UCUK Newsletter

Autumn 2026

In recent months we have all been affected by rising fuel and food prices which has created significant hardships and worry for so many. The impact of this has been global and UWCM, like so many other charities, have struggled to maintain their usual level of activity. This is partly because many of the communities they work within are in remote and steep locations involving fuel sapping journeys. So please pray that prices will ease and UWCM will be able to continue, and even expand, their life-changing work.

The unpredictable rainfall and rising temperatures this year have once again resulted in a poor harvest of many staple crops and this will result in hunger and increased poverty in the coming months. These days, UWCM routinely carries small 'food parcels' to those most in need and this necessity is likely to increase.

However, there is plenty of good news to thank God for! The continued success of the micro-finance groups, the dramatic reduction of typhoid cases in families using water filters and the joy of those who have been blessed with new shelters is truly uplifting!

Read on to find out more and visit UCUK's website and blog for additional photos and updates.



For to us a child is born, to us a son is given ….. And he will be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Isaiah 9:6

UCUK would like to wish all our supporters a joyful Christmas and a peaceful, hope-filled New Year!

Women's Groups

For many years now UWCM has helped set up a growing number of Women's Groups in far-reaching communities across the foothills of Mount Elgon and there are now about 80 groups with 25-30 members each. The women are taught how to run effective micro-finance saving schemes which have had a significant impact in reducing poverty. We hear many testimonies about the improvements they have achieved in their everyday lives and how they can now afford to send their children to school. The creation of these groups has been an amazing achievement for such a small organisation! The groups need to be monitored from time to time to ensure that the finance procedures are being adhered to but there are now too many groups for UWCM to make individual monitoring visits and so geographical 'clusters' have been formed whereby staff can meet with a number of group leaders in one location.



The amount the groups manage to save in a year is remarkable. The profit accrued from loaning the money is shared out between members once a year. Members of this group have used their money to buy rainwater harvesting tanks so they spend less time walking to collect water (in the rainy seasons). Simple guttering is fixed to their homes and the water drains into the tanks.

Water filters continue to change lives! Since May 2025, 412 filters have been distributed to members of different Women's Groups as well as to a few churches, bringing clean, safe water to over 3,300 people! UWCM work very hard to distribute, train and follow up with recipients of the filters and we, and UWCM, are truly thankful to Water Matters Sweden for partnering with us and providing the filters. Members report that since having the filters, their health has improved and they save money which used to be spent on treatment for illnesses such as Typhoid. One woman had been boiling water for years and was reluctant to drink the filtered water as she had had suffered very badly from Typhoid, but was finally persuaded that it was safe to drink and she then thanked UWCM as she would no longer need to collect firewood and boil water.



Prayer & Porridge Projects

The projects at Lwangoli and Sakiya continue to offer a large number of vulnerable children a haven on a Saturday where they play, sing, listen to bible stories and most importantly, enjoy a cup of porridge plus even an egg or a banana sometimes! Numbers vary but up to 160 may attend at Lwangoli and 140 at Sakiya. This is a challenge because the porridge may run out and some children leave hungry.



You can earn money for UCUK simply by shopping online via www.easyfundraising.org.uk and choosing Uganda Concern UK as your charity. Each time you purchase goods from over 2,000 companies including booking.com, Argos, John Lewis a small percentage of the cost will be donated to UCUK. It's free to sign up and if you shop online, it's an easy way to raise funds for us!

Shelter Building

Extract from UWCM's recent activity report: *Agnes, aged 78, is a widow with 3 adult children, whom she depends on for some support and care. Unfortunately, they are equally vulnerable, and unable to support her fully. She lives in a small house which is in a poor state with 3 small grandchildren who sleep on rags under her bed. Challenge upon challenge, the room leaks because of the old and rusted iron sheets, the walls have been infested with termites, eating up the poles and the house generally is in a collapsing state and this leaves her life in a threatening state especially when heavy rains come.*



Through her local church, UWCM was contacted and later visited the home for an assessment and upon this, we saw it necessary to contribute towards shelter improvement for her. So, we worked hand in hand with the church members and community and we are happy to report that, the shelter is finished though the doors and windows are not fixed yet . Agnes was miserable, but when the construction took place, her life changed compared to the past and right now, she happy because of what God has done for her. She appreciated the support and the love that we have shown to her, despite of her age because she had no hope as it is echoed above, she said long live UWCM for what we have done!


New shelter on the right

We therefore extend our sincere appreciation towards our dear donors for what they do through UWCM; surely this is a true gospel that is preached to such people ***'A gospel of action'. May the good Lord bless every one who supports the work of UWCM here in Uganda****!*

Update on the internally displaced peoples' camp: Since our last newsletter, five of the large tents at Bunambutye camp were blown down this summer by strong winds during a storm. Although the Red Cross hastened to repair the tents, two weeks later the government resettled the people some distance away from where UWCM work. However, UWCM staff have managed to make one visit to check on some of the families, who were very happy to see them.

Staff changes at UWCM

During the summer a couple of significant staff changes took place at UWCM. Esther Muriithi retired from her leadership role at the end of July and we are grateful for her years of dedicated service with the organisation. We pray that she will enjoy a long, healthy and fruitful retirement. We warmly welcome Catherine Ajambo as UWCM's new project leader plus Rebecca Wambedde as the new accountant. Three UCUK trustees (Terry, Steve & Bridget) are planning to visit in early January and are looking forward to meeting the new members of staff as well as catching up with the 'old' ones! Please pray that the team will adjust quickly to these changes and continue to work effectively.

As always, we would like to express our sincere thanks to everyone who supports UCUK both prayerfully and financially. We truly appreciate your generosity and every donation is gratefully received and passed on to UWCM without any deduction.

All photographs in this newsletter have been taken by UWCM staff or UCUK Trustees

We often report on UWCM 's work with families and children but they have a real heart for the elderly too. Imagine having no pension, no free health service or social services! If older people in Uganda don't have a supportive family, life is very tough and UWCM give food parcels to those in greatest need , usually comprised of maize flour, sugar, soap, salt, tea leaves and a box of matches.

Young peoples conferences

For many years UCUK have funded 3-day conferences for older teenagers in December & January. As well as bible teaching, the young people are made aware of issues rarely discussed in schools or churches such as modern slavery, gender based violence, drug and alcohol abuse etc. In previous years supporters have kindly donated money for bibles but thanks to a very generous donation from the **Stone Publishing Trust**, UWCM have already received 200 Good News bibles. However, it costs UCUK £15 for each young person to attend the conference and this year we plan to send funds for 100. We would value any contribution towards this cost.





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If you would like any further information or would like your details to be removed from our mailing list, please contact one of the Trustees.

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