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Feed My Sheep

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Special Praises for this Month:

We are Praising God for His mercy to us all during this COVID-19 Pandemic, despite potential exposure during our community visits. God is great!

We praise God for a chance to start 2 Christian schools for Kindergarten and 1st graders. There have been no schools in these communities, so some of our 1st graders are 12 years old!

Spiritual Famine

In the past we, not infrequently, wrote to you about famine in this land. Karamoja has suffered for many years with inadequate food sources, drought, floods, pestilence and livestock diseases. Often the people have been hungry, looking at us with sad eyes, asking for food. Dependency on outside sources has really hampered development with the word "Akoro" (Hunger) resonating as a chorus to every conversation, regardless of the severity of their deprivation. Now, that hunger can still be seen, but a new hunger is growing in the hearts of the people. A hunger for God: a hunger for His Loving Presence and for His Life-Giving Power. We have sought wisdom on how to satisfy that spiritual appetite over the last months.

It's all coming together in an amazing way! Waffle and I made a commitment to make ourselves more deeply available to God this year. While the novel coronavirus pandemic immobilized most people and organisations, we saw it as a unique opportunity to mobilize the hearts of our villagers. A time of growing Fear, needs a space for growing Love. We prayed to seek the avenues for our love to flow, to the places where it could have an impact. We asked God, "How

could we help people to more profoundly experience Your comforting Presence and Your transformational Power?" Well, here are some of the activities and opportunities that God opened up to us this year:

We sought out isolated communities on the border of Karamoja and Kenya who are most vulnerable to COVID-19 and trained them on preventative measures to protect their families and provided seeds for them to grow food, to limit their movement out of the area. Amazingly, God helped us to then began 4 new churches in these remote communities, adding to the other 2 that we began earlier. The spiritual hunger was palpable each time we visited, with communities imploring us to come and spend time with them to tell them about God! Sheep need a shepherd, so

we have been mentoring 6 young pastors in church planting, spiritual growth and chronological Bible storying to work with these new churches.

Many suffered from unemployment during the COVID-19 crisis: To help people see God's love at this time, we began our PBBP Ministry: Pastors/ Boda-Bodas (Motorcycle taxis)/and Prostitutes ministry, providing



seeds for gardens, fuel, food and livelihood assistance for 850 families. Some, we encouraged to endure through the pandemic, while others (group 3) we encouraged to change their profession during this time, as their incomes were shrinking! We pray that God has been glorified through our growing relationships with these members.



Stories of Hope

As we visit communities, we often find hurting people that we try to bring joy and isolated souls that we offer hope. Here are some of their stories:

Murefu is a tall, brave gold miner. We met when we came to Nakabaat to begin a fellowship. Within a few weeks, 30 to 40 members were praying regularly with us; many chose to follow Jesus. Murefu became one of our elders. Then a horrible raid happened, with dozens of armed warriors attacking the gold miners and chasing them away at gunpoint. The raiders looted all of the gold and stole everyone's possessions. For 3 months, we cared for, prayed with and supported Murefu and 43 other refugees, who were not able to return to their homes at the gold mines. During this time, we became so close and could see that God was drawing them to Himself. Now, they have returned to mine gold and Murefu is leading the effort to build a new church, digging

holes with his mining jack hammer, working with Waffle to get the walls up.

Losike is a bright young lady who dropped out of school because her single mother could not afford the school fees. She began coming to our new church on Mt. Moroto and decided to follow Jesus. We baptized her and began discipling and encouraging her to see how she could also serve God with her life. The mining villages have no schools; many children are forced into child labour, with even 6-year-olds panning for gold in the river. Losike became concerned about those kids, and wants to help. We are now setting up a Christian kindergarten and first grade class that she can help to teach, to keep the kids out of the mines and help them to learn to read, write, count and pray.

Zainab (not her real name) is a prostitute on the streets of Moroto. Her family abandoned her as a teenager and she struggled to get food for herself and her little brother. She eventually found herself taken into a prostitution ring. They be-

came like a family to her, even though she hated sex work, she knew that she needed the relationships and the protection of the group. Through our interactions with her, providing food and friendship during the COVID shutdown, she was drawn to join us in our new church services. We had to explain ourselves to several people concerning why we were driving through Moroto with prostitutes belting out Christian songs in the back of our truck on our way to church each Sunday! Zainab has



many hurdles to overcome, with a drug addiction problem, little formal education and psychological barriers to conquer, but God has opened her heart to Him

Please be praying for these 3 spiritual pilgrims as they move closer to God.

More New Believers!

So, we praise God for 6 new churches in one year! The future of God's work in these villages lies in the foundations of the church families that we are mentoring. We have a good team of pastors and together, we pour our hearts into the our people, but often we feel inadequate, unprepared, and unable to meet all of the demands and spiritual needs of our new believers. Five of the six church communities have no schools, so the people are not able to read and write; they cannot study their Bibles or follow a discipleship book. Oral learning is critical to

passing on Biblical truths and mentoring pre-literate believers. We praise God for the help we have been getting from Sun-



set Presbyterian church and others who have helped us set up our Bible Storying discipleship programme. It has a huge impact in these remote villages and multiplying our efforts. Here is the photo of some of our gold miners ready for baptism! We had 27 immersed at the river and now beginning their journey to pursue Jesus in their lives!

Please pray for the new believers and our young pastors-in-training who are helping us to shepherd them. May they stay strong as they follow their Lord Jesus.

Christian Adventure Ministry and CLIDE Consultancy

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Prayer Points and Upcoming Events:

1. Pray for Val's family. Her sister, Michele, lost her husband to COVID-19. We are all in shock, but he was a strong believer and the family is pressing through it, trusting in God's presence and goodness.
2. Pray for our Christmas time with our new churches. It is the first Christmas that they have celebrated as new believers. May it be a special time of amazement and awe, as they more deeply understand the reality of God sending His Son to Earth, to show the way to God, Our Father.