



YOU FEED THEM

To eliminate world hunger, one village at a time, by partnering with churches, organizations, and individuals.

Yogo Villagers Welcome Water and Electricity!

Yogo farmers celebrate as the Fall planting has brought a bountiful harvest of kale, corn, and other cereal crops. A large harvest of beans, weighing approximately 360 kg, is an additional blessing as it fills a significant portion of the feeding budget for the community. With Farm A and B cultivated and fully functioning, a third 4-acre plot of land has been purchased, expanding the total farm acreage to twelve acres. Six of these acres are fully irrigated. The purchase of Farm C marks a great success for the YFT Project as it brings Yogo one step further towards self-sustainability. In 2009 when the YFT Project began, the YFT organization identified that twenty acres of irrigated land could provide sufficient food and income to feed those working the farm, sustain the operation of the farm, and provide additional food and financial income to support projects sponsored by the Yogo CBO.

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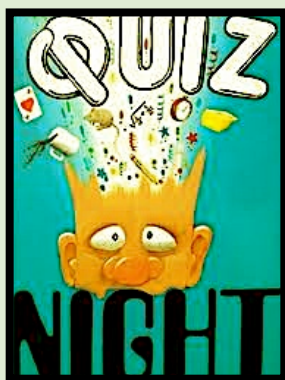


Walk for Water Campaign to Kickstart the Year!

To kick off YFT's awareness campaign for 2013, TBCO and YFT will be hosting Walk for Water on March 23. The event will be timely as March 22 is globally recognized as the International Day of Water. Volunteers young and old will be trekking from the market centre in Osgoode around the village for a

total of 6km, followed by a BBQ at TBCO. Participants are encouraged to carry water in order to experience daily water collection for a typical African.

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Quiz for a Cause!

Sat Mar 2 6-9:30pm
Stittsville Community Bible Church

Gather your cleverest friends, neighbours, and work colleagues (aged 14 & up) to form a team for the annual Quiz for a Cause fundraiser to benefit Seje, Kenya, Africa! Entrance fee includes dinner as well as entry into the competition for a team of up to 8 people. Early bird pricing is in effect - register early to save \$. Any questions please contact the church office. 613.836.2606 or cbcinfo@cbcstittsville.com

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Villagers Welcome Water and Electricity cont.

While Kenya suffered a severe drought in the first half of 2012, the YFT fields will fortunately avoid a repetition of this thanks to a borehole that will supply water for irrigation purposes year round. This was welcome relief for residents as frequent droughts are a serious threat to the farm. In the past, they caused crop failure, resulting in starvation for members of the community.

THE BOREHOLE WAS WELCOME RELIEF FOR RESIDENTS IN BOTH YOGO AND SEJE VILLAGES.

The borehole is a major step in enabling the farm to remain in constant production all year round. As an added bonus, not only will the borehole provide water to the farm for irrigation purposes, it also provides potable water for the residents of the village of Yogo.

In order to run the pump, the CBO worked with the Kenyan Government to bring electricity to the village. The project was half funded by YFT and half funded by the community. It is now connected to the borehole and also to the school. Residents have witnessed water piped to Farm A and to the Yogo school and the piped water has greatly improved the hygiene level of the school and has positively impacted their health as well as performance. The installation of power has created a phenomenal potential of growth for the community at large. Just prior to the publication of this newsletter, YFT received the news that the village of Seje now has clean, safe water also. This will be key to agricultural efforts in the village, given the challenges of the soil condition in the area, and to the health and well being of over 900 residents.

THE FOCUS FOR THE YOGO YFT PROJECT IN 2013 IS TO CULTIVATE AND IRRIGATE ALL TWELVE ACRES OF LAND.

According to the YFT Co-Chair & Agricultural Advisor, Roland Poirier, the focus for the Yogo YFT Project in 2013 is to cultivate and irrigate all twelve acres of land. Goals for 2014 and 2015 will focus on the purchase and preparation of an additional eight acres to reach the twenty acre goal. New design in fodder production equipment will allow for

increased productivity without the need for electric power. "Fodder (barley or small grain sprouted in six days) will become necessary food for poultry and livestock production allowing the farm managers to confine these animals so that we can collect their waste for composting back to the garden. This is the missing link between future food security and sustainability." says Roland. YFT is seeking to hire a project manager to oversee the various projects and to ensure timely reporting. It will also need to address full irrigation of the remaining acres, tilling and preparation of Farm C.

Police Enter Yogo Church

Police poured into Yogo VOSH church as local villagers looked on. Notorious for their nepotism, Kenyan police would be considered some of the least likely individuals to frequent a worship service. Not so in Yogo. The Kenya Police Christian Association met with Yogo V.O.S.H. church in October of 2012 to hold a crusade for Christ. "The Kenyan Police known for corruption were preaching the ever-living Jesus Christ while in uniform," says Silas Odour.

This crusade is one example of the many ways the YFT Project has transformed the community at large. Lynn Fraser, former Chairperson of YFT, observed a new sense of hope among Yogo residents during her visit to the village in May of last year. This optimism, she notes, did not exist in the community previously. With the arrival of food and education, residents are inspired for the years ahead. "Church growth in

Yogo is happening because the people see what is happening [with the farm]," states the YFT Report to TBCO. "It's been a miracle to see the church continuously grow in Yogo," rejoices Odour. "It's our prayer that the church both locally and internationally continues to create a positive impact in peoples lives for the Glory of Christ."



"The Kenyan Police known for corruption were preaching the ever-living Jesus Christ while in uniform," says Silas Odour

Yogo School Celebrates Nursery Graduates

Support from Ambassadors Ministries in Covenant (AMIC) has continued its expansion of Yogo Vosh School, and teachers welcome their newest group of students - grade 3!

This will bring the school's attendance from the 107 children in 2012 to 130 students in 2013. These children are identified by the Yogo Community Based Organization (CBO) as being "the poorest of the poor" in the village and are given scholarships to attend.

The school has made incredible progress during the past three years.

Upon the identification of the original 20 acres of land in 2009, YFT and Yogo's CBO determined a nursery school was the best way to ensure the children most in need were fed. Initially, YFT offered to feed 30 children and provided a nursery school program with three teachers and a cook. Soon after, a partnering church, Ambassadors Ministries in Covenant (AMIC), assumed the project and is expanding the school from a nursery class into a fully operating school. It plans to increase by one classroom each year up to Grade 8. Ideally, it hopes to include high school sometime in the future.

Rapid growth of the school has not been without its challenges, however. AMIC has had trouble meeting full operational costs for the school, and YFT is covering this shortfall in

decreasing amounts. Fundamental to YFT's principles is that the community gain the ability to feed themselves and financially support the

school, being self sufficient in these areas. Once the farm becomes fully operational, both AMIC and YFT will step back from the project and the Yogo farm will fully fund the program. Until then, AMIC continues to seek additional child sponsors to cover these expenses.

One of the challenges facing Yogo CBO and its school is the construction of a new building, which is needed for the

growing student population. A cement slab has been constructed and the new funds will go towards the purchase of metal rods and timber for the upper slab soon to be erected. The CBO held a fundraiser for the building in November and raised approximately \$4700 CDN.

Despite the setbacks, families watched their little ones graduate in November at a joint graduation ceremony for both Seje and Yogo primary schools. "The joy in the parents/guardians faces was touching," notes Silas Odour, former Liason between Yogo and YFT. "Our dream for these villages to be academically empowered through this young generation has not waned in spite of the challenges, for we are convinced that the future of our nation lies in them."



Children are identified by the Yogo CBO as being "the poorest of the poor" in the village and are given scholarships to attend.

Walk for Water to Kickstart the Year cont.

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), between 50 and 100 litres of water per person per day are needed to ensure that most basic needs are met and few health concerns arise. While the average European uses between 200-300 litres per person per day, people in developing nations like Kenya will likely use less than 10 litres per day. This is partly due to the fact that they have to carry it over long distances and water is heavy.

WHO states that the average distance women in Africa and Asia have to walk to collect water is 6km. While making this trek, these same women carry an average of 20kg of water on their heads, a weight equivalent to the average airport luggage allowance.

"It is so easy to take water for granted when we live in such a privileged country," says Amber Dekker, Awareness and Fundraising director for YFT Ministry. "Hopefully we can get a taste for what our brothers and sisters around the world experience when we walk for water in March." The walk will prove to be an enjoyable affair as well with prizes, children's activities, and a barbecue to finish the journey. Those interested in participating can visit youfeedthem.com for more information or contact Amber Dekker at amber.schwabe@yahoo.com.





YFT Organization Changes

In order to meet its vision of feeding one village at a time, YFT is evolving to keep up with its expansion.

The organization has now divided into two parts. The first is the YFT Ministry, which focuses on finding new sponsors and assisting existing partners. The second part is the YFT Projects, which focus on the development of our existing farms in Yogo and Seje.

YouFeedThem Ministry

This activity focuses on our mission:

To eliminate world hunger, one village at a time, by partnering with churches, organizations, and individuals.

The ministry's work is twofold. It seeks to find villages that meet the criteria as potential sites for duplicatable, sustainable agriculture; it also seeks to find churches willing to partner with these villages.

In order to perform this function, we have established a YFT Ministry Structure for 2012/2013.

YouFeedThem Projects

These projects are the partnerships between a village and their sponsoring church or organization.

YOGO PROJECT

This project is the partnership between Trinity Bible Church of Ottawa (TBCO) and Yogo village, in the district of Siaya, Kenya.

SEJE PROJECT

This project is the partnership between Community Bible Church in Stittsville, Ontario, and Ulamba and Ndori villages in Seje area, in Siaya District, Kenya.

Sponsoring Partners

YouFeedThem appreciates the partnerships that have been developed to support the current villages with the YFT projects and goals

[Ambassador Ministries in Covenant \(AMIC\)](#) has partnered with Yogo in support of school expansion, a women's empowerment program, health clinic, orphanage for the abused, and child sponsorship for the school children. [Centre for Church Effectiveness \(CCEC\)](#) has partnered with YFT and has conducted pastoral educational training sessions for the pastors of the Yogo community and surrounding villages.

YFT Ministry

Slate of Officers 2012/2013

Co Chairs - John Dawson, Roland Poirier
Secretary - Cindy Girard
Agriculture Advisor - Roland Poirier
Communication - Theresa Poirier
Midland Representative - Sue Doane
Peterborough Rep - Nancy Desjardin
Stittsville CBC Rep - Ron Killeen
AMIC Rep - Harry Baker
Transition Committee - Christine Dawson
(Chair)
TBCO Elders Rep - TBD
Awareness & Fund Raising - Amber Dekker,
Mike Hayes, Ryan Dekker

Yogo Project Team

2012/2013

Project Leader - Roland Poirier
Treasurer - John Dawson
Secretary - Cindy Girard
Communication - Theresa Poirier
Yogo CBO Chair - Dr Peter Okoth
Liaison TBCO/YCBO - Lynn Fraser
Awareness & Fund Raising - Amber Dekker,
Mike Hayes, Ryan Dekker

Seje Project Team

2012/2013

Project Chairman - Ron Killeen
Project Team leaders:
Water: Stephen Rolston
School, Orphans, Children & Women
Empowerment: Diana Rolston
Church & Community Outreach:
Pastor Steve Stewart
Operational Oversight of project
teams: Stephen Leuty

YFT Ministry Update

There are three possible sites ready for support: Dwele (Kenya); Bumala (Kenya); and Sengerema (Tanzania). YFT is actively searching for churches to take on agricultural projects in these villages. The YFT Ministry will focus on this activity while resolving the following concern of TBCO Elders.

YFT IS ACTIVELY SEARCHING FOR CHURCHES TO TAKE ON AGRICULTURAL PROJECTS IN KENYA AND TANZANIA.

The Elders of TBCO have expressed concern that the expertise does not exist within TBCO to lead a large global relief mission. There is the added concern that the work in Yogo may not be covered under the existing Charity Charter (the revised Charter does allow that activity, but has not yet been approved by Government of Canada).

Accordingly, the YFT Ministry is looking at options to move under the umbrella of another charitable organization that shares our objectives and has the expertise to work outside Canada. One potential candidate is Hungry for Life.

ONE POTENTIAL CANDIDATE IS HUNGRY FOR LIFE.

The Elders have indicated that with congregation approval, TBCO will continue to support work in Yogo once the liabilities associated with sending money off shore are resolved. The objective is to have YFT Ministry under the umbrella of another charity by July 1, 2013.

What is Hungry for Life?



Hungry for Life (HFL) is a broker organization that bridges the gap between churches that want to make a difference and communities in developing countries in need. Its role is to provide all the logistical support, such as writing contracts, meeting all Canada Revenue Agency requirements, accounting and bookkeeping, and creating and overseeing the inter-agency agreements with the sponsoring church and with the community in need. HFL provides the sponsoring church with the expertise needed to run successful mission trips. In this model, the sponsoring church is responsible for raising project dollars and providing tax receipts for those donations.

What is Its Vision?

In developing nations, the physical needs are obvious but developed nations' priority of comfort, security and safety pose another danger, equally as grave. Our material blessing and fixation on self has left us void of the power and presence of God in our lives...Spiritual starvation in developed nations significantly contributes to physical starvation in developing nations.

HFL desires to motivate spiritual transformation in the developed world by leading the Church to call upon the name of the Lord, asking for His power and presence. God responds with revival and renewal among His people, HFL desires to mobilize social transformation in the developing world by leading the Church to demonstrate compassion in impoverished communities worldwide.

The Church has been given the power of God and the resources of the kingdom to affect unprecedented change. Change

that would provide the basics of life required to end needless suffering worldwide. Change that would cause the world to take notice of the Church for what it was intended to be—a force of love and compassion.

HFL's vision is for a world transformed and characterized by:

- a passionate unified church speaking with a voice of credibility, realized by its reputation for love and compassion

- churches and organizations

strategically connected and engaged with communities around the world involved with sustainable community development

- generous living that has resulted in a redistribution of global resources

**We envision a world transformed;
a world that has been renovated
by a global movement
of compassion
and justice
evidenced by the eradication
of needless suffering.**

Taken from: www.hungryforlife.org

A NOTE FROM THE CO-CHAIR

By John Dawson

Co-Chair of YouFeedThem

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The YouFeedThem Ministry is a success story that needs to be shared. The fact that YFT is God's work has many indicators. Crop yields have significantly improved with the principles YFT introduced, and the practices on Yogo Farm are being adopted by local farmers and by Pastor Titus and his village in Tanzania. The borehole was drilled and despite the odds, we found water. Over 150 children in both Yogo and Seje are receiving proper nourishment and schooling, and their level of achievement is rated in the top 10% of Kenyan students nationally tested. The farm is producing sufficient food to help defray the costs for the 130 students in Yogo. A lack of money has never been an issue for the projects; donations arrive as needed.

The support and growth of the people involved with YFT has been continuous, while the Yogo CBO has grown and continues to grow in capability, hope, and faith. Seven pastors have been trained in faith leadership. The village has started programs on their own using funds from the farm and their own fund raising. Stittsville CBC has taken on the support of Seje. Not only has the project continued to grow, but so has the congregation in Stittsville.

Internationally, YFT is gaining credibility. The Yogo Farm was recognized by the UN World Food Day.

There is much more that can be said, but most important is the picture of a member of our Mission Team in 2008 holding a very sick child. Despite our efforts this little boy died of malnutrition. Today, that

child would have survived in Yogo. Today, that child would be getting an education. Today, that child could have a future as a leader in the village or even Kenya.



The YFT Ministry is making a difference and will continue to with our new administrative partner. We thank you all, and we ask for your continued future support.

YFT: WHO WE ARE

YouFeedThem's focus is to advance the kingdom of God by creating self-sustainable, duplicative agricultural systems that provide hunger relief and economic stability. We seek to eliminate world hunger, one village at a time, by partnering with churches, organizations, and individuals. We exist to plant seeds of hope and empower the people towards self-sustenance, encouraging them to see opportunities as entrepreneurs.

We assist the community in creating a Community-Based Organization (CBO) that can plan for its future. By partnering with other not-for-profit organizations, a CBO can plan the development of schools, housing for widows and orphans, medical centers and much more. With the proceeds from the farm, the community can sustain the infrastructure and continue to develop new businesses and continue to grow, caring for itself and helping others.

With these interventions, projects, and hope will come the creation of job opportunities, empowering families to earn an income and provide for their children's education, basic needs, and future as productive members of society.

The YouFeedThem project can be duplicated one community at a time. In a few years, we see the possibility of a whole nation transformed, with not only relief but self-sustainable solutions for years to come.

As an individual or corporate sponsor you can help to make this possible. If you are a not-for-profit organization working in related areas, perhaps you will want to partner with us to provide the initial infrastructure in the community and have the proceeds from the farm help sustain your investment. A hand up, not a hand out!

To Keep in Prayer

1. That churches or groups would come forward to sponsor Dwele, Bumala, and Sengerema villages
2. That the CBO's in Yogo and Seje, as well as leaders of the YFT Projects would continue to seek the Lord's guidance on plans for the communities' futures.
3. For the continued self-sustainable development of Seje and Yogo farms and for the continuing health of the villagers.
4. For a smooth transition of YFT as it enters under the direction of Hungry for Life
5. For the Kenyan government, that it would continue to recognize and bless the efforts of Seje and Yogo villagers.