

Watoto



Biography

Pastor Gary & Marilyn Skinner

Gary Skinner is the visionary and passionate Team Leader of Watoto Church, which he founded with his wife, Marilyn in 1984.

In a time of civil war, they planted this local church in Kampala, Uganda to speak hope and life to the nation.

Today Watoto Church is a cell-based, community church with more than 27,000 people gathering in-person at 15 campuses in Uganda and South Sudan. The church also reaches more than 1 million viewers during their weekly online and on-air services in Uganda.

Gary passionately believes that it is the responsibility of the local church to solve community problems. Watoto Church cares for community holistically through over 2,000 small groups (cells) that meet weekly.

In 1994, Gary & Marilyn Skinner founded Watoto Child Care Ministries in response to the cry of millions of children who had been orphaned or left vulnerable as a result of war, poverty and disease.

Since starting, they have placed thousands of orphans in families, empowered thousands of vulnerable women to reach their own families and communities, rescued babies and former child soldiers, kept over 10,900 girls in school, and sent more than 100 children's choirs across six continents.

As Watoto continues to work alongside the most vulnerable in their nation, they aim to rescue individuals, raise each one as a leader in his or her sphere of influence so that, in turn, they will rebuild the nation.

Almost 4 decades, the challenges facing Uganda and Africa have changed, but their vision remains the same. In all of this, Watoto remains a local church, committed to celebrating Christ and caring for community.

Gary and Marilyn are the proud parents of three children and grandparents to seven.

CELEBRATING CHRIST · CARING FOR COMMUNITY



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