

Dear praying friends,

December 2023

“...but the **gift of God** is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.” – Romans 6:23b. As we approach Christmas, this verse reminds me of the true “reason for the season.” Though we rarely forget to recognize the birth of the Messiah, exchange gifts with our loved ones, or travel to visit family members afar, may we never lose sight of the “gift of God.” Celebrating Christ’s birth is always a wonderful time filled with fond memories from one’s childhood, but the gift is more than the baby in the manger, the shepherds in the fields, the wise men traveling from the East, or Joseph and Mary. The gift of God is the salvation that Christ provided for the world through His death, burial, and resurrection. May we continue to share the Gospel and evangelize the world through this message of Christmas!

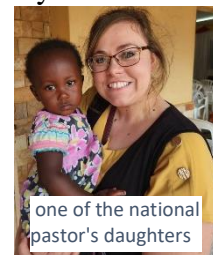
The leadership conference in Kampala last month was incredible! Over thirty national pastors from every part of Uganda were in attendance as well as Bible college students and church members. God worked in amazing ways during the Philosophy of Music classes. We already have one pastor who has started translating songs from our English hymnbook into his native language. Our prayer is that God would use this spark to light a musical fire of revival through the country. With over fifty known languages in Uganda, finding songs in local languages that have not been tainted by the false teachings of other religions is rare. Because Ugandans are naturally talented in music, it is vitally important that saved Ugandans have godly music written in their native tongue. Please pray with us that God would raise up a generation of Ugandans who have a passion for writing Christian songs with Biblically correct doctrine and godly music.



We have some unique opportunities this month to share the joys of the season. Gifts here in the village rarely consist of the usual clothing or toys. Instead, it is customary to give everyday items such as rice, salt, sugar, or soap. For that reason, we will be making gift baskets for many of our neighbors that include these items as well Gospel tracts. We are praying that these gifts will



be well accepted and that they will open doors to share more about Christ in the future. On the 20th of December, Abbey’s Wednesday night kids club will be celebrating Christmas with a special party. During this time, Abbey will be presenting each child who has faithfully



attended the class with his own copy of the Bible. For most of the children, it will be their first personal copy of God’s Word! We will finish our season of giving with a project that began several months ago. God has burdened our hearts for the national pastors we have had the privilege to meet and get to know over the past year, and it is our desire to give them and their families a very special Christmas. With the help of
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supporting churches and publications in the States, we were able to purchase several books that will be beneficial to their personal lives and ministries. We were also able to buy a nice Bible for all the pastor's wives, toys and clothes for the children, and a tie for the pastors. As is the custom here, we will also include local items in their gift baskets. We are grateful for the many occasions that God is giving us this December to share His gift of love to those here in Uganda.

The following are some specific requests for the month of December:

- 1. Christmas gifting opportunities.** Please pray with us that God would use the gifts we are giving this season to be a blessing and encouragement to the receivers. Please also pray for those receiving tract to be open to the Gospel.
- 2. Family traveling.** Caleb's sister, Emma, will be traveling to Uganda to be with us for the Christmas holiday. Emma is a sophomore at Crown College in Powell, TN. This will be her first mission's trip.
- 3. Rwenzori Baptist College.** God has given us twenty students for the final class of the year, Song Leading. It has been such a joy to see the excitement from the students in learning to lead music.
- 4. My father's health.** Please continue to pray for my father as he battles the many health issues he is currently facing. He has almost completed twenty radiation treatments, but the numbness and pain he is still experiencing in his feet and legs is quiet concerning.
- 5. More People to Surrender to Worldwide Missions.** While the need for more laborers in North America is still very great, we also need more laborers to surrender to be used of God around the world.

Your faithful servants in Christ,
Caleb, Abbey, and Carson Turner

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