

# THE GLOBAL INTERFAITH PARTNERSHIP

## Indianapolis, Indiana & Chulaimbo, Kenya

*Committed to meeting the needs of vulnerable children in western Kenya*



Fall 2009

[www.globalinterfaithpartnership.com](http://www.globalinterfaithpartnership.com)

### **Indiana Partnering Congregations**

Congregation Beth El Zedeck

Faith Missionary

North United Methodist

St. Joan of Arc Catholic

St. Luke's United Methodist

St. Monica Catholic

St. Paul's Episcopal

St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic

Second Presbyterian

Shaarey Tefilla

Tabernacle Presbyterian

***Ministering in partnership  
with over 25 congregations  
in the Chulaimbo region of  
western Kenya from diverse  
traditions, including:***

African Inland Church

African Israel Ninevah

Anglican Church of Kenya

Church of Christ

Coptic Orthodox

Legio Maria

Pentecostal Assembly of God

Roman Catholic

Seventh Day Adventist

Voice of Salvation

## 2009 Kenya Carnival surpasses goal!

### Indiana youth raise over \$21,000 to support Umoja students



By Lizzie Booher, age 16

What can Indianapolis youth do to help youth halfway around the world? Organize a carnival, of course! In 2008 the Kenya Carnival raised \$8,000 which sent 25 kids to secondary school. In 2009, the goal was \$16,000 for 50 students, and a tremendous **\$21,212.12** was the end result!

The money raised by Kenya Carnival provides Umoja Project secondary school students with one year of tuition, school supplies, uniforms and other basic needs.

For example, it only takes five dollars to give a year supply of lamp kerosene that allows students to study in the evening.

The "Ken-Ya Help Us?" Project empowers kids to be involved and be leaders. Middle and high school students worked hard to earn money to sponsor games at the carnival. One group of middle school girls, known as the "Bungee Bouncers," raised more than \$3,200 by babysitting, having a garage sale, and doing odd jobs. They were able to sponsor the event's most expensive game, the Bungee Trampoline.

In addition to raising money, the Kenya Carnival raises awareness of the needs of youth in Kenya. Students educated carnival guests about Chulaimbo, Kenya and the differences between their daily life and the lives of the Kenyan students sponsored by the project.

Students assisted by the Umoja Project truly value education as the way out of poverty. Many of them are orphans who are in charge of their siblings and are heads of the household. Often, the only food they get is the meal provided at school. Since this is a poor area, jobs are scarce and do not provide households with nearly enough money to pay for children's schooling.

The Kenya Carnival took place at Second Presbyterian Church on September 5, 2009. Indianapolis Mayor Greg Ballard attended the event and spent time with the student volunteers learning about their interest in helping the young people of Africa.

The 2009 Kenya Carnival sponsors included:

- Congregation Beth-El Zedeck
- Congregation Shaarey Tefilla
- North United Methodist Church
- St. Luke's United Methodist Church
- St. Monica Catholic Church
- St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church
- Brebeuf Jesuit Preparatory School
- Second Presbyterian Church
- More than 25 families and individuals

Ken-Ya Help Us? Yes, you can! Plans are underway for the 2010 Kenya Carnival and we hope even more congregations and other groups will participate. See [www.kenyacarnival.com](http://www.kenyacarnival.com) for more information.

## When I think back on my time in Kenya...

### Duke seminarians reflect on their summer internship

"When I look back on my time in Kenya I will most remember the incredible hospitality of the Kenyans. They always said to us 'in our culture, visitors are a gift from God' and that is exactly how they treated us." (Bonnie Scott)

"When I look back on my time in Kenya, I will always remember the great faith of the people that I interacted with in the midst of their struggle and pain..." (Darriel Harris)

"When I think back on my time in Kenya, I will always remember the laughter coming from the school children as they darted from their classes and gathered together for lunch." (Christopher Jones)

"When I think back on my time in Kenya, I think about waiting...But I think Kenyans know something about waiting, about how God happens in the meantime." (Kelly Cohen)

"When I look back on my time in Kenya, I think about the partnership I saw...the way people from America and Kenya listen to one another and work together...and I think to myself, 'This is what the Kingdom of God looks like.'" (Gillian Lisenby)



## Poised for great exploits

### Umoja Scholar completing first year of secondary school



Emmaculate's parents died four years ago. Shortly thereafter, Emmaculate's two older brothers left home and Emmaculate's sister, who is unwell, moved away to be taken care of by a distant uncle. Emmaculate was left in the family home all alone. Lonely and afraid, she moved in with an aunt. However, the aunt soon moved away to the coast in search of work, leaving Emmaculate in charge of other younger children.

Left alone with the children, Emmaculate struggled to juggle home care and school attendance. She was at the point of desperation when she first encountered the Umoja Project. Umoja provides for basic needs, food security, and covers her tuition at Ogada Secondary School. Recalling the past she shyly submits, "I thank Umoja project for helping me because I never knew I could be in secondary school."

Emmaculate, now 16 years old, will complete Form One (9th grade) in November. "I did not perform so well in my first term in Form One," she admits. "However, I am going to try and perform better and even best in my end of year exams."

Umoja Project Director Joseph Okuya adds, "When I met Emmaculate one year ago, I vividly recall a young girl with tears misting her eyes as she choked on words laden with emotions in an attempt to tell her story. So overwhelmed was she that I had to consult every now and again with her primary school teacher who had accompanied me to get her full story... What a change we can now observe in the shy but hope filled smile above?! This is the new Emmaculate, poised for great exploits...I wish everyone was able to see the wonderful versions of great smiles from appreciative children over Umoja's support."

**Global Interfaith Partnership 3808 N. Meridian Street Indianapolis, IN 46208**  
[www.globalinterfaithpartnership.com](http://www.globalinterfaithpartnership.com)

Ellen Daniels-Howell, Executive Director  
[ellenrdh@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ellenrdh@sbcglobal.net)  
317-596-9957

Joseph Okuya, Umoja Project Director  
Leonard Otieno, Peer Support Group Facilitator  
Barack Juma, Project Assistant