

Langano Farms Journal

AUGUST 2009

And So It Begins...

This new project of faith has just finished its second month. It was on June 1, 2009 that the new “**Langano Community Development Project**” officially commenced. The community has decided to call their project **Langano Farms**. Looking back and seeing how it originated blows me away...how my family came to Ethiopia, how our original job duties transformed then ended, how we “closed the door” on living in Ethiopia just to see God kick the door wide open again with this new project. It is not scary but very peaceful to be in His midst, to see His hand working, to see the Ethiopian leaders and community embrace this project, to see your enthusiasm and support for this project.



Amy takes a breather at the project as Hannah naps on her back

Kaweti Shuku and I offered a community meeting on that June 1st commencement date to introduce the project and answer questions. There was some concerns from a few...the biggest question was “why...what is your motivation?”. One fellow said to me in front of the other 200 gathered: “You are just trying to benefit SIM!”. I am still not exactly sure the rationale for his statement at that time but I was sure in my reply that if



An improvised “greenhouse” at the project...see upgrade on Page 2!

they (i.e. the community) didn’t want me here that my family would leave immediately. Conversely, I stated, unless God called me home I would stay and help. I believe trust has been established and an esprit de corps exists within the project and community.

We are trying to change the definition of *quid pro quo* here in the community from “you do for me, and I do for you” to “God does for me, and I do for you”.

In Christ’s Love,

Mike and Amy

Financial Gifts: SIM USA, P.O. Box 7900, Charlotte, NC 28241-7900 or you can give online at: www.simusa.org

Account # 092544 (to support Community Develop. Project)

Account # 078214 (to support Mike/Amy Rodgers in Ethiopia)

Construction begins...

During our June 1st meeting, we asked the community “what do you want to start with?” at the project. Catching a vision for being self-sufficient, some mentioned the desire for a greenhouse. This will enable the continuous cycle of producing seedlings, planting seedlings, harvesting crops then distribution. It is a real encouragement to see the greenhouse be constructed. In addition, funds have been received to begin construction of the Langanos Farms multipurpose building...see picture below for details.



Construction of a new greenhouse has begun. This will enable the project to be self-sufficient by obtaining their own seedlings and thus expand production.

Based on my “motorcycle mileage (or kilometerage)”, the current area for this project is 600 meters x 300 meters...it is very large with plenty of room for expansion. Moreover, the community can “give themselves” more land should it be needed. Some of the larger planned projects/items needed which will need funding are a new chicken house, a work truck, a tractor, a windmill operated water pump, a “tea house” to sell snacks (initially), a small restaurant (later), a grinding mill/storage house, and develop “The Prayer Orchard” (see page 3). These are just some of the ideas we are praying through as (farm savvy) visitors often arrive with new ideas. All are welcome and all are encouraged to offer suggestions...relationships are being built with those in the community and the love of Jesus is being shared!

Construction of the new Langanos Farms multipurpose building has begun. This building will serve as the vegetable/fruit store, workshop and office for Kaweti.



“The Prayer Orchard”

We have planted 70 fruit trees because of your generosity...30 apple, 30 orange and 10 plum! Since the oranges are doing so well, we are planning another 80 orange trees in the near future.

We weren't exactly sure if the fruit trees would do well here or not but God has blessed this soil and things are looking good. It is my desire to create a nice sign and/or white-painted arch as you enter the orchard section of the project. Maybe name it “The Prayer Orchard” where people can come, sit, reflect, pray and give praise to God. The area is beautiful!



Do you see the many lighter green leaves at the top? That is new growth since being planted and the trees are thriving!!!

Below is the current layout of the orchard:

Plum			Apple		Orange	
A Gift in Honor of Ms. Mackenzie Rodgers	A Gift from Mr. and Mrs. Tex Camden Family	A Gift from Mr. and Mrs. Scott McLevain Family	A Gift from Mr. Jared Hansbrough	A Gift from Ms. Rachel Suttles	A Gift from Mrs. Marcia Kiltz	A Gift from Mr. and Mrs. James Robinson
A Gift in Honor of Ms. Genet Seleshe	A Gift from University City Fellowship	A Gift from Mr. Eric Carano	A Gift in Honor of Mr. and Mrs. Kerry Enoch Family	A Gift in Honor of Ms. Hannah Rodgers (from Granddad)	A Gift in memory of Frances and Nelson Robinson	A Gift from Mr. and Mrs. Mark Schmitt Family
A Gift in Honor of Mr. and Mrs. David Rodgers	A Gift from Mr. and Mrs. James Helms Family	A Gift in Honor of Mr. Spencer Peeler	A Gift from Dave & Margaret Vachet (St. Matthew's Circle)	A Gift from Mr. and Mrs. Joe Harding Family	A Gift from Crossroads Methodist Church	A Gift in Honor of Mr. Niccodios "Nicco" Ezeziel
A Gift in Honor of St. James	A Gift in Honor of Jenny and	A Gift in Honor of Courtney, Cosmo,	A Gift from Ms. Susan Oswald	A Gift in Honor of Cody and Lynette	A Gift in Honor of Mrs. Renee Cole	A Gift from Mr. and Mrs. Walter
A Gift in Honor of Ms. Maxine Rodgers	A Gift in Honor of Mr. and Mrs. Trent Post Family	Give to the Glory of God for the Proper use of His Creation	A Gift in Honor of Grace, Hannah and James Lesniak	A Gift in Honor of Mr. and Mrs. Scott Stancil Family	A Gift in memory of Gloria and Cliff Akers	A Gift in Honor of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Burns Family
A Gift in Memory of Bob and Nan Megee	A Gift from Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Johnson Family	A Gift in Honor of Mr. Gary Ivey	A Gift in Honor of Patsy and Al Romero	A Gift in Memory of Fred Steinbach	A Gift in Honor of Dr. and Mrs. Charles Alley Family	A Gift from Mr. and Mrs. Scott Wolk Family
A Gift in Honor of Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Coleman Family	A Gift in Honor of Mr. and Mrs. David Harding Family	A Gift in Honor of Bo, Christi, and Addison Johnson	A Gift in Honor of Nina Steinbach	A Gift from All Saints Episcopal Church	A Gift in Memory of Michael Goode	A Gift in Honor of Mr. Dylan Robinson
A Gift in Honor of Mr. and Mrs. Vincent Trollan Family	A Gift from Jay and Melissa Robinson	A Gift from Mrs. Mary Mikhail	A Gift in Memory of Harry and Mary Fake	A Gift in Honor of Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Heffner Family	A Gift in Honor of Virginia and Margarito Romero	A Gift from Mr. and Mrs. Bill Deuink Family
A Gift in Honor of Mr. Jackson Gray Riley	A Gift from Mr. and Mrs. Steve Brown Family	A Gift in Honor of Ms. Isabella Kate Riley	A Gift from Tabernacle Christian Worship Center	A Gift in Honor of Mrs. Emily Riley	A Gift in Honor of Kaweti Shuku from his friend David Ralston	A Gift from Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Snyder Family
A Gift in Honor of Mr. Jacob Rodgers	A Gift in Honor of Mr. Nathan Rodgers	A Gift in Memory of Mary Donath	A Gift in Honor of Mr. and Mrs. Allen Geddings Family	A Gift from Coddle Creek Animal Hospital	A Gift in Honor of Mr. Zachary Rodgers	A Gift in Honor of Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Hayes Family

Lake Langano