



**AS CHURCH COMMUNITY, DEVIS AND ELICA HAVE SHOWN US:**

-if we rely on God, He can help us through each day and our lives

-although we have different cultures, our Lutheran beliefs and values are the same

-we all want and need common things for a fulfilling life: a place to call home, water and food, love, and a purpose

-how exciting God is and we should be thankful that He is always there for us

**AS INDIVIDUALS, DEVIS AND ELICA HAVE SHOWN US:**

-we waste a lot of food and that we should conserve what we have

-we take what we have for granted and we should be thankful that we are living in this productive country

-we should respect our fellow man no matter what race, culture, gender, or nationality

-it's possible to look optimistically at any situation, no matter how desperate

-we don't have to speak the same language in order to relate to and love one another

JOY LUTHERAN CHURCH YOUTH GROUP  
9940 S. YALE AVE  
TULSA, OKLAHOMA 74137

**DEVIS AND ELICA RWANDAN EDUCATION FUND**



If you would like to donate to the

Devis and Elica  
Rwandan Education Fund,

please fill out form, and include a  
check made out to:

Joy Lutheran Church

In the memo section,  
note the Rwandan Education Fund

Mail to : Joy Lutheran Church  
9940 S Yale Ave  
Tulsa, OK 74137

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Amount of Donation: \_\_\_\_\_

Check #: \_\_\_\_\_

**Thanks for your help and caring!  
The Joy Lutheran Youth Group**

For more information, contact a member  
of the Joy Youth Group, Joan Olsen at  
299-6480, Bonnie McMains at 496-1441  
or Pastor Nathan at 299-3292.





Devis, Elica and Bageni lived within our congregation for three weeks, then traveled with us to the National Lutheran Youth Gathering in San Antonio entitled "Cruzando: Journey With Christ". It was indeed a journey for all of us. We didn't let a little thing like a language barrier get in our way. They became our neighbors and our friends!

"What is it to serve God and do his will? Nothing else than to show mercy to our neighbor. For it is our neighbor who needs our service; God in heaven needs it not."  
-Martin Luther

Before: Elica attended a low-end all girl private boarding school and Devis attended a low funded public school with as many as 80 students per teacher. Classes are all taught in Kinyarwandan and Swahili, with little individual guidance.




"So teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" He said to him, " 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and first commandment and a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as you love yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets." Matthew 22: 36-40 NRSV

The mission of the Joy Youth Group Education Fund is to support others less fortunate than ourselves in obtaining a good education so that they can better themselves, their communities, their country, their church, and the global society. As stated by Matthew, we are not only called to love the Lord above all, we are also called to love our neighbors. We see this as a command to care for and help others make the most of their lives and situations. We believe education is a vital necessity in the quest to live a full productive life.

## WHO IS OUR NEIGHBOR?



Now: They both attend a private boarding school which provides classes taught in English and Kinyarwandan with extensive English tutoring. Classes are much smaller in size with focus on each individual student. A dress codes ensure that everyone is equal no matter their background. Devis and Elica have some catching up to do and we're confident they can do it!



**Size:** 26,340 sq. km (size of Rhode Island)  
**Population:** 8 million  
**Languages:** Kinyarwandan, Swahili, French  
**Primary Education completed:** 39.1%  
**Income Per capita:** \$220/year  
**Religions:** 56% Catholic, 26% Protestant, 11% Adventist, 5% Muslim

Rwanda is a small land-locked country known as the "Land of a Thousand Hills" because of its many hills and beautiful countryside. Rwanda suffered 100 days of genocide in 1994 during which time 800,000 people were killed. Rwanda has worked hard to recover from this tragedy. They have a democratic government. Rwanda is home to the largest population of endangered mountain gorillas.

"From God we hear the word: If you want my goodness to stay with you then serve your neighbor, for that is where God comes to you."  
-Dietrich Bonhoeffer



"Jambo" means "Hello!"