

Notice Board



Two beautiful gifts!

Shadows of Promise is one girl's story of hope and love renewed that will move your heart. *Shadows of Promise* shows God's hand on us even in the darkest of times and will inspire your faith.

The author, Dee Braaksma and her family have been involved in the ministry of Seeds of Hope Children's Ministry for over a decade. She knows many of the children in our care intimately. She knows of the struggles and obstacles they have faced, she also knows of the triumph of love and hope they now have.

There is an old song sung by Aretha Franklin called "Spanish Harlem." The image is of a ghetto scene of hopelessness and brokenness and there in the middle of despair, growing through a crack in the sidewalk, is a rose - that is triumph! Seeds of Hope Children's Ministry is tending to these children as beautiful flowers and watching them blossom in the midst of poverty, disease and AIDS in Africa. It is with bursting pride that I recommend the story of Mutinta to you ~ John Chalkias.

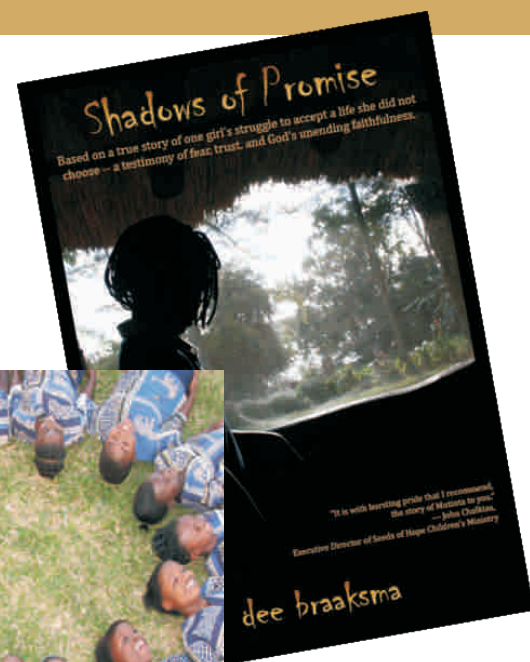
Shadows of Promise is a great read for everyone and will make a wonderful gift.

Grace Children's Choir CD

A recent team member said when he came to our church service at Grace Academy, "I have never been to a church service where the majority of the people were children." This CD will bring you right into that beautiful worship service. This CD will inspire and move you!

You can order your book or CD online or mail in a check to our office for \$12 per book / \$10 for the CD plus \$3.00 shipping and handling.

All proceeds from the book and CD will go directly to support the work of Seeds of Hope Children's Ministry.



Thank you to all who made our 16th annual banquet held on Nov 5th such a huge success. It was such an exciting event for us especially with the launching of the coffee project. We are so grateful to those who came and set up tables and displays, served food and stayed afterwards to clean up. Thank you to all the volunteers who collected the silent auction items and to all those who donated the wonderful crafts and other items. And a big thank you to all who attended and gave so generously!

Upcoming events

Dec 4th - John and Susan Chalkias speaking at Chico Bible Fellowship - Chico, CA

Dec 4th - John and Susan speaking at Chico Grace Brethren Church (evening service) - Chico, CA

Dec 11th - John Chalkias speaking at Lakeside Baptist Church in Kelowna, BC

Dec 18th - Susan Chalkias speaking at Emmanuel Evangelical Covenant Church 17029 - 16th Ave Surrey, BC

Jan 12 - 29 Building team to Zambia - please call our office for information.

Our current needs:

- Ongoing funding needs for Buseko Children's Home and Grace Academy in Zambia.
- Funding for the building project at Grace Academy.
- We have numerous children needing sponsors in Zambia and in Myanmar.
- Grace 2 Grace - school support in local shanty.
- Widow's Jar Fund"
- Please visit our web site at: www.seedsofhopecm.com to view our urgent needs.

Your prayers and financial support are greatly appreciated.

In Canada please make cheques to:

Seeds of Hope Children's Ministry

PO Box 3474

Mission, BC V2V 4L1

Or in the USA

Seeds of Hope Children's Ministry USA

PO Box 897

Chico, CA 95927

Seeds of Hope Children's Ministry is a certified member of the Canadian Council of Christian Charities and abides by all its strict ethical and financial standards, including annual audits by an independent accounting firm.

Seeds of Hope Children's Ministry is on Facebook. Follow us on Facebook and invite your friends to learn about this ministry. Please go to: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Seeds-of-Hope-Childrens-Ministry/240992149265431>



seeds of hope
HELPING ORPHANS AROUND THE WORLD

Winter 2011 / 12 Newsletter



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Mission Statement

Seeds of Hope Children's Ministry is committed to serving Jesus Christ. Our mission is to help orphans and the less fortunate around the world by sharing God's love and what He has blessed us with. We have a particular call in the area of caring for children who are either infected or affected with HIV/AIDS



Wishing all our friends and donors a warm, safe and happy Christmas from all of us at Seeds of Hope Children's Ministry. Thank you for your prayers, support, for being part of our teams, and for sponsoring the children in our care over this past year. May God bless you for your concern for the needy.

Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; He is Christ the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger. — Luke 2:11-12 (NIV)

Christmas message by John Chalkias, Ex Director

Dear Friends,

The scripture above really fills me with awe to think that the Creator and King of the universe laid aside His majesty to take on the form of a helpless human infant. Born not in a palace but in a filthy stable to bring us peace, to demonstrate His humility, and to reconcile us back to God.

This Christmas, there are many children born into such an environment as our Savior, without a crib to lay their head on, without blankets and warmth, without food and nourishment. Many will go their whole



lives without experiencing comfort, love and hope. This Christmas please stand with us to bring love, joy and hope into the lives of children. As we are building an additional eight homes for HIV affected or infected children at our project in Zambia, we have been admitting additional children. For these children it will be their first time to celebrate Christmas and their first time to receive a gift.

Children like Marvin who used to walk over four hours to the HIV clinic everyday

by himself. It was the only place he found where someone had kind words for him. Since his parents died, no one wanted him. At first, his grandfather let him stay at his home but with the stigma of AIDS and extreme poverty, the grandfather was not willing to share his home with his grandson. Homeless and without a place to go to other than the clinic, his days would consist of walking hours to get there. He would spend some time there and start the trip back. Some days he would just stay outside the clinic just sitting there. One day, the clinic nurse told him that he should not be coming by himself. She said that it was important that a relative be with him to encourage him and to help understand his medications. Marvin broke down and told her that he did not have a home but slept outside his grandfather's house in a tree. It was then that Marvin was told about "a place called Grace" and was brought to Grace Academy. Since coming to Grace Academy last spring, Marvin has worked hard in school and learned English. He is very likable and made many new friends. He loves his dorm mom and his new family. He is learning that God loves him and has a special plan for his life. This will be Marvin's first Christmas - he has never had a Christmas meal before, and has never received a gift. Marvin has heard some of the children who have been with us for awhile, talking about Christmas and gifts they are hoping to get - his eyes light up with anticipation wondering what it will be like.

We have many children needing sponsorship and we have many needing urgent medical care. Your gift will change lives. Please see the inside of this edition to see the wonderful ways you can give gifts to our children - gifts that will change lives and have a lasting impact.

Helping children and their communities since 1995

This Christmas, please consider the following gift ideas

The gift of the "Widows Jar"

The "Widow's Jar" is a fund we have to meet the most urgent needs of widows caring for their sick children. These women are living in destitute conditions and without assistance, the survival of their children is at risk. This fund also assists grandmothers who are left to raise several orphaned grandchildren. Having no income, these women are in desperate need.

We also use the "Widow's Jar" fund to assist with emergency medical needs of children. One example is Maureen, an eight year old girl who was severely burned on her face, neck and arms. This year the Widow's Jar Fund provided all her medications and arranged to have several plastic surgeries for her. This November, we admitted a boy named Anderson with "Elephant feet" (elephantiasis). Elephantiasis is a disease caused by parasites transmitted by mosquitoes. His feet have grown to a grotesque size and without help, the swelling will continue and eventually take his life. We have started medical treatment and are consulting several orthopedic surgeons in the USA and Zambia regarding the next steps to help him. Please mark your gift "Widows Jar" to help widows and children in emergency situations.

The gift of Child Sponsorship

This Christmas, give the gift of Child Sponsorship. Child



Sponsorship is a wonderful opportunity to help a child escape the cycle of extreme poverty and disease and in many cases is life saving. Your gift gives a child joy, hope and a bright future. The Child Sponsorship program is a monthly donation of \$30, which goes towards the care of the child. It helps provide food, medicine,



medical care, housing and education. It takes eight sponsors to cover the costs of caring for one child. 7% is taken out to cover administration costs, with 93% of your donation going directly to the care of your sponsor child. Child Sponsors receive updated information and a new photo of their child approximately every three months, allowing them a window view into the life of their child.

The gift of education



Our vision is to help children escape the extreme poverty conditions they came from. We feel the way to do this is through education and equipping them with the tools they need to be successful and to be able to help others.

As we are preparing to open the high school at Grace Academy, we have many educational needs. We need text books, notebooks, stationary, pens and pencils, reference books, office supplies, the list goes on and on. This Christmas please consider helping us give children the gift of education by contributing to our education fund – truly a gift that will last a lifetime.

The gift of food

For children in our care, life has changed dramatically, They have a warm bed and three meals a day, their education and medical needs are met thanks to their child sponsors. However, in the shanty townships, life is very difficult for children, We are working with local churches to provide meals for poor children who otherwise



would not eat every day. Without good nutrition, it is very difficult for children to concentrate on their learning. In addition, a poor diet compromises their

immune system causing children to become ill and miss school. Seeds of Hope is working with local churches in providing meals for hundreds of children every week. Please mark your gift, "Feeding program" to help us feed hungry children.

The gift of sharing your talent and labor

We rely heavily upon the unique gifting and calling of volunteers who join us on teams. In the past we have sent teams to build homes, offer medical services, teach in our schools and share the Gospel. In all these activities, a significant impact is made in relationships formed and lives touched. When you join us in team ministry, you work alongside the local staff, who are responding to God's call on their lives by caring for the needy and the oppressed.



There is still time to join us for the January building team to Zambia

To finish the high school in time for the scheduled opening in February, 2012 we need carpenters and trades people to help us (January 12 – 29, 2012). We will be building and installing bookshelves, cabinets, building forms, installing all the doors in the high school and building and erecting the new Buseko Home trusses. In addition, we will be working with and training our Zambian crew. They are hard working young men who have not had an education or training and with this job they are acquiring skills and a trade. With the training they receive, they will continue building the new homes at Grace Academy,

The gift of coffee

Introducing Seeds of Hope Coffee™.

Two years ago we started a feasibility study into farming on our land in Zambia. The purpose was twofold, first to help fund the school which is very costly and second, to create employment and lift the standard of living for those in the community around Grace Academy. We have started to market coffee to help fund

our school projects as we proceed with the farming study. 100% of the proceeds from our coffee goes directly to further the work of Seeds of Hope Children's Ministry™ - to save the lives of children, build hope in communities, restore families, and provide medical care to the most needy.

Besides a rich and flavorful cup of coffee, there is much more to our product. In today's marketplace where people are concerned about ethics and justice for the poor, we are offering a product that will give 100% of all profits to further the work of Seeds of Hope Children's

Ministry. This will enable Seeds of Hope to care for more children, start new projects, increase school projects, and give better wages to our teachers and staff. This project will create employment for many people in the communities where we operate and give them a fair wage for their labour.

Seeds of Hope Coffee Mission Statement:

To provide coffee rich with flavor and aroma that is enjoyable while at the same time giving people the opportunity to assist children and their communities who are living in destitute conditions.

This Christmas, please consider giving our coffee as a gift to family members, clients and colleagues. For more information about our coffee and how to order, please visit: seedsofhopecoffee.com.

SEEDS OF HOPE COFFEE

SUPPORT HIV AFFECTED CHILDREN BY DRINKING COFFEE

BRINGING HOPE
Enjoy this delicious blend while knowing that you are saving the lives of orphan children
100% Arabica

100% of all proceeds are used to care for orphans & widows around the world

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