

# **RWAMAGANA EVANGELICAL CHURCHES FORUM (RECF)**

**Narrative report on Rwamagana festival by Eternity Minded Ministries (EMM) in  
partnership with Rwamagana Evangelical churches forum (RECF)**

**05-07.12.2008**

## **Introduction**

With the aim of promoting healing and reconciliation and bringing revival in Rwamagana district, the Eternity Minded Ministries in partnership with Rwamagana evangelical churches forum held a very successful festival in which more than 10.000 people from different sectors of Rwamagana district namely; Kigabiro, Muhazi, Mwulire, Gishali, Munyiginya, Musha, Gahengeri attended the festival and received transformation in a number of ways.

More than 50 pastors attended the festival and high government administrators also were present notably the District Mayor, executive Secretaries of administrative sectors, business people etc.

The festival came on the right time and brought a great impact on both spiritual and physical aspects, the community members from Rwamagana district realized God's love through his servants from USA, they were very much touched with anointed teachings provided to Pastors/Ministers, open air preaching, visitation to different churches, visits to community members cooperatives, visiting to sick people at the hospital including admitted prisoners, visiting to street children, and distribution of various materials including ; eye glasses, footballs and accessories, food stuffs, sugar, rice, soaps etc.

The festival is noted as memorable in Rwamagana. As results of it , 300 people received Jesus Christ as their savior, 3500 people can now easily read their Bibles after getting new eye glasses, 100 children including former street kids are enjoying the soccer games from the distributed footballs, approximately 200 patients regained hope through prayers, love and materials received during the hospital visitation, 65 widows basket weavers were given new promises from God and regained courage because of EMM team visit and prayers. 2009 year Health insurance was paid to 2000 vulnerable people including widows and orphans from which they hope to increase their economical production as result of access to medical care.

Though testimonies about the success of this festival are many, few success stories and testimonies were recorded and expressed in the subsequent paragraphs.

### **Success stories from trained Pastors:**

*1. My name is Ntagwabira Alphonse a pastor of Murehe Anglican parish. The Pastors seminar was meaningful to me, as I learnt a lot on knowing my hope in Jesus Christ. The training upgraded my level of hope as a leader I am going to also teach my church members on our hope in Jesus Christ as a number of Rwandan people lost their hope as consequence of what happened in 1994 therefore and*

*they needed to be taught about this subject. In addition I had a very big problem of eyes, this problem even affected my ministry as I had difficulties in reading the Bible and get messages to give to the congregation in my ministry, this problem is now over as the eye glasses I got from EMM team now helps me to read the Bible and be able to feed God's sheep in addition, 8 members from my church who attended the open air crusade testify how great is our God in uniting both American and Rwandese joining their hands in restoring hope in Rwanda, praising and worshiping God through word and deeds. I am thankful to God and Eternity Minded Ministries for the wonderful and memorable time during the festival. God bless the work of EMM and their future endeavors.*

*2. Some thing I can comment on the seminars for pastors and the festival carried out in Rwamagana, It helped me tremendously as it transformed me into the image of Jesus Christ as result of sermon received from EMM team. I had a very serious eyes problem but now I can see and serve the Lord with Joy. I wish EMM to expand their work in many other places in Rwanda. God bless your Ministry says Pastor Migiraneza Emmanuel from Pentecostal Church NZIGE.*

*3. For me I profited a lot from seminars and festival, It helped me to understand the meaning of Unity because at times the Devil creates divisionism and hatred among denominations members, this is no longer the case among Christians in Rwamagana, through this festival we have realized that we are one in Christ. I am going back home very happy with new strategies to develop my church and I am happy about the gift of eye glasses, may God bless EMM richly (Pastor Kamuzinzi Elisa from Pentecostal Church of Rutoma).*

*4. An old lady in the name of Marceline is 75 years old, she was unable to read and write for many years because she was had eye problem, but on last Sunday December 7<sup>th</sup> 08 she gave a testimony during church services she gave thanks to God for using EMM team from whom she got a gift of eye glasses she was able to read a scripture in the Bible accompanying her thanks giving. She thanked God for bringing Janet and John to service with them in their Church. She wishes EMM to come back as they have been a Blessing to Rwamagana people. (Testimony recorded by Pastor Emmanuel Murangira Cyiri Pentecostal church).*

*5. EMM has been a blessing to us and the African Evangelistic Enterprise (AEE-Rwanda) in Rwamagana as result of their visit to former street children presently the School of champions that is accommodating 250 former street children. Apart from footballs distributed to the children, they also prayed for the children and our ministry consequently children are playing football happily and some children decided to receive Jesus Christ as their savior and believe that God is going to change their status as result of the God's servants visit and prayers from EMM team. Your endeavors are not in vain, may God bless your ministry. (Pastor Rukema Ezekiel AEE/Rwamagana branch Coordinator).*

*6. As for Donat Ngiruwonsanga one of the Rwamagana hospital patients who received food stuffs and psychosocial support from EMM team judge the work of EMM to be incomparable.*

<<I am suffering from TB and was admitted for six weeks, I am very appreciative for the support I got from EMM team as I realized God's love through his people. I was given Sugar, rice and soap by the team which helped me to improve my nutrition and hygiene in these days. Since the team members prayed for me my health improved and I have a hope of returning home soon. May God bless EMM Donat said>>.

7. A testimony from women members of a basket weaving cooperative supported by ARDR, after receiving the word of Gtotionod for 30 minutes with Pastor Linda. A week after the women association confirmed that their lives have spiritual changed to God. They remember your team who visited baskets women cooperatives to remain praying for them. We appreciate your assistance for medical insurance. Women from Musha said. My God bless you all.

**Conclusion**

The Festival was ended by a dinner that gathered the Mayor of Rwamagana district, executive secretaries of Muahzi and Kigabiro, Pastors and their spouses.

In Mayors speech, He thanked EMM team lead by Pastor Dan Owens for their great contribution District in providing eye glasses, paying health insurance for widows, orphans and vulnerable people, food stuff to sick people etc. He very much thanked the team for good of reconciliation and hope to Rwamagana community; he added that even after 14 years of the genocide Rwandans are still suffering from trauma, hatred, inner wound that need to be healed, therefore he thanked EMM team for their commitment and support. He finally requested EMM to expand their partnership with churches and insured his support.

Not only the Mayor, 45 Church leaders expressed their gratitude to EMM that organized and funded the festival, said that the role of EMM went beyond preaching and training pastors but also rebuilt good reputation , restored trust among church leaders and gave a new picture to the church in Rwamagana district. They wish that EMM continues the good work and promised their collaboration.

Pastor Dan Sengorore

RECF Chair man

Date: 20.12.2008