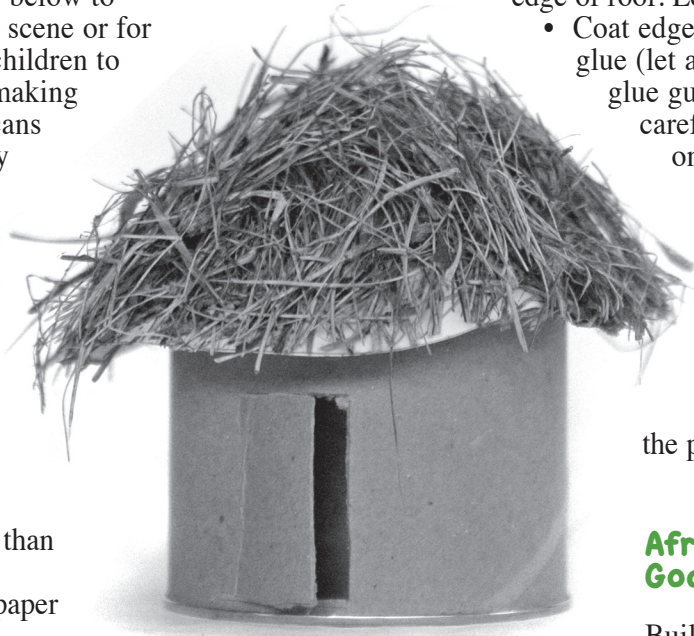
Remove the metal lid from the peanut can. With an X-acto knife, cut a slit in the side of the can to pass money through. Glue cans, top side down, onto cardboard bases. (If the cans have removable plastic lids, glue lids onto cans before adding the roof.)

Cut circles (two inches larger than diameter of can) from thin cardboard or poster board, or even

construction paper, and make a slit from the center point to the edge to form the roof.

Let the children help:

- Give each child a can and some straw or tiny twigs to glue vertically around the can or, if you wish, cover cans with brown construction paper or provide mud-straw-glue mixture to cover the sides of the hut. Let dry.
- Make a peaked roof from the circle by overlapping the cut edges and securing with glue or tape. Carefully cover the roof with dry grass or sphagnum moss, letting it hang over the edges slightly. Trim grass neatly around lower edge of roof. Let dry.
 - Coat edge of top of can with glue (let adults use the hot glue guns, if available), and carefully position the roof onto the can. Let dry before handling.
 - On small piece of construction paper, write “Pray and Give for the People of Eastern Africa.” Glue to a toothpick and stick toothpick in the peak of the roof.



African Village Goal Device

Build an entire village of African houses on a table or in a sandbox. Add a hut to the village each time your class reaches a predetermined mission offering goal.

Directions: For each house

- Cut a strip of brown construction paper 11 inches by 3 inches [28 centimeters by 8 centimeters] and glue or staple the two ends together to form the walls. Cut out a doorway.
- Cut a circle of brown paper two inches larger than diameter of hut. Cut a slit from the edge to the center of the circle.
- Form the circle into a cone and glue or tape it in place to form a roof.
- Glue straw to the hut’s walls and sphagnum moss to the roof.

Samuel's Prayer

GraceLink Connection: Worship.

Samuel



Samuel found church boring until he heard a sermon that caught his attention.

[If possible, ask a junior or teenage boy to present Samuel's story.]

Samuel is 11 years old and lives in eastern Congo, very near the border of Rwanda [*Locate Congo and Rwanda on a map*]. Samuel wants to be a pastor when he grows up. But he did not always like church. Let's let him tell his own story.

Samuel's Story

When I was little, it was hard to sit still and listen to the sermon in church. I could not understand what the pastor was saying, and my mind would wander. Sometimes I found myself thinking about playing outside with my friends. That made it even harder to sit still!

Then one day the pastor talked about the importance of prayer. That might have been a really boring sermon to me except that he said something that really caught my attention and made me want to listen! He said that just as a soldier's most important weapon is his gun, so prayer is our most important weapon. A soldier always carries his weapon with him, and we must always carry our weapon—prayer—with us, no matter where we go. Prayer is like our gun.

Now when the preacher started talking about guns, he had my full attention. I like guns—I guess most boys like guns. But when he said that prayer is like a gun, it made me think. If a soldier does not keep his weapon cleaned and oiled, it may not fire when he needs to shoot it. And if we don't keep our prayer life well oiled by praying every day, then when we really need to pray we may not know how. I realized that I needed to “oil my weapon” by praying more. I was not sure how to do that, but God was about to show me.

Ready, Aim . . .

I attended a school near our home. It was a good school, but I began having some problems. When I reached a certain grade, we began having classes on Sabbath.

Of course, I knew that God did not want me in class on Sabbath. He wants me in church worshipping Him.

I talked to my teacher and explained that I would not be in school on Sabbath, for I would be in church worshipping God. I recited the fourth commandment and tried to explain to my teacher what it meant to keep the Sabbath day holy. But it seemed that my teacher did not care what the Bible said.

On Sabbath, instead of going to school, I went to church with my family. But the teacher reported my absence, and the school's headmaster (principal) tried to force me go to school on Sabbath. They said that if I did not come to school on Saturday, I would not be able to make up the work or take the exams I missed on the following Monday. They said I would flunk if I did not attend classes on Sabbath.

I told my parents what the teacher and headmaster said, and we prayed that God would work it out somehow. I really wanted to attend a school where I would not have to get lower grades because I missed school on Sabbath. There is an Adventist school in our city, but it is two and a half miles [four kilometers] from our home. I knew it would be very difficult to get there every day. So we just kept praying—oiling our weapon, as the pastor said.

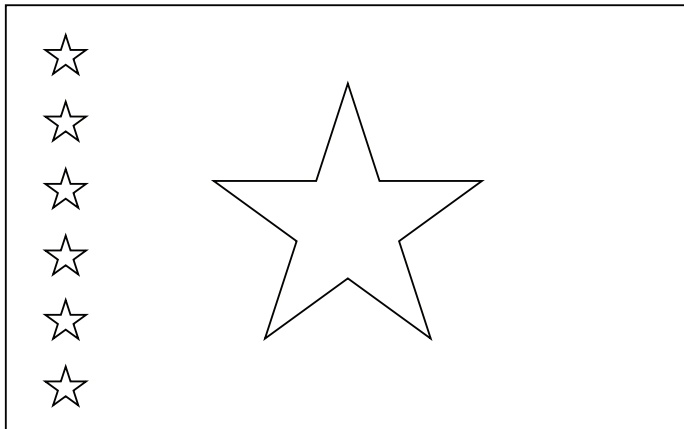
God's Weapon Works

God answered our prayers, and my parents decided to send me to the Adventist school, even though it is far away. I rode a bus when I was younger, but now I walk almost every day. It's a long way, but it's worth it.

My younger sisters still attend the school I used to attend, so I tell them it is more important to obey God's law than to disobey God and attend school on Sabbath. I warn them that some things they will learn in school are not according to the Bible and tell them to be careful not to fall for lies, no matter who tells them.

That pastor was right about prayer. It is our weapon, and we need to keep it oiled. These days church no longer bores me, because I know God has something for me. 🌱

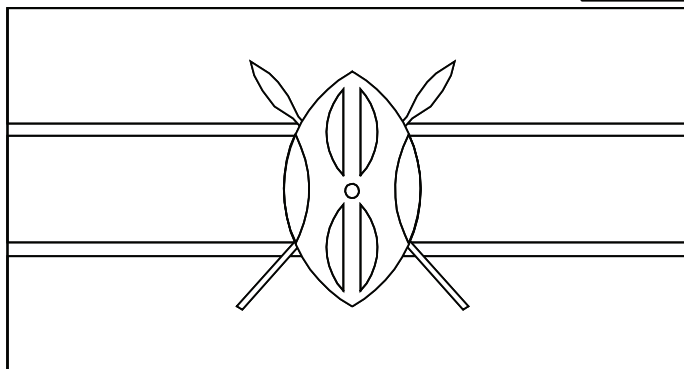
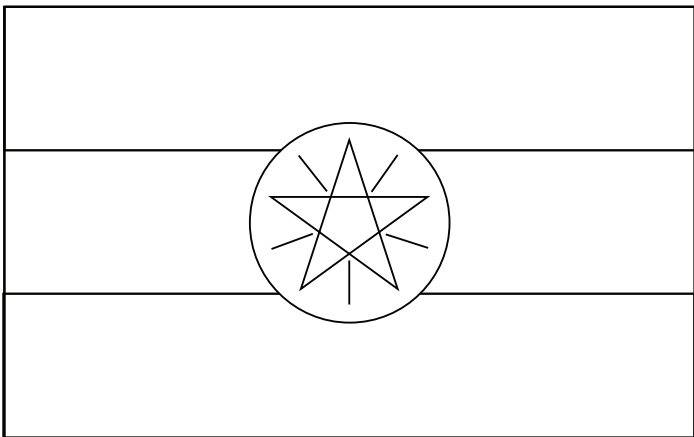
Color the Flags



Democratic Republic of the Congo

Background: medium blue
Stars: yellow

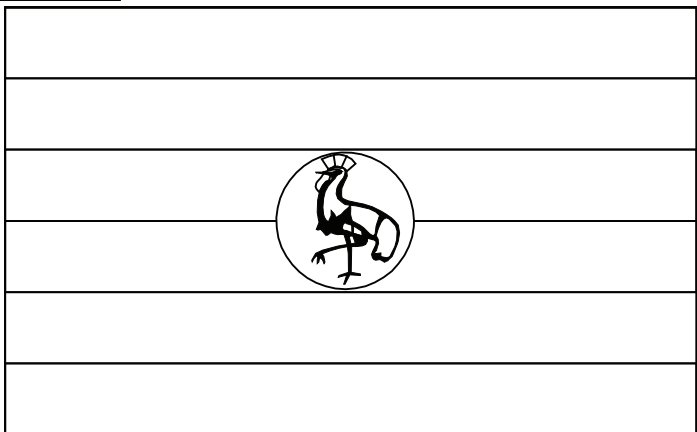
Ethiopia
Top stripe: green
Middle stripe: yellow
Bottom stripe: red
Circle: medium blue
Star outline: yellow



Kenya

Top stripe: black
Middle stripe: red
Bottom stripe: dull green
Narrow stripes: white
Emblem: middle: red
Center design: white
Outer edges: black

Uganda
Top and fourth stripe: black
Second and fifth stripe: yellow
Third and sixth stripe: red
Emblem background: white
Bird: gray and black body, red tail, red and yellow comb



Twice Adopted

GraceLink Connection: Service.



The little orphan boy looked so sad and alone. The pastor adopted him and taught him that God loves him and wants him to become His son forever.

Ayubu [AI-YOO-boo] is 11 years old. He lives in the city of Goma, in the Congo. [Locate Congo on the map; Goma is along the eastern border with Rwanda.] Ayubu was born in a village about an hour's journey from Goma. The people in his village worshipped spirits they could not see—spirits that lived in animals or stones or trees. The people were always afraid that the spirits would make them sick or die, so they offered goats or chickens as sacrifices to them so that the spirits would leave them alone. The people did not know about the living God who loves them and wants them to be happy.

Orphan Ayubu

When Ayubu was just 4 years old, soldiers came to his village and began shooting. They were fighting other soldiers, but they shot innocent people, too. Many people in Ayubu's village were killed, including Ayubu's mother and father.

Little Ayubu was an orphan. He had no relatives to care for him. He slept with a different family almost every night and ate wherever he was welcome. Many other children had lost their parents too. The villagers tried to help the children, but there were so many who needed food and a place to sleep.

When the fighting ended, Pastor Bida, an Adventist pastor from Goma, visited the village. He had heard of the orphans and wanted to help if he could. When he saw little Ayubu, so thin and afraid, his heart almost broke. As he and his wife listened to the story of this child's life, they cried. "We must help this child," Pastor Bida said. Mrs. Bida nodded. They decided to adopt Ayubu and make him their own son.

A New Home

Pastor and Mrs. Bida arranged to take Ayubu home with them. They promised to bring Ayubu back often to visit his home village, so the villagers could see that he was growing strong and tall.

Pastor and Mrs. Bida made Ayubu a bed and placed

a chair at the table for him. They fed him good food and taught him songs about Jesus. Ayubu grew strong and happy. He learned to sing the songs about Jesus; he learned to pray to Jesus. And he loved to listen to his new father preach about Jesus on Sabbath. Before long, Ayubu was sharing God's love with his new little friends.

True to his promise, Pastor Bida takes Ayubu back to his home village twice a year. The people are always glad to see him, see how tall he has grown, and see how healthy he is.

Sharing God's Love

When Ayubu was old enough, Pastor Bida let him stay in the village for a week at a time. The villagers were always glad to see him, and they took good care of him. Ayubu's friends gathered around him and asked him many questions about life in the city. Ayubu was glad to answer their questions and invited his friends to come and listen to him sing songs and tell stories about God. In this way Ayubu has taught his friends and the village elders about a God who loves them and does not want them to live in fear of spirits.

When it is time for Ayubu to return home, one or two of the villagers go with him. They often stay with Ayubu's family for a few days. While they are there, they watch as the family worships and join them when they study God's Word. If the guests stay over Sabbath, they attend church and learn that God wants to spend time with them on the Sabbath.

Slowly some of the villagers have lost their fear of the spirits. One family has given their lives to Jesus and been baptized, and soon another person will be baptized. The children in Ayubu's village are eager to learn about God.

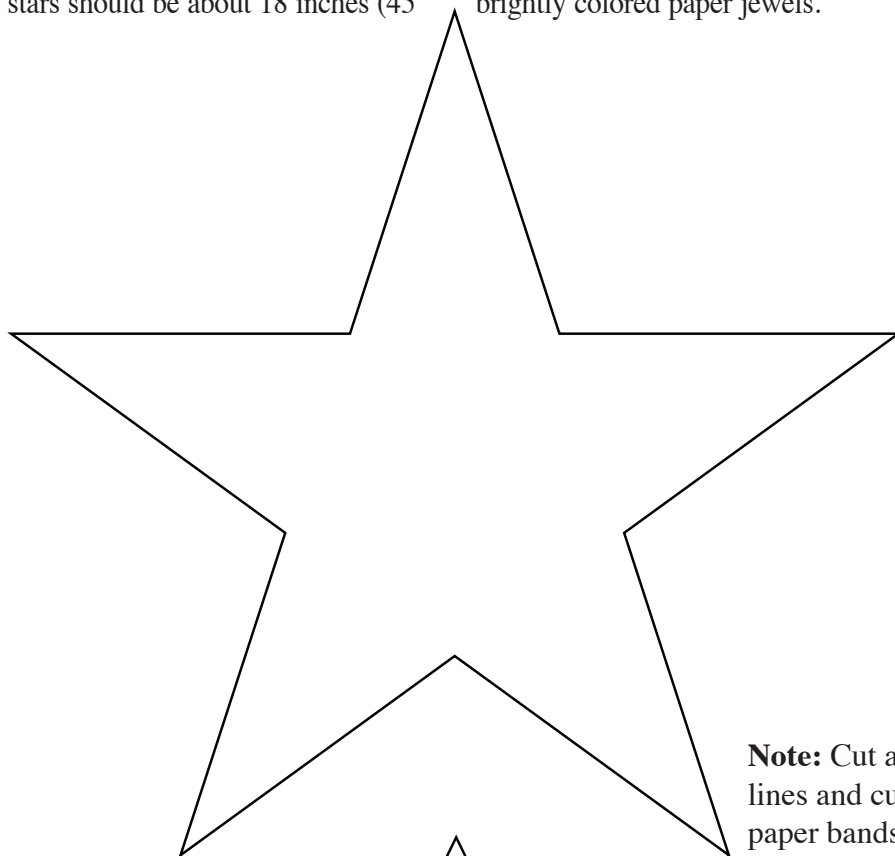
Ayubu knows that if Pastor and Mrs. Bida had not adopted him, he would be a pagan now too. So he shares his faith with those he has grown up with, those who know little about Jesus.

Boys and girls, we can share our faith with our friends every day, just as Ayubu does. And we can help people we may never meet to know about Jesus, just by giving our mission offering every week. It's fun to share God's love in these ways. 🌱

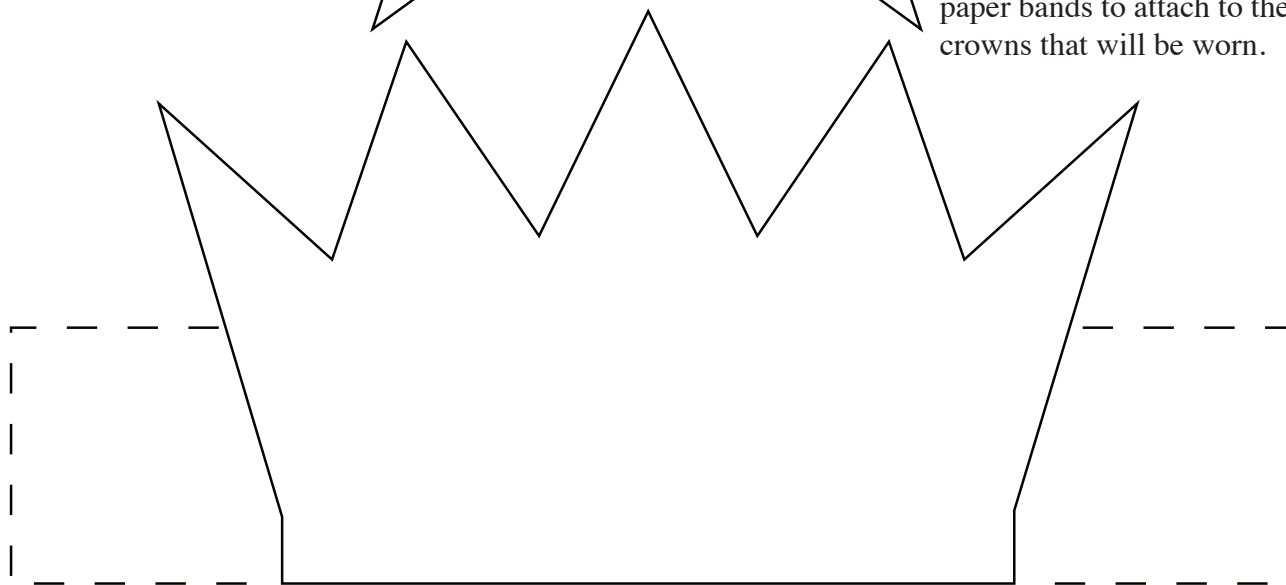
Patterns for Thirteenth Sabbath Program

Thirteenth Sabbath program calls for crowns for children to wear, five large stars, and five crown-shaped posters to hold up. The stars and crown posters should be large enough to be seen by the people sitting in the adult Sabbath School. If possible, the stars should be about 18 inches (45

centimeters) across, and the crowns should be at least 12 inches (30 centimeters). Below are patterns for each item. Enlarge them and transfer onto poster board or gold paper (for crowns). If you wish, let children decorate the crowns with colorful jewels or brightly colored paper jewels.



Note: Cut along dotted lines and cut elastic or paper bands to attach to the crowns that will be worn.



THIRTEENTH SABBATH PROGRAM

If your division will present the Thirteenth Sabbath program for the adults, the following suggestions should help you plan.

- Practice singing “When He Cometh” (*The SDA Hymnal*, No. 218) and “Jesus Loves Me” (see page 20 of this quarterly) during the quarter so the children will know them well.
- Assign three children the speaking parts and practice with all the children several times before the program.
- For the two weeks before Thirteenth Sabbath, remind the children to bring their Thirteenth Sabbath Offering.

If your division will not join the adults, use the suggestions that follow to make Thirteenth Sabbath special:

- Remind the children to bring their Thirteenth Sabbath Offering.
- Invite a guest to speak to the children about one of the countries featured this quarter. See “Making Missions Fun” for more ideas and suggestions.

Participants:

- A children’s choir dressed in white shirt/blouses and dark skirts or trousers. (If desired, the girls can wear brightly colored pieces of cloth wrapped around their waists over their skirts.)
- Five children, each wearing a jeweled crown and holding a large star (see props below).
- Three children who can recite Bible texts loudly and

courageously. [Note, if children are nervous about reciting, give each one a crown cut from poster board to hold, on the back of which is printed the appropriate Bible text to help them remember.]

- Adult or teen narrator.

Props:

- Five large stars cut from poster board (at least 18 inches [45 centimeters] across), on which are written the following: Kenya, Ethiopia, Congo, Uganda, and East-Central Africa. On the back of each star, list the project for that country. Because Congo has two projects, list the second on the back of the East-Central Africa star. Projects are:

Kenya: Kendu Adventist Hospital

Ethiopia: Adventist secondary school

Congo: Songa Adventist Hospital

Congo [on East-Central Africa star]:

New mission office

Uganda: Health Center, Bugema University

- Crowns for five star-bearers or (optional) for each child to wear. Let children decorate their crowns with “jewels,” if you like.
- (Optional) Three crowns cut from yellow poster board, on the back of which is mounted each child’s Bible text. [As the narrator calls out the name of each country, the child holding the large star with that country’s name lines up in the front center of the stage.]

Narrator: Kenya,...Ethiopia,...Democratic Republic of the Congo,...Uganda,...and the other countries of the East-Central Africa Division are gathering jewels for God’s crown. And today, on Thirteenth Sabbath, we can help them gather even more jewels through our generous Thirteenth Sabbath Offering.

[Children holding stars rejoin choir or step to the side.]

Our little choir will sing about the time when Jesus will come to get His jewels and take them to heaven with Him. As they sing, ask God how you can gather precious jewels as well.

Choir: [Sing just two lines of “When He Cometh,” then pause or hum the melody while a child recites the Bible text.]

When He cometh, when He cometh to make up
His jewels, all His jewels, precious jewels, His loved
and His own.

Child 1: “‘They shall be Mine,’ says the Lord of hosts, ‘on the day that I make them My jewels.’”¹

Choir: [Second verse] He will gather, He will gather the gems for His kingdom, all the pure ones, all the bright ones, His loved and His own.

Child 2: “And he will send his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather his elect from...one end of the heavens to the other.”²

Choir: Little children, little children who love their Redeemer, are the jewels, precious jewels, His loved and His own.

Child 3: Jesus said, “‘Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.’...And he took the children in his arms, put his hands on them and blessed them.”³

Choir: Like the stars of the morning, His bright

crown adorning, they shall shine in their beauty,
bright gems for His crown.

Narrator: Today our mission offering will do two things. Three quarters of the offering will go to support the worldwide mission outreach of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. It will help finance missionaries and lay evangelists, build churches where none exist today, and provide visual aids to teach adults and children who have not heard that God loves them and Jesus died for them.

The remaining one quarter of today's offering will help make five special projects possible in the East-Central Africa Division. The children will remind us of those projects now.

[As each country is named, have children ready to stand in front of platform and hold their star high so the audience can read the project.]

In **Kenya**...Kendu Adventist Hospital needs a new surgical suite and surgical wing in order to continue its nurses' training program.

In **Ethiopia**...our Adventist college shares its campus with a secondary school with a thousand students. But the secondary school has no classrooms or administration block. This school educates many non-Adventist young people who one day may join the army of God's people. Part of our offering will help provide this secondary school with classrooms.

Two projects in the **Democratic Republic of the Congo** will get help this quarter...

Songa Adventist Hospital in southeastern Congo is the only medical facility for thousands of people living within a day's journey. People who need help are open to the wonderful message of God's love. Let's help give them that message through this pioneer medical facility.

In eastern Congo the church is growing rapidly, in spite of—and perhaps in part because of—a civil war that has raged for several years. The union mission needs to divide the work in order to meet the believers' needs more readily. Part of our offering will help establish the new union mission in eastern Congo.

In **Uganda**...Bugema University is well known for its quality Christian education. Located more than an hour from the capital, Kampala, the university has provided basic medical care for the school, its staff, and hundreds of people who live within 25 miles. The school needs to enlarge and relocate the health center to better serve the students and community it ministers to. Part of today's offering will help build a new, larger health center to serve the community.

The fields are ripe; it's time to bring the harvest in. While the children's choir sings "Jesus Loves Me" in [name the language(s) in which they will sing], give generously to God's cause. Let's finish gathering the jewels for Jesus on this earth and go home to be with God.

[Offering]

1 Mal. 3:17, NKJV.

2 Matt. 24:31, NIV.

3 Mark 10:14-16, NIV.

Following are sources of information that have proved helpful in preparing programs for *Children's Mission*. You may want to order these for your own Sabbath School.

Mission Resources

Books

Children Just Like Me, Barnabas and Anabel Kindersley (New York: Dorling Kindersley Books, 1995, \$18.95). A beautifully illustrated large-format book that introduces children to many different cultures through reading about other children. Includes information on the children's hobbies, homes, schools, and lifestyles.

Cookbooks

The Africa News Cookbook, edited by Tami Hultman (New York: Penguin Books, 1986), contains extensive recipes from the countries being focused this quarter.

The African Cookbook, edited by Bea Sandler (New York: Carol Publishing Group, 1994), contains recipes from several African countries plus an African buffet.

Reference

Seventh-day Adventist Yearbook (Hagerstown, Md.: Review and Herald Pub. Assn., 2005). Contains names and addresses of virtually all Seventh-day Adventist institutions and workers around the world. Available through local Adventist Book Centers.

Mission Videos and Visual Aids

The General Conference Office of Adventist Mission: East-Central Africa Division is highlighting stories from Eastern Africa and around the world in 2- 5- and 10-minute segments suitable for Sabbath School, church, or the interim period between these services. To get a copy of the DVD, contact your adult Sabbath School superintendent or call the Office of Adventist Mission at 1-800-648-5824.

Kids' Mission Discovery Kit has a mission wall mural to color that illustrates the mission stories for the current quarter. It contains felt figures to help tell the weekly mission stories. BJK Triplets, E. 601 Cameron Road, Spangle, WA 99031.

For More Information

Library: Browse through the children's section and travel section of a public library or bookstore for picture books on Congo, Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda, or eastern Africa in general.

Travel agencies: Often travel agencies have colorful brochures on popular tourist destinations. Call or visit one and ask what they have available to help you portray the scenery and culture of eastern Africa.

Embassies: Sometimes embassies are able to provide interesting information on their country. In North America you may contact the following embassies:

Embassy of Ethiopia, 3506 International Drive, NW, Washington, DC 20008 (202-364-1200) or at info@ethiopianembassy.org.

Embassy of Democratic Republic of the Congo, 1800 New Hampshire Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20009 (202-234-7690) or fax (202-234-2609). Or contact the consular office, 1726 M Street, NW, Washington, DC 20036 (202-234-7690 or 7691). For further information on this country, check the following Web site: www.infoplease.com/ipa/A0198161.html.

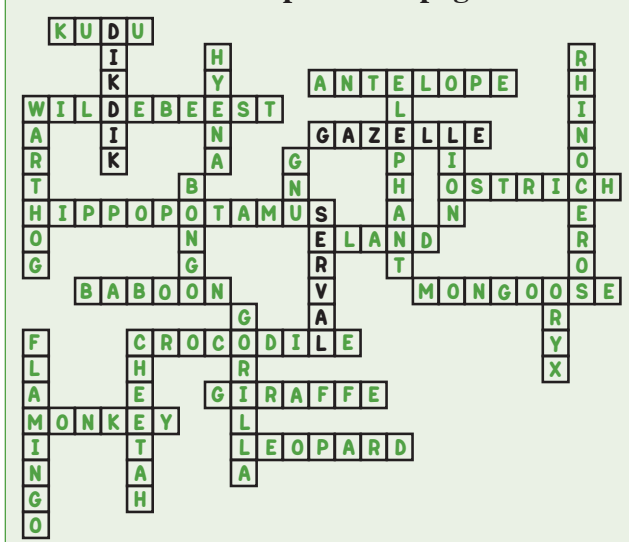
Embassy of the Republic of Kenya, 2249 R Street, NW, Washington, DC 20008 (202-387-6101), fax (202-462-3829), e-mail information@kenyaembassy.com, or visit their Web site at www.kenyaembassy.com.

Embassy of the Republic of Uganda, 5911 16th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20011 (202-726-7100), fax (202-726-1727), e-mail ugembassy@aol.com, or visit their Web site at www.ugandaembassy.com.

For general information and photos from countries featured this quarter, go to www.africaguide.com, and click on the country and information you wish. For wildlife photos, go to www.africaguide.com/wildlife.htm.

For color photos of the children featured this quarter, go to www.AdventistMission.org, click on “stories” and “Mission Magazine.”

Answers to puzzle on page 4:



children's MISSION

Fourth Quarter 2006 - East-Central Africa Division

Charlotte Ishkanian
Editor

Hans Olson
Managing Editor

Emily Harding
Layout Editor

Office of Adventist Mission

Gary Krause, *Director*

Rick Kajjura, *Communication director*

Falvo Fowler, *Communication projects manager*

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Hans Olson, *Communication projects manager*

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For subscription inquiries, contact Julie Haines inside the U.S.A. (800) 456-3991, international (301) 393-3257, or e-mail: jhaines@rhpa.org. Annual subscription rates per edition: domestic, US\$7.50; international, US\$12.00.

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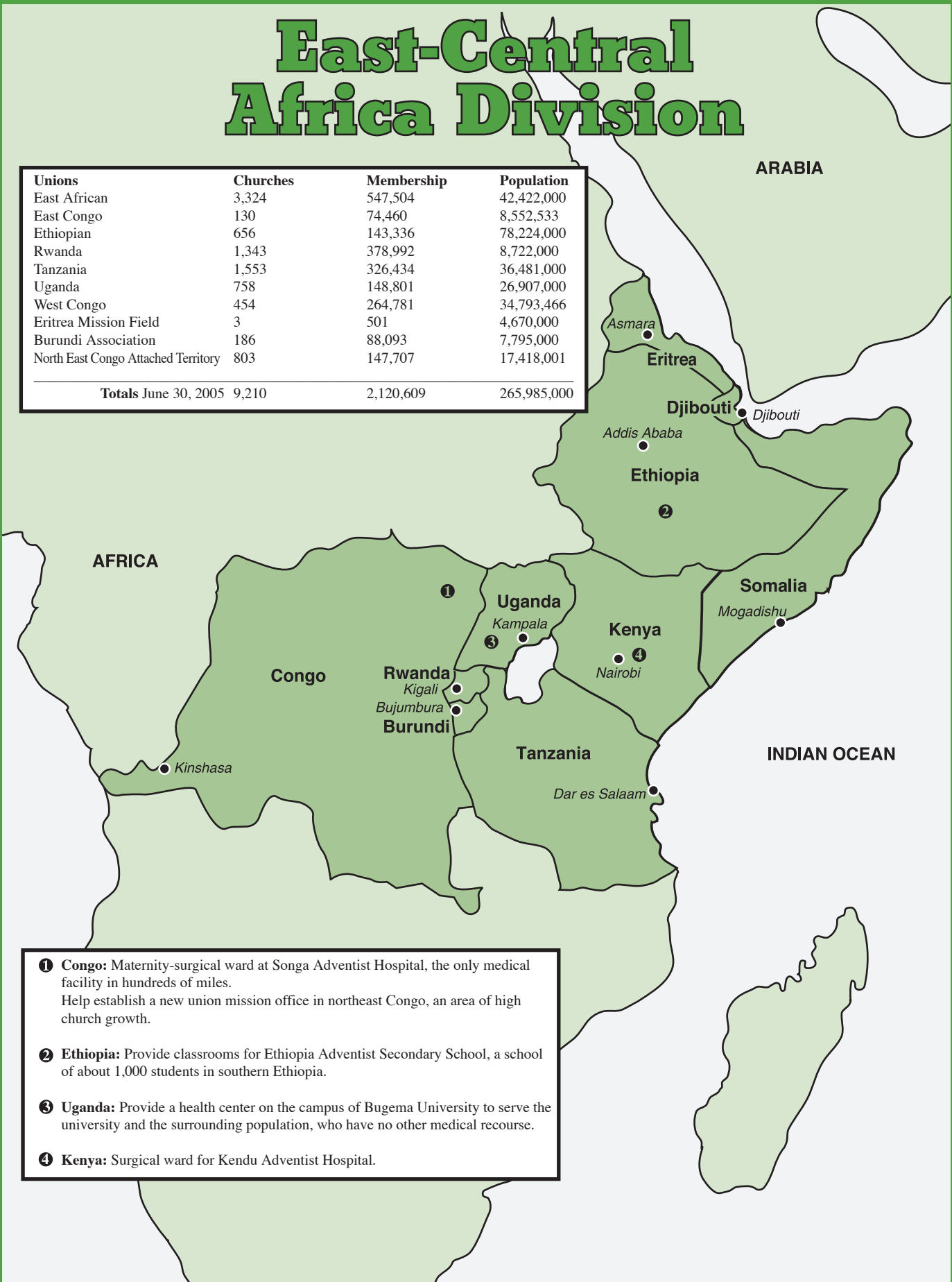
Internet: www.adventistmission.org

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East-Central Africa Division

Unions	Churches	Membership	Population
East African	3,324	547,504	42,422,000
East Congo	130	74,460	8,552,533
Ethiopian	656	143,336	78,224,000
Rwanda	1,343	378,992	8,722,000
Tanzania	1,553	326,434	36,481,000
Uganda	758	148,801	26,907,000
West Congo	454	264,781	34,793,466
Eritrea Mission Field	3	501	4,670,000
Burundi Association	186	88,093	7,795,000
North East Congo Attached Territory	803	147,707	17,418,001
Totals June 30, 2005	9,210	2,120,609	265,985,000



- 1 Congo:** Maternity-surgical ward at Songa Adventist Hospital, the only medical facility in hundreds of miles. Help establish a new union mission office in northeast Congo, an area of high church growth.
- 2 Ethiopia:** Provide classrooms for Ethiopia Adventist Secondary School, a school of about 1,000 students in southern Ethiopia.
- 3 Uganda:** Provide a health center on the campus of Bugema University to serve the university and the surrounding population, who have no other medical recourse.
- 4 Kenya:** Surgical ward for Kendu Adventist Hospital.