

**Final reminder to check our  
new mailing address below!**



May 2, 2010

## *Enjoying the Season of Harvest and Growth*

If there was ever a busy and rewarding time in our lives, it has been the last three months. That's why this is going to be a rather lengthy letter. The work of God is definitely moving ahead and the church is slowly growing. In February we started Sunday school. Children met in our living room while the adults met on my front porch. I began teaching the Building on Firm Foundations course and have already seen some basic questions answered. For example: "Who is more powerful, Jesus or Satan?" "Are the spirits really our deceased relatives?" "Does tying a piece of bone in your belt keep demons away when you pray?"

Also during February I began teaching again in the Mbale Bible institute. It is about an hour and a half trip from Iganga to Mbale, and I decided to use local transportation, which is either a bus or a taxi. (A taxi is a 15 passenger mini van.) This has turned out to be a great preaching and tract distribution ministry, especially when standing in front of a bus load of sixty people. After hearing the message of judgment and the need of redemption, most people have been more than happy to receive and read a gospel tract. **Pray that God will bless my new bus ministry!**



Our next big church event happened on April 1. (No they don't celebrate April Fools here.) My desire from the start was to build a church in a way that a Ugandan church could repeat. So because of that I am very particular about the kind of place in which we meet. As you already know, we started in our living room, but that started becoming too small and I didn't want them to get too comfortable there anyway. So we started looking for a place to rent, and on April 1, we signed a 6 month contract to rent a school building for 15,000 Ugandan shillings (or \$7.50) per month. It is about 30' x 70', with a dirt floor, wood plank walls, and an iron sheet roof. It has a partition in the back which provides a room for Sheri to teach children's Sunday school, and the adults meet in the front. It is perfect! It has also provided for another answer to prayer.



I have been praying that God would open the door for me to teach in some of the schools here. Well, one day I told one of the school directors that I would like to teach the children the Bible. He said that would be good, and immediately called the children who were there, about 150 of them, to come over so I could teach them. So every Wednesday before the service I teach them the Bible stories. We also have a children's Bible club every Tuesday at my house like we used to do in Mbale. So every week we play soccer and then I teach them the Bible stories. I have been told by people in our church that these children are not taught these stories much in their churches. So for most of them, it is their first time to clearly learn about Adam and Eve.

This last Sunday was our first baptismal service. One thing that was difficult was finding a suitable place to baptize, but God directed us to a stream that was just deep enough and clean

### *Earthquake Ethan*

Ethan David Winkler was born on February 2, 2010 at the International Hospital in Kampala. We thank God for our new family addition!



### *Fully Recovered!*

I want to say a hearty THANK YOU to all of you who had a part in helping us recover from January's big robbery. We praise God for providing this need!



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enough for us to baptize. So for two weeks I taught on baptism on Wednesday evenings and also personally met with people to be sure they understood. On the day of the baptism we had nine people get baptized! Praise the Lord! For us personally it was a momentous day because three of them were our sons. Of course I required a public salvation testimony for each one who wanted to be baptized. One young man, Ema, said that he also had received Christ and wanted to be baptized. However, I had witnessed to him about 3 months ago and found that he was trusting his works and then I showed him the gospel. After that he was very faithful to church and was very hungry for the Word. When I asked him to explain then about getting saved, he told me that he received Christ on that very day 3 months ago and just had not yet told me. It's amazing how God will work on people's hearts when you are unaware.

Sheri and Betty (a lady who came with us from Mbale to work for us) have begun visiting on Tuesday evenings, and so far they have seen three ladies come to know Christ. Ellen and Justine were baptized, but Nalongo still needs to be. **Please pray for these three to remain faithful and to grow in Christ, and for Nalongo to be baptized.** She is very faithful to church, but still seems very caught up with the world. She grew up in a muslim home, and may just need some more teaching, but it's possible she didn't truly understand salvation. **Please pray for wisdom as we talk with her more.**



We are continuing our Luganda translation of Building on Firm Foundations, and Lord willing, I will start teaching this in Luganda on Sunday evenings beginning in June. Until the Lord gives us a translator we are going to be very limited because of the few people who really know English here. **Please pray for me to teach clearly in Luganda and for people to come and learn the Word, and pray the Lord will provide a translator for our services soon.**

### *"He even took down the church sign!"*

Another exciting door that God has opened is with a local pastor who has led his congregation to leave his Charismatic denomination to become a Baptist. When I was first told about this man by our pastor in Mbale he said that he was so serious about this move that he had already taken down their old church sign. Ironically, his name is Robert Mwesigwa. "Mwesigwa" in Luganda means trustworthy or dependable. I have been meeting him every week for discipleship for over a month now. He also has called for special meetings in his church on the last Friday of every month for us to come and teach them salvation and the Baptist distinctives. My first time there, these people sat for over 5 hours and listened to the Word. **Please pray for wisdom, God's protection, and God's leading as we work with this church to help them make this transition.**

### *The Frustration of Drizzle*

Finally I do want to praise the Lord for all that He is doing. Yet, with this work is also much trouble. Just like the frustration of a constant drizzle, we have had a problem of constant sickness of almost every form in every family member for at least a month and a half. Sheri has had malaria 3 times since the baby was born. **We ask for your prayers that God will put His hand of protection on us and our children and that we would rest in the grace that He gives and not get frustrated with our circumstances.** Thanks so much for your support and especially for your prayers!!

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