



Newsletter september 2005

Mto Moyoni is a retreat centre on the banks of the river Nile in Uganda. Ingrid Wilts, a missionary, started this centre in 2003. In Swahili the name Mto Moyoni means: "river through the heart", and this name also expresses the goal of the centre: to offer Christian workers a time of peace and quiet to experience that the Spirit of God wants to flow like a river through their hearts. Ingrid works together with Winette Hubregtse. In Uganda Mto Moyoni is registered as an NGO. In the Netherlands their work is supported by the Friends of Mto Moyoni foundation.

From the board

At the end of a drizzly summer, we have a few lovely days at last! After the holidays, life is picking up it's regular pace again. As a board we kicked off the new season on the 10th of September with a day of prayer for the work of Mto Moyoni. It was held in Sliedrecht, Winette's "home base". While we were enjoying our holidays, a lot of hard work has been done in Uganda. Apart from receiving guests and organising retreats and conferences, construction has been done to create a conference centre. In the future it will be possible to accommodate and cater to groups of up to about thirty people. Winette and Ingrid have certainly deserved a holiday! With the help of two weeks of sun, sea, sand and rest they expect to be fully rested and ready to start a new season. Many personal stories were told and time and again we were amazed at the ways God is working in our lives. Will you join us in this new season's adventure?

Hanneke Fonteijn, chairwoman of Friends of Mto Moyoni

Angela Angela, the woman who escaped from the army of Mr. Koni, the rebel leader of Northern Uganda, after having been a prisoner there for 9 years, has been a guest at Mto Moyoni several times now. These have been times of recovery, healing and dealing with what has happened. An opportunity has come up to stay at Mto Moyoni for a period of several months. She has been sponsored for this. This way she can help with the work at the centre and do some jobs that come in handy, while at the same time she can spend time to receive further healing



Winette writes.....

August 12th

Mto in East Africa...

During the last few months we have been to Kenya twice. Both times we were invited by local pastors, who were touched themselves by the Father heart message, to conduct a retreat for the pastors' fellowship in their area.

In Kisii in May we had 3 new people coming in on the last day, during a soaking session. Afterwards these people came forward and asked how they could become born again. The pastors who were there were astonished! No words, no preaching, just the love and the presence of the Lord had convinced them. It was beautiful to see the faces of the pastors talking to these newborns...

Mohoroni is a small village near Kisumu. We were there in July. When we arrived the big speakers were already hanging outside the doors. Fortunately they didn't work and we were able to convince the technician that the microphones need not be so loud as to blare out our message all over the village. It was another time of pitlatrines, rain water baths and late night dinners but it was worth it. People came in touch with their own heart and the Heart of God and that is life changing.

Next month Rwanda is on the agenda. We will spend a week with nurses from a children's ward in Kigali! You will hear from us...

In the meanwhile I survived 2 malaria attacks and I am ready for a break. By the time you are reading this, I will have had the time to rest and to work on a tan...

Construction

A lot of construction has been done over the summer. On the plot of land Ingrid already owned six houses have been completed, with a total number of nine rooms. Now there is space for 28 people! The kitchen has been finished and the office is being worked on. On the new plot of land we hope to start construction next year. This coming Spring we are planning to make a start with the designing and carrying out of our great building project. With the help of EMI, an engineering project, (see www.emiusa.org) we are hoping to construct a centre in which we could accommodate larger groups, of up to 80 people.

Testimonies

*A Dutch student who was in Uganda for a few months, decided to come for a fatherheart encounter. These are his words:
"If you had told me last month, that I would be here for three days, together with a number of Christians working on myself and with God, I would have totally laughed at you. But after the encounter with God as Father, I have eventually decided to choose Him, though I am very surprised myself that I did so..... But I know that when I continue to seek Him, He will find me and I will receive His rest and love. How it is going to work out in the future....I do not know....I have been working Sundays for years for example, but I know that we (God and me) will sort that out.....!!*

During the soaking prayer the Lord gave me a vision. While the song was saying :*"will you give me your heart, will you worship, will you bow down"*, I saw myself saying "yes" to Father God. And on my knees before his throne, with my bleeding heart on a red cushion, I gave my wounded heart to Him. He received it and said "thank you". Father God then seated me on his lap and gave me back my heart, it was whole, and it was made of GOLD.



*The second day, I asked God to take me even deeper. He gave me a vision of His hands receiving me as my mother was giving birth to me. I could not see His face, but I could feel His delight and His smile. He said: "I conceived you to be Mine. I planned you to be a light. Many times the darkness has tried to put out that light, but I did not allow the darkness to overcome. I protected you, guided you, I kept you, My purpose for your life is still that you should be a light, for I always remain as I was".
It was so good to hear this, to see this, for my parents have never welcomed me into this life. I am no longer holding this against them. I now know that God has always welcomed me and that He is my Father. I experience profound rest and peace and I have a purpose in life.*

Day of Prayer for MTO Moyoni

On September 10th, the day of prayer for the work of Mto Moyoni held in Sliedrecht, about twenty people were present. It is always interesting to witness the close involvement of people with such different backgrounds: family and friends of both Ingrid and Winette, members of the church community in Sliedrecht (Winette) and Soest (Ingrid), members of the AIM prayer group (African Inland Mission), who meet in Houten with great regularity to pray for their missionaries. Together we wanted to commit this work to God. After reading Math. 9:35-38 we started out by getting to know each other a little and explaining our involvement with Mto Moyoni. Very soon stories were told and with that, points of prayer emerged. We see God at work through the work of Mto Moyoni, but we also see reasons for concern: The busy life with the many guest that are given intensive counselling, meanwhile the construction of the buildings that needs constant attention as well. We prayed for labourers in the field, we prayed for the programme of the coming season, for the health of Ingrid and Winette, for their relations with the government, local authorities, their neighbours, for protection of their work, for their finances. But we were also able to give thanks for what is happening at the moment, for special encounters, and above all for God's healing power in/through this work.



Ingrid writes.....

Dear Friends,

When living in a country as long as I have..... It's been seventeen years now, you sort of become a part of it and eventually you honestly cannot think what to write anymore. This letter will once again be a compilation of experiences that people have had with God during the courses we have here. It is always just awesome to see how God touches lives and changes people in such a short amount of time.

We get more and more requests for our courses and that is why I am soooo thankful that the construction work is almost over now. We are working on the office and the kitchen is getting it's final touch this moment. In November everything should be ready.....I can hardly wait!! It is just very annoying to be praying with someone who is dealing with his anger towards God, and then the painter suddenly shows up and tells me he needs paint....

I have completely had it with construction for now. What is interesting however, is that in the past two months two of our visitors offered to do some odd jobs about the place for a couple of days. What takes me two days (drilling three holes), took him two minutes. Everyone is given his own talents, I suppose. As for me, I think it is time I focus on my own qualities, in stead of trying to be good at everything. Apparently God approves of this decision, for I saw that the arrival of another handyman is on the agenda.

Beatrice, 24 years old, has been working with Mto Moyoni for one and a half years. In October she will pursue her studies to become a nurse.

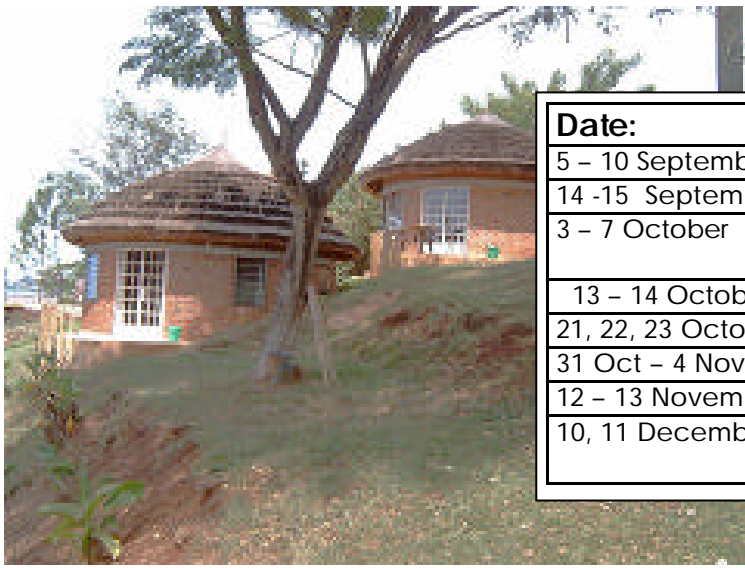
I am so thankful that God brought me to Mto Moyoni. It is a place where I received answers to most of my questions and a place that has brought healing to my wounded heart.

The programmes at Mto Moyoni have helped me see that I can trust God more than ever and I am truly starting to believe in my hear that nothing is impossible with God.

Mto Moyoni is a place where God lives, and where He is revealing Himself as a Father. My own father died long ago, but in Mto Moyoni I have found God as my perfect Father.

My work with Mto Moyoni has not come about by chance, it was God's answer for my heart.

As an orphan I had no chances in life and that's why I came to Mto Moyoni to clean the houses for the guests. But God is a God of miracles, I can now fulfill my dream. In October this uear I am going to study nursing. I will be the first person in my family to study and I give God the glory!! (and she will be sorely missed! Ingrid)



Date:	Program:
5 – 10 September	Youth healing week
14 -15 September	Stress management
3 – 7 October	Transformation of the heart week
13 – 14 October	Communion with God
21, 22, 23 October	Father-heart encounter
31 Oct – 4 November	Healing of heart week
12 – 13 November	Communion with God
10, 11 December	Follow-up weekend Transformation of the heart.

!!WANTED: SPONSORS!!

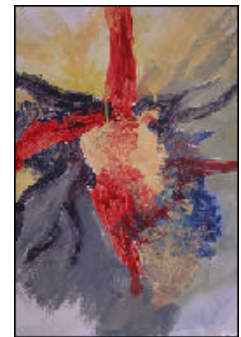
While we Westerners can usually afford counseling, African Christian leaders often do not have the funds. Especially when they have to travel far. This is true even though the prices at Mto Moyoni are kept very low. For 100 € (120 US\$) one can stay in a banda for a week, receive prayer, healing and counseling and experience His presence and peace. That is why Ingrid and Winette have come up with the following:
It is now possible to sponsor an African leader for a retreat at Mto Moyoni!

With your money you enable a Ugandan Church leader to come for a retreat of one week.

But there is more to it than meets the eye. Usually the entire church where this pastor works benefits from the impact of the retreat and this one week will influence a whole church! If you like to contribute, you can mail or write to the address of Mto Moyoni, mentioned in the Colophon of this newsletter.

As soon as the name of the person you sponsor is known, we will give you his/her name and the dates of the retreat, so you can be involved in prayer. When you send money to our bank account, please write "sponsoring retreat African Christian leader" in the comment box.

Feastly opening of Mto Moyoni In January 2006



Colofon Newsletter Friends of Mto Moyoni

Website:
www.mto-moyoni.org

Ons adres in Nederland is:
 Friends of Mto Moyoni, P/a De Mui 30, 3823 TT Amersfoort (033) 4566635

Financieel:
 If you want to support the foundation financially, you can make your donation on bank number 3075.07.262 of Giro rekeningnr. 6217937 t.n.v. Stichting Friends of Mto Moyoni te Diever. banknummer 3075.07.262 St. Friends of Mto Moyoni, p/a Broekemastraat 21 7981 DE Diever. Donations are tax-deductible.

Our Boardmembers:
 Hanneke Fontejn, Chairman,
 Arie van Loopik, Treasurer
 Arja Geurtsen, Secretary,
 Tineke de Smalen, board member.

Requests Newsletter (which we prefer to send by e-mail):
 Arja Geurtsen mto-moyoni@wxs.nl