

And he sent them to preach the kingdom of God, and to heal the sick

Luke 9:2

DEAR PRAYING FRIENDS,

MARCH 2024

Thank you all very much for your faithful prayers and support as we continue in the service of our Lord Jesus Christ in Soroti, Uganda.

BACK IN UGANDA: On January 1st we arrived back in Uganda after a 5-month furlough. It was a great occasion for us as we spent time with family and friends, and welcomed our first grandchild, Elliana, into our lives! But we are more than ready to get back to the work of the ministry to the people of Uganda.

LEADERSHIP: My colleague, Matt Gardner, did a great job leading the church and SOAP while we were away. I received not one 'distress call' while absent, and all appears quite well preserved as we stepped back into the ministry here in Soroti. We thank the Lord for His guidance and protection!

INTERNSHIP: Our former SOAP graduate, Ebiru Joseph, graduated from Bible College at the end of last year. He has Bible knowledge, but now needing experience, he is going through an internship here with us for at least the next year. He is preaching, teaching and soul winning at four village churches, and serving in many other ministries to give him this necessary experience.

AWOJA CHURCH PLANT: The small group of believers in Awoja, just south of Soroti, are still meeting on Sundays. Either I, Matt, or Ebiru, travel the 25 minutes to minister in preaching and teaching. They are taking the initiative to make bricks to build a more permanent building to replace the mud and thatched-roof structure they are currently meeting in! Our prayer is that the Lord would call our intern, Ebiru Joseph, to take over as the pastor there, to grow the body of believers into a strong, soul winning church!

SOAP MINISTRY: The 2024 school year began Feb 5th. We added two new orphans, Ajaro Martha and Chegem David, and expect a third child later this month, which will give us 44 students. We have retained the full crew of teachers without losing one, which is the not norm for most schools here. This is a great blessing, not struggling to hire multiple teachers at the last minute before school begins.

SOAP VOCATIONAL STUDENTS: Our three vocational students began a six-week internship at shops in town. These include carpentry, auto mechanics, and tailoring to gain real world skills including customer service, dealing with employers and how a business runs. Afterwards, they shall return to school at SOAP to continue on in advanced training.

BIBLE CLUB: We have resumed our Bible Club in village Primary schools where we teach the Biblical accounts of Creation, the ministry of Jesus and salvation. Last week after the invitation was given a 9-year-old girl, Joshanna, immediately approached my translator desiring to be saved, and made a profession of faith under a massive mango tree in the school yard! Her mother is a teacher at the school, pictured below. We thank the Lord for the faith of children, as our Lord Jesus said *"...for of such is the kingdom of God."*
Mark 10:14

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- **Awoja Church Plant:** for spiritual growth, and for Ebiru's call to pastor the people.
- **Bible Clubs:** to locate additional schools to share the Gospel with hundreds of children.
- **Bro Matthew and family:** to stay healthy and thrive in the ministry here in Soroti.
- **Protection:** Some local government officials have been clandestinely seeking ways to take our 18 acres of land away from SOAP. So far, we have been safe as they have had little leverage to take the land. Please pray for the Lord to continue to safeguard His ministry!

**ALAN AND ELENA SUTPHEN
UGANDA, EAST AFRICA**



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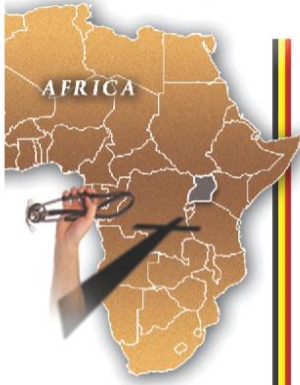
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MISSIONARIES TO
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**THE
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NEWLY SAVED JOSHANNA AND HER MOTHER



CHEGEM AND MARTHA