



Trinity Christian College and 22
of our 25 Senior Three students



mountain
children's
ministry

YEAR END SUMMARY DECEMBER 2025

TO OUR DEAR FRIENDS OF MCM ~

Greetings to you all as we enter the season of becoming increasingly aware of the birth of Jesus and His call to worldwide Peace and Love...Merry Christmas! May you also enjoy a very Happy New Year 2026!

MCM completed it's 12th year this December and what a year it was! God allowed us to experience many challenges. We believe as God is pruning us, He further commands us to,

Count it all joy...when you meet trials of many kinds for you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. And let perseverance have it's full effect, that you maybe perfect and complete, lacking in nothing. (James 1:2)

God doesn't ask us to to be happy with the trials but to be grateful for the outcome! MCM's Ugandan and American teams are extremely thankful to God for who we are today, for His Presence and His carrying us through 2025, ensuring our growth.

Because God is shaping us, we are able to view these challenges as opportunities, specifically, the large group of smiling students above. They are the single largest class MCM has ever had or will have in the foreseeable future. There are 25 Senior Three students moving into their Candidate year of Senior Four in February 2026. Next November they will all take their National Exams and based on their scores, move forward to either Vocational school or A-level University prep school then University. This class is three times the size of our average classes. That will require three times the tuition fees, exam fees and then higher education fees as we stand beside them into the future.

As I have been in African ministry for over 22 years now, I can say with utmost confidence, God will show up! These 25 students will persevere and all of us who have had a front seat to the "trial" will count it as Joy to have witnessed God's faithfulness. We trust there will be many of you who want to walk beside us and help. Your generosity has been unparalleled in the past. You have persevered beside us, watched us grow and we are completely overwhelmed with gratitude!

God bless you all!

Love ~
"mummy" michele :)

UPDATES FROM IVAN IN UGANDA: DECEMBER 2025

Hello all. I greet you in the name of our Lord Jesus. I hope the Lord has kept everyone well, healthy and happy since I last wrote last May. The children are all well, happy and on holiday now. We thank God there has been few problems or challenges this 2025 year.



Gift receives her computer to start University

ACADEMICS

I am pleased to inform you that this year, because of the generous support of their sponsors, we were able to send ten more students to university and vocational schools! It is one of my favorite moments when I see a child we found desperate and on the brink of quitting, finally picking up their mattress and suitcase and heading off to get a profession or trade. The joy and excitement on their faces is unforgettable. It showing the rewards of the years they toiled.

I also grew up through tough times just like these children I oversee. I had no school fees. I spent months without attending school because I was asked to leave until my parents could pay tuition. It was a burden for my parents to come up with those fees as my Dad had lost his job. I ended up spending years out of school just like some of our MCM students. When the opportunity finally came to return, I was able to rejoin school because of someone else's help. I was so thrilled to complete university, the joy I felt was indescribable. I sense these students feel what I felt 23 years ago. We all have witnessed miracles happening! No wonder it is my favorite.

In addition to the ten who are Freshmen this year, MCM also has 8 more vocational students and 12 more university students moving into 2026. In addition, last year with your support, we also had 11 MCM graduates! Empowering young men and women academically we hope to increasingly bringing change to our community every year. Our graduates included one secondary teacher, a nurse, a plumber, a bookkeeper, one in



Sandra graduates in Social Work



MCM students help to harvest sorghum during their holiday

hotel and catering, one agriculturalist, one in tours and hospitality, one tailor, two hair designers and one social worker. We pray they will improve our community, working ethically and with integrity which is one of the missing traits in our leaders here.

Though we have many testimonies about miracles, the need for prayers and help is still abundant. Next year MCM will have 25 candidate students in Senior Four. MCM usually has about 10 -15 students completing S.4. Instead, we will have 25 students hoping to join higher education with much higher tuition fees. We are praying for God to enlarge our territory in terms of resources. We would like you to join us in this prayer for divine providence. We believe God will make a way as He always has.

FARMING

Regarding our farming, this year we decided to give most of our land two seasons of rest to prevent exhaustion from overuse. We also added manure to it so it can regenerate and produce a good harvest for next year. We did plant sorghum this season and got a fair harvest. We hope to keep rotating the land we cultivate to provide necessary rest. The banana harvests have also been fair because of the unpredictable weather.

BODA/TAXI PROGRAM

The Boda/Taxi Program is doing well. Thank you to our partners and the leadership of MCM in the US for helping make this a success. From the first four bodas we purchased in 2022, the number now stands at twenty eight bikes! With this income, we are able to pay the tuition of 140 orphaned children to attend primary school! Last year, eight children were able to graduate from primary seven because of this program.

In addition, including the three taxis, this self sustainability effort is providing income to the thirty one families of the Drivers. We thank God that this year, with the income from this project and no additional help from our American



Boda drivers with their families

children. It is incredible the joy a child gets when she/he gets a letter from their sponsor. It makes them feel treasured, remembered and important. The truth is, our children never feel this during their young lives from their guardians. A letter from a sponsor, however short, carries such importance for them that many keep these letters and pictures for years! They are memorable and a source of inspiration. Knowing that someone has taken time they did not have to do something for you is touching. So, on behalf of our children I thank you!

partners, we were able to add six new bodas to the fleet. This gives us a lot of hope that eventually we will be able to be self reliant. We are so grateful to everyone who has helped to see this happen. Indeed God has done immeasurably more than all we asked or imagined!

THANK YOU

I cannot end without thanking our sponsors for taking time out of their busy schedules to write to their sponsored



As I wind down I extend deep gratitude to you, our dear partners, for all the ways you have helped this organization reach the needy of this village! You have left an indelible mark on these children and their families.

May God bless you abundantly.
Ivan - Director

Lives Touched

TWO GRADUATES SHARE THEIR JOURNEY AND THEIR GRATITUDE



Pledge in 2015 when the Nelson's began sponsoring.

PLEDGE: In 2014 I was staying with my old grandmother who was in her early 90s. After I entered secondary school with very good scores, I did my first term exams planning to disappear to a town where I hoped for a job because my family could not afford to pay for any further education. I was regretting the reason as to why I was born, why my dad died when I was a young kid and had no hopes for a brighter future.

PAMELA: There was a time when I had completely lost hope in education. Life had become too hard, and every dream I once had seemed to fade away like mist at sunrise. I grew up in a humble family that struggled to meet even the most basic needs. Many mornings, I walked to school barefoot, with worn-out books. My parents did their best, but when school fees became impossible to raise, I was forced to stay home. Watching my friends go to school while I remained behind was one of the most painful experiences of my life. I remember crying quietly, wondering if my dreams of becoming a teacher would ever come true.



Pamela in 2019 when Bob and Lisa chose to sponsor her

PLEDGE: Before the start of second term, I heard of a new organization that had been established in the village basically to help the vulnerable people. I talked to my granny. She listened to me and trust me she didn't think any further, she said lets go together and the journey lasted us about 2 hours. We met up with the director, Mr. Mpeirwe Ivan who kindly welcomed us, listened to our stories, and requested us to keep everything in prayer.

PAMELA: Then, one day, something miraculous happened. I was informed through Uncle Ivan and Ma Michele, that Bob and Lisa had chosen to sponsor me. At first, I could hardly believe it. Someone I had never met saw value in me. They paid my school fees, provided scholastic materials, and made sure I lacked nothing needed for my studies. They kept on checking on my progress, and sending me comforting, lovely letters to ensure I am well. Not only did they become sponsors, but also my Godly parents. With the burden lifted, I began to focus fully on my education. I worked hard, not only to make them proud, but also to honor the second chance I had been given. Every word of support and encouragement filled me with hope and determination.

PLEDGE: During the holiday of second term Uncle Ivan called and told me I had been sponsored by the Nelson Family. (see "Words From Our Sponsor" on the back) Sharon and her daughter Hannah wrote to me and it marked the start of a new journey in my life. Not only that I was promised a full scholarship in my educational journey but also writing a letter to someone in the US was more than a blessing to me. It was then when my future hopes were restored. Letters from the Nelsons kept on motivating me because we used to share real life experiences not forgetting politics as it happens to be my passion. Having the sponsorship from the Nelsons kept me on the right track because we used to share Bible verses which inspired me to keep as a church going student and as well stopped me from doing wrong. I excelled in Senior one thru six and finished with good scores.

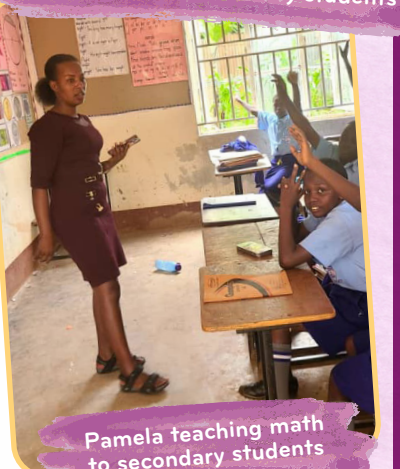
PAMELA: Years passed, and I successfully completed my Advanced Level. Bob and Lisa did not stop there, they continued to support me through university. They paid for me tuition, and because of them, I can testify that university life was not hard on my side: never lacked what to eat, scholastic materials, what to put on like others, everything was well with me. The day I graduated as a teacher remains the happiest day of my life. As I walked across the stage to receive my degree, tears filled my eyes. I thought of the journey – from a hopeless Pamela who once sat at home crying, to a confident graduate ready to change lives of others through education.

PLEDGE: I joined university taking an Educational course inspired by my sponsor Sharon because she is also a teacher. I studied for 3 years and graduated as a professional teacher in October 2024 holding a Bachelor's degree. I am currently working with a private school and have high hopes because I believe God will pave a way for me. I am who I am today because of Mountain Children's Ministry, the executive director Mr. Mpeirwe Ivan, Ma' Michele and the Nelson Family.

PAMELA: Today, I am a proud teacher. Every time I stand before my students, I remember what Bob and Lisa did for me. I see myself in some of the children who come from struggling families, and I make it my mission to inspire them, to let them know that hope is never lost. Bob and Lisa gave me dignity, purpose, and a future. They turned my tears into smiles and my fears into strength. I am who I am today because Bob and Lisa believed in me when I could no longer believe in myself. They never left me just after my bachelor's degree, but also gave me the way how I could transform from being a student to being a professional teacher, by giving me a generous graduation gift to help me get started! I am forever grateful to God for giving me a second opportunity to renew my life.



Pledge teaching history and geography to secondary students



Pamela teaching math to secondary students

A SPECIAL THANKS

Since 2014 the paper and printing required to create these MCM biannual newsletters has been paid for and donated by Darwill. We at MCM are so grateful for their years of generosity and support! A special Thank you to Troy and Brandon Van Dyke, and Mark DeBoer and Colette McCool!

PLEASE SPONSOR AN ORPHAN

THESE CHILDREN have lost one or both parents and their guardians cannot afford to feed them, much less give them school tuition fees. Please consider giving a child a bright future and sponsoring their education.



TRINAH

(12 y/o) lost her father in a car accident when Trinah was a baby. Her Mum, Doreen, struggles to find work digging manually at local farms to support her and her younger sister. Trinah would like to be a Doctor and her favorite subject is English. Trinah has been waiting for a sponsor since May of 2024.



MARTIN

Martin (9) lost his father to Malaria in 2023. Martin's mother, Viola Tusiime, makes a living cultivating peoples' farms for little pay. Viola does not make enough to provide for Martin and her three other children. Martin wants to be a car mechanic.



DANIEL

(14 y/o) was abandoned by both his mother and his father and left with his paternal grandmother, Joy, as a baby 13 years ago. Joy believes Daniel's parents are dead since there has been no word from them in all these years. Daniel wants to be a Civil Engineer. He is a candidate student in Primary Seven.



DORCAS

Dorcas (17) never knew her father. He left her mum, Glorious, when she was pregnant with Dorcas. Both Dorcas and her mum work doing manual labor in fields for income. Dorcas wants to be a Nun and a Doctor simultaneously. She said, "I want to become a Nun because I love Jesus so much and a Doctor because I want to help sick people." She attends St Aloysius Sister's secondary school with help from MCM.



REBECCA

(16 y/o) When Rebecca's father died she was only a baby. Her mother suffers from mental illness so the family took Rebecca as a baby to care for her. Rebecca has been staying with her maternal Auntie Emily who is a peasant farmer and has kids of her own whom she is also struggling to feed. Rebecca is 17, entering Senior One. She wants to be a Teacher. Rebecca has been waiting for a sponsor since July of 2024.



PRETTY

Pretty (22) was abandoned by her father. She was very young when her father left and he provides nothing. Pretty's mum, Jane, is a peasant farmer and does manual labor along with Pretty to make money to survive. Pretty wants to be a Doctor.



Scan the code to sponsor a child, or visit:
mountainchildrensministry.com/sponsor-a-child

WORDS FROM OUR SPONSOR

From Michele:

Meet Sharon Nelson, a very dear friend, a secondary math teacher and in 2014 a Mom to four children who have in the past 11 years all grown up. Throughout that time Sharon not only sponsored Pledge but got her children involved in writing to three additional MCM children, which they still do! Sharon and Steve continue to sponsor another MCM child now that Pledge has graduated. She is one of my greatest encouragers. Everyone needs a Sharon in their lives!



Sharon Nelson holds Pledge's many letters

By Sharon Nelson

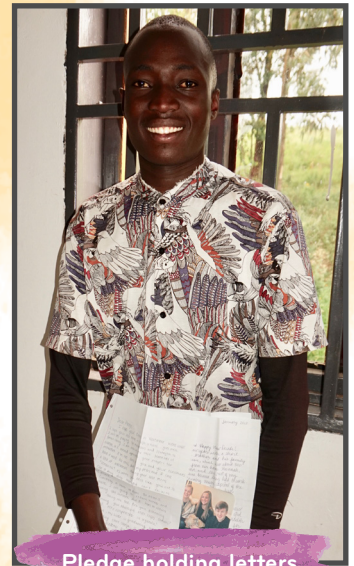
It was ten years ago when my good friend, Michele, asked if I would consider sponsoring an MCM student. If you have ever met Michele, you know her passion, heart, and love for her extended African family is effervescent and irresistible. Frankly, I was in awe of her ability to bring a giant-sized, God-given dream into fruition. Of course, I wanted to support her in the beautiful Kingdom work that MCM was doing. What I did not realize was that treasure was awaiting me in this journey. Michele paired us with a young boy named Pledge who was 14 at the

time. He lived with his aged grandmother as his father had died and his mother was not living in the village. I received pictures of them in their home with mud floors

and very few belongings as they were being sold as a way to make money, but Pledge and his grandma had dreams for something more.

Pledge had a gift of writing. His letters were lengthy and provided a window into a world that was very different from my own. I marveled at his heart, full of gratitude for life and the opportunity to go to school. He vulnerably shared the ups and downs of life, his struggles in school, and his uncertainty about his future. He sought our advice and guidance as he had to pivot his dream of becoming a doctor to something that would better align with his strengths. We weathered a pandemic together, exchanging survival stories. His interest in politics grew, and he became extremely curious about the American political landscape. And each and every letter from Pledge concluded with spiritual encouragement and insights from Scripture that were wise beyond his years. He reminded us that we were always in his prayers. Letter by letter and prayer by prayer, a deep and surprising connection was being made. Pledge had become like family to us, and we, like family to him.

Pledge has realized a dream. With his grandmother and mother as witnesses, Pledge graduated with honors from University with a teaching degree and is currently sharing his gifts with a class of students in Uganda. He has a dream of getting a Master's degree but as far as his future goes, he "dedicates everything and surrenders it all into God's hands." Thank you, Pledge, for sharing your life with me for the past 10 years and being one of my teachers.



Pledge holding letters from the Nelson Family



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