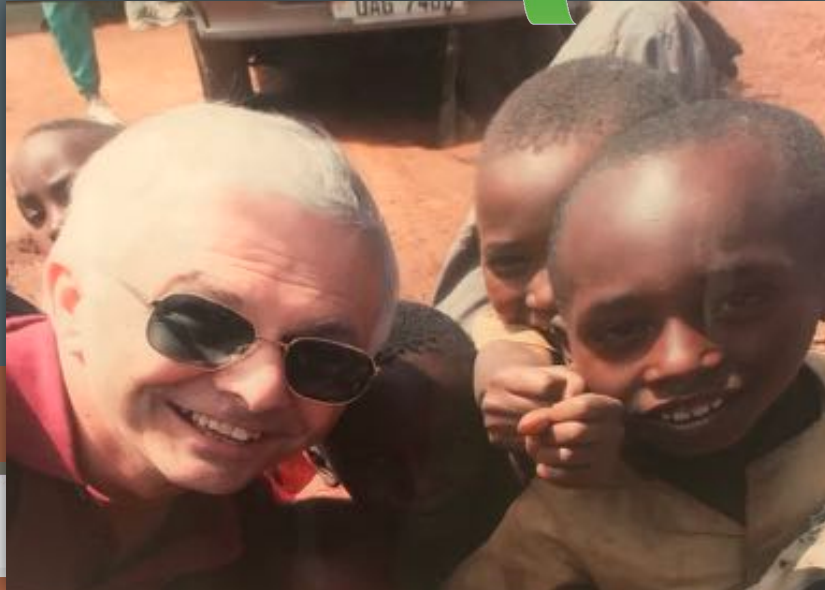


News Brief



New Year begins on a *sad note* for GSSM

On the 1st of January, *Don Cudworth*, GSSM's Director of Finance, was walking out of the front door of his home when suddenly he fell to the ground. A neighbor across the street happened to witness his fall and immediately called 911 as Don lay motionless on the grass of his yard.

Don died of an apparent heart attack. Jay Cudworth, one of Don's sons called Russ two days later to inform him of his father's homegoing and to alert him of the memorial that was to follow that week.

Russ, Sue and their family had worked with Don over many years, first with Sports Outreach and for the past several years with GSSM.

Don's background as a business executive, tax consultant, Pastor and finance director served the ministry well and we will truly miss him.

Although Don struggled with a number of health issues he never complained and cheerfully went about his work and even traveled to Africa to experience the ministry first hand. After reviewing Don's application for his first trip to Africa and particularly the section on health issues, Russ met with Don and asked if Don felt it was wise to go to Africa with the potential health hazards. Don smiled, signed a waiver and went on to travel to Africa on several occasions enjoying every minute of ministering there.

Don was 71 when he went home to be with Lord, who he deeply loved. His wife preceded him by several years after fighting a life-threatening disease for years.

We will miss Don but rejoice that he is in the presence of the Lord and free from all of the ravages of this world. Please joining with us in praying for Don's children and grandchildren.



Christmas Outreach/Practicum

Impacts scores of lives as GSSM students and staff overwhelm hopelessness with powerful salvos of Christ's love.

- **Dozens of children, many without much in the way of clothing or shoes or none at all were given Kids Kits.** This special gift brought showers of tears and heartfelt joy from children and parents alike. I wish you could have seen these little ones with smiles a mile wide and happiness that just couldn't be contained.
- When **Family Food Packs were delivered** to those living in tiny shacks that serve as a form of shelter for far too many people, tears and lots of disbelief mixed with praises to God would ring out splitting the silence and sadness that permeates much of the communities we call slums. Most of those serving as head of household in these wretched places are single moms or in cases where the mother and father have passed into eternity, the eldest child is left to somehow keep everyone alive. We have even run across 8-year-old children having to assume the leadership role. In one case when delivering a food pack a few years ago, the child in charge was picking grass and leaves to eat as there was nothing else available.

Viewing such scenes is heart-wrenching to say the least. However, it has motivated us to add another dimension to our training program. Soon we hope to equip our GSSM students with practical ways in which they will be able to train those in such dire circumstance to sustain themselves as well as to help our students to provide for their own needs.

- **GSSM students and staff were all involved in sharing** at the soccer matches, video programs and other activities including a pair of community Christmas dinners. The Christmas story was shared, the Gospel presented and many lives were altered for eternity.





All in all **91**
precious people
had their names written in the Lamb's
book of life and in the future will be
trading their shacks and misery for
heavenly mansions and joy
unspeakable!

- A few bumps occurred when a pastor who was acting as one of our hosts dropped the ball at our second venue. **Our GSSM staff had to quickly recover the fumble**, pick up the pieces and salvage the program that resulted in some very positive results. Thank you Lord!



And finally a **big thank you to all of you who prayed for this special event** and provided the means to build an avenue allowing us to share the one and only way to leave this world when invited to do so and arrive in the presence of the Lord cleansed and renewed for all of eternity. No GPS will get you there. One can only take the toll-free road paid for by the Son of God when He went to the cross at Calvary.

May we all give the praise to God for His mercy, grace and love!

Blessings!

Russ Carr, President & Alyssa Carr Mahone, Executive Director

“GO & MAKE disciples...”

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