August 2018

Dear Friends and Supporters,

What a summer it has been! Since moving, we have been very busy and it seems that we have been going nonstop. We were very blessed to have my (David's) parents with us for the month of July. The children enjoyed spending time with their grandparents, and it was a blessing to show them a little bit of the life and ministry that we do here in Uganda and Rwanda. The temperature has gone up the last several months, but it has definitely not been hot. My parents enjoyed the welcome change from the Florida heat.

Thank you for those who were praying for our paperwork. I was able to get my new passport although it came over two weeks after my paperwork was expired. When I went to finish the process, everything went smoothly, and I was able to get my paperwork for the next three years without any extra fees. I even got an official Ugandan ID with my picture on it for identification. It is amazing how far technology has come even here. After that, I had to submit paperwork for my family and take them all to Kampala. It was a long trip and a lot of work, but we are now all current on our paperwork and there were no extra fees for them either. God is good.

Last week I went to Kasese for a Bible institute centering around the topic of the Pastor and Pastoring. It was a blessing to be back there again and to spend some time with those we worked with for the last several years. Over 20 students were in attendance as well as some national pastors. We pray that the students will take what they have learned and apply it over the coming year.

The primary reason for my attending the teaching in Kasese was to make plans to do more teaching there over the coming year. The Stensaas family will be going on furlough shortly, and Brother Matt asked me to oversee the ministry and do weeklong teaching institutes while he is gone. I will plan to make three trips over the next year with the first being in December to teach and assist those who will take over the ministry while he is gone. I know those guys and am confident that they will do a great job. I have found that the most productive work I do here in Uganda is to come alongside national leaders and help them to develop the tools they need to do ministry better.

The next month looks to be very busy as well. I have another wedding to perform at the end of the month for a guy that I have known for a long time in Ruti. This will make four weddings that I have performed of people in that church. The church there is doing well and we are thankful for the starting of new Christian families. We also have a week-long teaching institute for Rwanda coming at the beginning of September. We have mostly prepared our house for this, and we will have a missionary colleague from America with us to help in the teaching. Later in September, I will be running a teen conference in Bwera with 50 teens. That will be a very new experience, and I look forward to being involved in the lives of young people

Many things are progressing in Rwanda and God seems to be opening some amazing doors for the ministry there. I don't want to share anything prematurely, but some developments should happen in the next month or so and I hope to give a detailed update in our next letter.

Thanks so much for your prayers and support. Please pray for David as he travels. It is such an encouragement to know that many pray for us daily. God is good.

In Christ, David, Talia, Hope, Joy, Josiah, and Abigail Ruley