

The Internal Revenue Service recognizes Friends of Mwangaza, Inc. as a charitable organization. Contributions are deductible to the full extent of the law.

From the Director of Mwangaza, Seelah Kissioki



Mwangaza continues to grow and grow and grow.

For ten years now, Mwangaza has offered teacher-training seminars to teachers from ELCT church-managed secondary schools. To date these schools total 54.

In the initial years, teachers requested training in both English and methodology. With help from ELCA volunteers, teachers from these schools have been trained in new methods of teaching and are now

moving from teacher-centered classrooms to more interactive, student-centered classrooms.

To further aid these teachers, Mwangaza has written and prints its own "Mwangaza Resource Book" to which teachers can refer as they plan their lessons.

Responding to requests from teachers, Mwangaza's seminars now include subject matter content--so we now have teachers who not only are learning new methods but also are learning how to research the latest information about their classroom content.

To upgrade teachers and Lutheran Secondary Schools, Mwangaza has even bigger plans. Over the years, Mwangaza has been learning a lot about what it takes to have a good school. Given all that Mwangaza has learned over the past ten years, Mwangaza is now in a position to offer an "educational audit" to all twenty Tanzanian dioceses and their schools. As part of the audit, Mwangaza can give recommendations regarding what the Diocese needs to consider in its educational vision in order to provide quality education to the youth of Tanzania.

Such schools will reflect several dimensions: a committed leadership at the Diocese level, a committed head of school, teachers committed to teaching and professional development, and resources such as enough text books, library resources, computers, and good facilities.

As we gather this information, not only shall we be advising the Dioceses and schools about areas where they need to be

improving, but also we shall be gathering information which will be valuable to Mwangaza and to our donors as we highlight schools' needs -- such as upgrading libraries, reducing the student-to-textbook ratio, and having computers and appropriate training. Likewise, such audits will give us insights into planning for our teacher-training development seminars.

Furthermore, Mwangaza is growing in its understanding of its mission to Mothers, Fathers, and Families through the Binti-Mama and Mwana-Baba programs. After an intensive evaluation, participants urged us to join the two programs. Participants felt a more holistic family educational program should be created and offered. As a result, a new program will be piloted in August; seminars will cover the following topics: education, HIV/AIDS, conflict resolution, the environment, health, guidance and counseling for youth, and Bible study.

When we talk about education at Mwangaza, it's so much more than studying!

It's about education that matters! It's about information that is life-giving!

Mwangaza Speakers Bureau

Arrangements can be made for former volunteers to speak to your group or organization. Such opportunities are synonymous with Mwangaza's international mission of education, both in Tanzania as well as in the United States.

Organizations are responsible for a speaker's expenses. Costs vary depending upon the location of the event and the home base of the Mwangaza volunteer. For more information, inquiries may be made by contacting Dr. Shoonie Hartwig at ShoonieH@AOL.com.

Friends of Mwangaza, Inc. strives to keep its constituents abreast of its programs and outreach. Should you wish to be removed from further communications, please inform Treasurer Linda Milton by mail at the address above, or via e-mail at artmilton2926@sbcglobal.net

Mwangaza's constituency has grown and grown since its inception in 1996. As more and more people learn of its international mission, more and more people are moved to respond through prayers that Mwangaza flourishes, through U.S. volunteers who work on its behalf in the United States and/or in Tanzania, through invitations that request speakers make presentations about Mwangaza's work, and through donations that enable its programs to grow. Lately, individuals have taken the reins in their own hands to ensure Mwangaza's sustainability. We are grateful for their gifts. Their stories begin on Pg.1.

Individuals Creatively Seed Mwangaza's Programs; How, Why They Did It Reflects Faith in Education's Power

"Church Ladies" Coffee Brews Monthly International Outreach

It's 7:00 Thursday morning. The local coffee shop with fair trade coffee has just opened one-half hour earlier. Slowly, the Church Ladies, whose ages span thirty-five years, begin to arrive. Sometimes there are two or three and sometimes there are twenty, all depending on the day, the weather, the time of year—you name it!

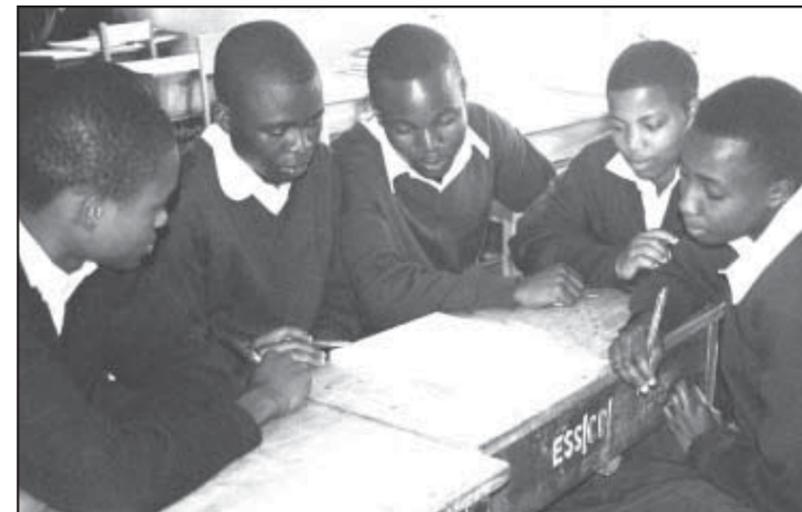
But one person is always "hostess" for a specific month. And the "cup" goes out in the middle of the table, and donations are graciously slipped into it (the guideline suggests matching the cost of your cup of coffee or your breakfast meal). And here's the dessert: What gathers in the "cup" supports the programs of Mwangaza! The check that the hostess writes to Friends of Mwangaza and sends to treasurer Linda Milton even becomes a tax deduction! Over time, everyone benefits!

By 8:00, the Ladies begin to disperse, heading for jobs or meetings, taking care of grandkids or completing other activities appropriate for some of the retired Ladies.

In May 2005, Lynda Minnick, a member of the Friends of Mwangaza Board of Directors, came to Madison, WI to meet with the "Church Ladies" from Advent Lutheran Church. She shared the "story" of the Mwangaza Education for Partnership programs and the need for additional support for them. The Church Ladies listened and decided that collecting \$125 each month for the next three years was very doable. So the project began.

The women not only support Mwangaza's programs, but have collected books and materials that can be modified or used as resources for the Binti/Mama, Mwana/Baba, and HIV/AIDS programs. The Church Ladies were grateful for an opportunity to meet Director Seelah Kissioki and Dr. Shoonie Hartwig last summer when they included Madison on their whirlwind summer "tour," providing an opportunity to get a first-hand update on the work of Mwangaza.

If you are connected with some group within or outside of your church, consider matching a gift to yourself (a cup of coffee or dessert or



Students such as these are among the thousands of Tanzanians who reap the benefits of Mwangaza Programs which are offered nationwide. Besides working with secondary school teachers, Mwangaza presents seminars dealing with HIV/AIDS, Computers, and Health, Environment, and Family.

Memorial Donation Continues Teacher's Legacy and Passion

Deb Weitzel was a teacher who loved books and reading. She was credited with hundreds of acts of kindness when she taught second grade.



Her principal identified learning as the top priority in her classroom. She also sang and played handbells at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Grand Island, Nebraska.

Among her passions were the Central Nebraska Reading Council and the International Reading Council. When those groups donated money to buy books for students in Africa, Deb said to her husband Bob, "It's not enough!"

Cancer abruptly ended Deb's life this past fall, and her family wanted to honor her memory in a special way. Because of the Nebraska Synod's connection with Mwangaza since its

Ornaments Become Textbooks Through Magic of Commitment

Five dollars doesn't go very far these days, does it? Five dollars can't buy much of a gift for a colleague or friend at work in a Christmas gift exchange.

But in Tanzania five dollars can buy an official, government-written textbook for a student, opening the door to education, enabling students to have the resource needed to succeed on important National Examinations in their schools.

In Tanzania, limited resources restrict textbook purchases, so ten students sharing one text is the norm.

With this knowledge in mind, the Christmas Tree Ornament Project was started in 2005 to purchase more textbooks for students.

The project creates and makes available Christmas tree ornaments and sells them for five dollars each. Money collected is forwarded to Friends of Mwangaza and from there, wired to Mwangaza Centre for the sole purpose of buying Tanzanian textbooks. In 2005 six hundred ornaments were made and raised in excess of \$3,000 dollars which purchased 600 textbooks.

Two E-Mails Exemplify How On-Line Partnership Stimulates US/TZ Teachers and Builds Relationships

Retired WI Teacher Neil Radtke Corresponds with Tanzanian Educator Emmanuel Laban

Habari Emmanuel,
Kazi, kazi shambani na darasani. Pole lakini nitajaribu kutoa msada kidogo!

Here are two demonstration ideas that I used to introduce the idea of carbon chemistry....to show that carbon is in so many things around us that don't appear "black."

#1 Destructive Distillation of Wood (Heating in the Absence or Reduction of O₂)

Place some wood splints or sticks in the bottom of a large test tube with a one hole stopper with a glass elbow tube.

Incline the test tube with a clamp and ring stand. Heat the bottom of the tube with a Bunsen burner flame (hold the burner by hand so that you can control the heating.)

As the various volatiles leave the tube, you will be able to ignite them at the end of the glass elbow. Liquids may condense near the top of the tube and run back down. The incline should slow this process.

Let the tube cool and then knock out the black carbon residue.

You can then hold the carbon in a flame and show how it burns like charcoal.....because it is!

You have just made makaa!just like folks do in the bush by burning and then smoldering tree stuff! (But your test tube and stopper will be pretty messy!)

I did this demo using cigarettes to help show all of the nasties that are involved in smoking.

The last of what I have to offer today applies to making organic ball-and-stick models. Following is a recipe for model-making material. Your students may be very familiar with making mtungi and will know where to find good clay for permanent ball-and-stick models. I suggest tooth picks and bendable wire for the stick bonds. A reusable "clay" here in the U.S., called Play Dough, can be rolled into little balls of differing sizes to represent C, H, O, N and others. Food colors can be added to help to keep them apart.

I have just made the recipe below this morning and even though there are references to refrigerators, just cooling should do the trick.

Traditional Play Dough [uses cream of tartar—potassium hydrogen tartrate—KC₄H₅O₆]

- 1 cup flour
- 1 cup warm water
- 2 teaspoons cream of tartar
- 1 teaspoon oil
- 1/4 cup salt
- food coloring

Mix all ingredients, adding food coloring last. Stir over medium heat until smooth. Remove from pan and knead until blended smooth. Place in plastic bag or airtight container when cooled. It will last for a long time. (I found cream of tartar in a grocery store spice section.)

I have also used paper clips to teach isomer naming...give them a small number of clips (3) and ask how many isomers arrangements can be made....then increase the number of clips. Do you teach the IUPAC naming system?

Basi for now....naomba radthi if this is too simple for your needs or if you already have these ideas!!

Rafiki yako,
Neil

"Church Ladies" (Continued from Page One)

glass of wine) with a gift to Mwangaza. Little by little the fund grows.

Programs and needs at Mwangaza keep growing. By choosing to replicate our "Church Ladies" format, you can help build support for Mwangaza, too.

Hope that you are doing fine sir. How are you and your family and all that you are engaged in?

I am so fine and the shamba la bwana business has started and the responsibility for this year is quite much because I teach the Form 1 through 4 Chemistry and the practical part of it in addition to the Second year Open University course. Then there are my other personal life responsibilities.

All in all, I believe that through the Lord's help I will be able to run all with the maximum efficiency and success. Due to the maximum teaching load I have, I am facing the minimum time to visit the Internet cafe to write to you, but I will try to visit at least once each weekend.

For now I have two classes (the second and the fourth level) that need serious attention for the best achievement in their national examinations, as well as my learning the efficiency of the current or new teaching methods we are learning at Mwangaza.

For the fourth level I have started with the topics that will be applicable in their practical examinations and thereafter Organic Chemistry will follow. The only problem I face in teaching Organic Chemistry for the low level is for me to find the best and simplest way for introducing the topic so as to minimize cramming since I have discovered that most of the students need to memorize. May I therefore ask that if you won't mind, then help me in the form of the lesson plan as well as the simple teaching aids that will be useful for students to build the concept instead of memorizing.

Besides that, I am also facing the shortage of the organic models for teaching Organic Chemistry. Therefore, if possible, might you find some of the Organic Chemistry teaching models so as to simplify the job?

With thanks in advance, may you please receive my sincere greetings from Mwangaza's Internet Cafe,

Bye for now,
Your friend,

Emmanuel Laban

Mwangaza Giving Menu

Here's how you can ensure long-term sustainability of this vital education program:

GIVE NOW

IRA Charitable Rollover

In 2006, Congress passed the Pension Protection Act of 2006, providing a "2006-2007-Only" window of opportunity for individuals age 70 1/2 or above to transfer funds up to \$100,000 from a regular or Roth IRA to a charitable organization without paying tax on the amount. The IRA charitable rollover will qualify for the donor's required minimum distribution after age 70 1/2. There is no charitable income tax deduction. To arrange for the rollover, simply contact your IRA custodian.

Stock Options

This option can be better than cash, as you receive full market value for your gift, bypass the capital gains tax, and receive a charitable tax deduction. Transfer stock to Friends of Mwangaza through your stockbroker and notify the Friends of Mwangaza treasurer of the transfer.

BENEFIT NOW, GIVE LATER

The Charitable Gift Annuity – The Gift That Continues To Give

Enter into a Charitable Gift Annuity by using the ELCA Foundation (1-800-638-3522, ext. 2970), receive an annual payment at a guaranteed rate for the rest of your life, and name Mwangaza as the beneficiary of the annuity at your death. Interest rates vary depending on age of the retiree, from 6% to 11%. A portion of your annuity investment is tax deductible. In addition, a portion of the annual interest income is tax free. If you fund your annuity with an appreciated security owned more than twelve months, you will bypass a portion of the applicable capital gains tax. Contact Treasurer Linda Milton for a 501c(3) letter of determination.

GIVE AT THE END OF LIFE

Will or Trust

Name Mwangaza in a will or trust as a recipient of funds or of stocks upon your death. If stocks, make provision in the will or trust for either selling the stock and remitting the funds to Mwangaza or transferring the stock directly to Mwangaza.

For further information, contact Lynda Minnick, Friends of Mwangaza Development Director: 773-637-0081 or lyndaminnick@sbcglobal.net.

On-Line Partnership: The Mwangaza View by William Kivuyo, Program Coordinator

Mwangaza's On-Line Partnership reminds me of the Bible story of the blind man and the crippled man on their way to get food from the next village: Both momentarily stopped when they got to the river, unsure of how to continue on their way—until the blind man carried the crippled man across the water, with one becoming the "eyes" and the other the "legs" that were needed to safely cross the water, making both of them able to reach their goal.



Likewise, our American and Tanzanian On-Line teachers must cross many barriers that appear in our different teaching and learning environments. Together we are different geographically, economically and educationally; but, through

the On-Line Partnership, Americans and Tanzanians have indeed been "crossing the water" together, just like the blind man and the cripple.

"I was going to run into trouble if it were not for the [email] notes from my [American] partner," observed one Tanzanian On-Liner. Another said, "Since I became part of this program, I have seen much professional growth in myself as a Biology teacher." A third testified, "This [email partnership] is so much more than going to the library!"

Is it not wonderful to see all the fruits of the On-Line Partnership? It is an unquestionable truth that this program updates teachers and strengthens them professionally.

On the Tanzanian side, the geographical distance between Tanzanian teachers' schools and Internet facilities poses a big challenge. Likewise, we Tanzanians recognize that ours is an oral culture, and that this partnership demands we *write* – with most of us doing so in our third language: English! Despite the obstacles, we already see that the rewards of the partnership will help us overcome these challenges!

On-Line Partnership Grows as U.S. and Tanzanian Secondary Teachers Pair by Subject to Develop Lessons and Forge Personal Relationships

by Orville Ruud
U.S. On-Line Partnership Volunteer

My introduction to Mwangaza came through a mission trip to experience the mission activities of the ELCA—and among them, our itinerary included a morning at the Mwangaza Centre.

Though the whole trip remains memorable, it was the Mwangaza experience that continues to be inspiring.

I had retired from the experiences of teaching physics, coordinating the development of a K-12 science program, directing curriculum development, and mentoring student teachers. What a surprise it was to walk into Mwangaza's Assembly Hall to see a U.S. teacher volunteer modeling the technique of developing student discussion.

Here in Africa I saw a commitment to improving instruction, to bringing the best in concept development, to teaching teachers how to teach. I left wanting in some way to help with this, to have African teachers experience—as I had—what good teaching can accomplish.

My first opportunity to participate was the opportunity to make a donation to Mwangaza. This brought me in contact with Friends of Mwangaza treasurer Linda Milton and former Director, Shoonie Hartwig.

Soon after, I volunteered to be a partner in Mwangaza's On-Line Partnership program, functioning as an "e-mail mentor" to a teacher in an ELCT secondary school. Through our e-mail "conversations," we write comprehensive lesson plans for "hands-on" teaching of physics.

This opportunity for me is exciting, challenging, and rewarding. And through the magic of technology, I have new friends in Christ.

Teacher's Legacy and Passion

(Continued from Page One)

Inception in 1996, Deb's husband Bob was referred to fellow Nebraskan Mary Jo Huelle, chairperson of Friends of Mwangaza.

A meeting in December provided Weitzel with information about Mwangaza and Tanzania's educational famine. After considering the needs of Mwangaza and the educational light that had shone so brightly in Deb's life, the Weitzel family decided to make a \$5,000 donation. They asked that the funds be used to provide the seed money for the unification of the Mwana/Baba and Binti/Mama programs into one which will be inclusive of family health and environment.

This generous donation honors an exceptional educator and helps the light of Mwangaza burn more brightly.

Ornaments Become Textbooks (Continued from Page One)

Begun by the Tanzanian Task Force at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Wyoming, MN, a group gathers to construct the ornaments. Mailing envelopes are attached to make donations easy. A thank you and receipt for tax purposes is sent to the buyer. Donations can be made in honor of others. A card states: "A gift of a book was given in your name to a student in Tanzania."

In 2006, the Project expanded to include Christ Lutheran (Marine on St. Croix, MN); Incarnation Lutheran (North Oaks, MN); Faith Lutheran (Forest Lake, MN); Prince of Peace (Roseville, MN); Bethel Lutheran (Northfield, MN); United Redeemer (Zumbrota, MN); Calvary Lutheran (Minnocqua, WI); Trinity Lutheran (Moline, IL); and Bethany Lutheran (Crystal Lake, IL).

Imagine the possibilities if even more teams join in this worthy project!

Will you join in this effort in 2007? Please contact Tanzanian Task Force; St. Paul Lutheran Church; Wyoming, Minnesota 55092. You will receive complete instructions, a prototype, envelope enclosure, alternative gift-giving card, and the front and back design of the 2007 Christmas tree ornament.



Volunteer Valerie Goodmanson, with two rounds of work in Tanzania to her credit, continues her work on behalf of Mwangaza as she oversees the new On-Line Partnership for Secondary Teachers in the United States and in Tanzania.