

NEWS LETTER

Visitors | Christmas | 2019

Visitors

2017 and 2018 has been two years of enjoying visitors to my Uganda family.

Prior to 2017 we have also enjoyed having visitors who were sort of revisiting the mission field; mainly my former colleagues at Iris South Sudan.

These two years have been different; starting in July last year. My first born granddaughter Hannah visited us with her boyfriend Jack. They joined us for a village mission and enabled us to take some of my sons to see the



wildlife and beauty of Uganda.

In November we had an IRIS Mozambique Harvest School team join us for a few days. They were visiting our base in Lowero, but Carolyn happily shared them with us. Thank you Carolyn

Entertaining angels

Our visitors come for many different reasons. **In August**, this year my son John, his wife Caroline Rose, daughters Melissa, Imogen came to visit dad (grandad) and for a holiday. Maybe angels to my sons here who get to experience Murchison Falls or Sipi Falls.



Pastors visiting us that are in great need of refreshing and often direction in their lives. People with a big heart for God, but who have lost focus on HIM through work, work, work. Often moved from relying upon HIM to relying upon ones own strength. It happens so subtly that we don't notice until our body somehow says enough is enough. I often don't take photos, so this one is from 2015; representative of others since then. She and I still don't really understand how Esther came to our door. Angels guiding, maybe?



Uganda

I am so blessed to be missionary based for a season in Uganda, a beautiful part of East Africa, known as the Pearl of Africa. I think it was Winston Churchill that first named it the Pearl of Africa.

Moving around remote bush villages I get a could general view of the people , their lives and the countryside.

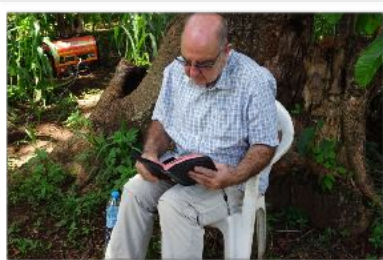
More importantly I get to share village life and village family life. Wherever God leads us, I



go; not as one who knows everything, but as a brother to the Christian Believers in the place. But also bringing the hope of the Gospel to the non-Believer.

Mentoring

My understanding of being a (missionary) pastor is that one has to work oneself out of a job in a particular time or place. (Alex is teaching!)



End of May we had Rolland and his team of pastors/leaders from Mozambique, Heidi joined us for one night. Ive covered this visit recently, so today let me just say this was a great refreshing time for me and the boys



November my three eldest grandchildren,

Hannah, Ruth & Beth visited us with Hannah's fiancée, Jack and his dad. Two more of my sons here enjoyed visit to Sipi Falls and possibly a once in a lifetime experience abseiling down the rock face adjacent to the 100 metre high fall.

They brought with them a whole load of clothes, both new and almost new; some donated by the Well Church; others given by friends and family. Photos of these later as we give them out during our village missions.

This weekend we will have Helga and Joy (IRIS Uganda missionaries) staying with us; they are running a 10k by lake Victoria at 7am Sunday. We will bless them with an oven baled lasagne, coleslaw, salad and fresh fruit salad.

On **Monday** Jennie Joy arrives from USA for 10-days. Jennie was the first missionary with the founder of IRIS South Sudan. On Thursday together we will attend Malik's graduation. Jennie has supported Malik through senior school and university. Yesterday Malik received his graduation gown and he sent me a text message: 'Thank you for everything dad. It's only sinking in slowly after trying on this gown. Can't quite believe it yet. I have little tears.'



Malik had a phone interview yesterday with Medicine Sans Frontiers working in South Sudan. This would be a great organisation for him to work with if they come through with a firm job offer. They seemed impressed with his work experience that he has taken every holiday opportunity to volunteer with some of the best laboratories Uganda.

Latest News

Friday 7th to Monday 10th December my Oasis Church Village Mission Team visited Kadungu village in Namasagali sub-county, Kumuli District, where our regional coordinator James Kazungu had planted a Church nearly three years ago.

Together with his Leaders and congregation they had decided and requested early in 2018 that they become part of the OasisChurch family. We were along time in coming into agreement with the request, but this weekend was the time for me to lead them in a covenant relationship bringing the fellowship into being 'Oasis Church Kadungu Campus' Now they operate as a properly constituted Ugandan Church. Secondly we inducted James as pastor of the campus and recognised his senior leaders; Rogers Kisige, Silus Wabwire and Henry Odongo. I led the James and his flock through Confessing faith and promising faithfulness: the Covenant of Church and Minister.

About ten pastors from Kadungu and surrounding villages attended and took part in the service. A great time of being one together in Jesus the Christ.

We left them with a sign for the outside of their yet unfinished building and five of our core values banners; and Partners in Harvest **FIRE** values banners; along with our Statement of Faith posters in English and Luganda. I haven't yet downloaded photos of the Friday seminars, crusade and Saturday crusade or the Sunday covenanting together from Alex's camera, but I was able to take some photos of the banquet following the covenanting together service.





On the Saturday afternoon we baptised 21 Believers; some from our Oasis Church others from Church's who are part of the Namasagali Pastors Fellowship. They wanted me in the water, but I insisted that this was their time, which allowed me to take some photographs.



Just before we arrived at the river Nile, Namasagali landing stage another party had reached before us and they baptised 51 Believers. They had visitors from Texas with them.



