

JOSEPH STEWARDS NEWSLETTER

A special publication for Legacy Friends of World Renew



World
Renew™

LIVING JUSTICE • LOVING MERCY • SERVING CHRIST

JOSEPH
STEWARDS

Spring 2016

A Message From Ida Kaastra-Mutoigo



Where do you see God's glory? Do you see it in your daily activities? Is it evident in the creation around

you or the people in your community? Recently, I saw God's glory in a security guard from Kenya, named Julius.

I was visiting Kenya for World Renew and saw Julius regularly at the Methodist Guest House where I was staying. One day, I greeted him with "Habari." As an expression of appreciation for his work, I also thanked him by saying "Asante kwa kazi".

From that day onwards, every time he saw me passing through the door, he would break out into an enormous smile and say "wow". I am not used to that kind of greeting or attention, but I think that Julius wasn't used to many people greeting him either.

Most people walk past cleaners and guards at hotels like they don't exist, but Jesus calls us to another behavior. He calls us to notice His glory and share His love with others. Every person He puts in our

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Mercy learned to grow vegetables, using intercropping and mulching techniques to maximize production.

Small Farmer with Big Ambition

BY IDA KAASTRA MUTOIGO

She may look too small and young to be in the business of farming, but, Mercy Wamboi is proving that age, gender, stature and even size of land are immaterial when it comes to being a successful farmer. At 28 years of age, Mercy is one of the youngest farmers in a group with which World Renew and its partner, the Anglican Church of Kenya (ACK), have been working.

Mercy's mother, Hannah Wahinde encouraged her to get into farming by giving her a small plot of land. With the training she received from ACK and World Renew on conservation agriculture, Mercy

learned to grow vegetables like kale, green peppers, cabbages, onions, tomatoes and amaranth using intercropping and mulching techniques to maximize production. Because her plot of land was on a slope, she also learned to use drip irrigation from a water source at the highest point of her land so that her vegetable crops would thrive even during drought.

When asked why she farms, Mercy excitedly said, "I was struggling to pay school fees for my child. But now, from this small plot, I made

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path is an opportunity to share His presence and love within us.

John 17:22 conveys a prayer from Jesus that says: “I have given them (all believers) the glory that you (God) gave me, that they may be one as we are one.”

Today, I praise God for the glory that I see in farmers like Mercy Wamboi who is working diligently to improve her family’s life; in volunteers like Ray Dedman who give selflessly to serve others; and in people like you who make World Renew’s ministry possible through your prayers and gifts. Thank you.

How are you seeing and sharing His glory lately?

Ida Kaastra Mutoigo
Director, World Renew

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Ida and Mercy

8,000 Kenya Shillings (about \$80 USD) which was enough.”

Mercy has discovered how being a good steward of God’s creation by using improved techniques that conserve the soil’s fertility can reap high yields.

In Mercy’s village, a community bank was also formed to provide access to capital for community

members. This community bank helps men and women make greater investments in their farms and businesses. After just 20 months of forming their group, Mercy’s group has grown to 354 people with a total capital base of 2,240,000 Kenya Shillings (about \$22,400).

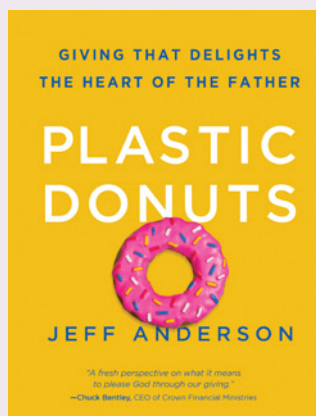
What a difference the church has made in the life of Mercy and her family! Out of gratitude to her mother for all her support, Mercy even named her newborn daughter after her: Wahannah Wahinde.

Mercy has great ambition to grow her farm and continues to work and learn about farming, but she also has an interest in growing her faith. She continues to attend her local church and is grateful for the role the church has played in helping her improve her life.

Faith, farming and family. Mercy’s story shows what a blessed combination that is!

Recommended Resources: Plastic Donuts

BY MAYNARD WIERSMA



One of the best little books that I have come across recently is Jeff Anderson’s Plastic Donuts. This small book is a nice, quick read and a great book about stewardship

When she was a toddler, Jeff Anderson’s daughter opened his eyes to how delighted God is with our gifts. She brought him a plastic donut from her play

kitchen, and he was surprised by the intensity of his reaction.

His delight in receiving this simple gift—and his daughter’s joy in giving it—led him to dig deeper. Anderson would not rest until he found the scriptural connection between our gifts and God’s heart

Once you see your gifts from God’s perspective, your giving will never be the same.

Disaster Volunteer's Ministry Continues Even After His Death

BY KRISTEN DEROO VANDERBERG



Ray and Anne Dedman

Ray Dedman was a strong supporter of World Renew throughout his life and continued this passion for ministry even upon his death. After a courageous battle with cancer, Ray asked his family to encourage people to give gifts to World Renew's Disaster Response Services in lieu of flowers at his funeral. It was a selfless decision that is now helping disaster survivors across North America.

Ray spent his life in New Dundee, Ontario. He was a dairy farmer, an insurance claims adjuster, a loving husband, a caring father, and a much loved grandfather. He also had a passion for doing God's work.

He was very involved in his local church, Community Christian Reformed Church in Kitchener,

Ontario. In his mid-sixties, he also began volunteering with World Renew Disaster Response Services, helping to repair and rebuild homes for disaster survivors.

"World Renew Disaster Response Services is a ministry made up of passionate Christians who are willing to volunteer weeks at a time to help others," said Becky Purdom, Volunteer Program Manager for World Renew DRS. "Ray was one of these great servants. He built homes for people who suffered from tornadoes and Hurricane Katrina. His words and his actions were a testimony about God's love to those who needed to experience it. We are truly grateful for his service."

Over the course of four years, Ray gave more than 630 hours of

his time to World Renew. It was therefore no surprise to his family when he asked that the event of his passing be used to help World Renew's Disaster Response Services volunteers reach even more people.

"World Renew Disaster Response Services very close to Ray's heart," said Ray's wife, Anne Dedman. "It was his wish that in lieu of flowers people should give to World Renew."

More than 90 individuals, families or organizations responded to this request.

For families wishing to follow Ray's example, memorial envelopes can be ordered by churches, funeral homes, or families free of charge at worldrenew.net/order.



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Charitable Gift Annuities

A charitable gift annuity can provide a meaningful way to support the ministry of World Renew and reach out to those struggling with hunger, poverty and injustice or recovering from disaster. Through a charitable gift annuity you make an irrevocable gift to World Renew or another chosen charity. In return, you receive a guaranteed, regular annual income for life.

Upon your passing, the balance remaining from the original principal of your gift will flow to World Renew or the other charity of your choice. This allows you to support World Renew with a substantial gift now, while still enjoying an income for life.

A large portion of the income you receive through a charitable gift annuity is tax exempt. You also

qualify for a one-time charitable donation receipt for a portion of your original gift.

The income and rate of return on your annuity depends upon the amount of your initial gift and your age when you take it out. This calculation is done using life expectancy tables, and the amount expected to be paid out through the agreement.

You can expect to receive an upfront charitable donation receipt for at least 20% of the amount that you donate. Upon your passing your annuity is entirely outside of your estate, and is not subject to income tax or probate fees.

While World Renew does not issue charitable gift annuities, it does have an arrangement with Christian Stewardship Services whereby

they issue charitable gift annuities in which World Renew can be named as the beneficiary. CSS handles both the administration of payments and investment of the funds to support the annuity payments and the charitable remainder.

For more information about a charitable gift annuity with Christian Stewardship Services, please contact CSS at 1-800-267-8890 or admin@cssservices.ca.

If you have questions about how you can increase your support of World Renew through other giving options, please contact Judy Eising at World Renew 1-800-730-3490 ext. 4297 or jeising@worldrenew.net.

