

Finally!

After 14 months, Jonathan finally made it back to Africa. The trip that had been pushed back time and time again due to Covid restrictions became a reality on Thursday, February 25th, when he kissed his family good-bye and took off from the airport in La Crosse, WI. The adventure began when his brief layover in Detroit, MI, turned into a 24-hour stay because the pre-flight Covid test, which was acceptable for Uganda, was not new enough for Amsterdam, where he had his second layover. He spent the night in a hotel where he had to pay \$150 for another Covid test, followed by yet another test at the airport. Once everyone was sufficiently convinced he was healthy, he was allowed to complete the journey, arriving in Entebbe, Uganda, late Saturday evening. Unfortunately, his luggage remained in Detroit. There were no flights from Amsterdam to Entebbe on Sunday, so he had to wait until Monday afternoon to be reunited with his belongings. Four days in the same clothing was enough. He changed, then jumped right into the business at hand.



Update on the Work in D.R.Congo

Even in the best of times, a trip into D.R.Congo is an event. It requires a letter of invite, a pricey visa, a flight provided by MAF (Mission Aviation Fellowship), and a variety of paperwork, searches, and general hullabaloo. This time, throwing Covid and tight time restraints into the mix (as well as the fact MAF isn't flying into D.R.Congo now due to the fighting), it seemed in everyone's best interest to invite the HCCA team to come to Uganda instead. Pastor Emmanuel, Jeanne, Uchama, and John traveled for three hours by boda boda (motorcycle taxi) through

rebel territory, an hour by boat, and a number of hours on three separate buses to their meeting with Jonathan. The group spent several days relaxing, fellowshiping, sharing, and praying together; it was a wonderful time of bonding, and Jonathan was updated on more specifics of the ministry there. Thankfully, the fighting between warring tribes near Bogoro has lessened, so the area is safer than it has been. The team's desire is to now start reaching out to more widows, interviewing potential candidates for microloans. The team was thankful for the suitcase of donated clothing Jonathan had brought for them and assured him it would be no problem getting it home, boda boda ride and all.



Update on the Work in Uganda

Jonathan was greeted heartily upon his arrival at the farm in Luwero, Uganda. The widows and orphans welcomed him with song, and he passed out candy, which of course was a big hit. They enjoyed a meal of matoki, beef stew, and beans and rice together, then Jonathan had the opportunity to walk the fields and admire the crops. The pineapples looked great, and the workers were busy transplanting new little eggplants into the ground. The chicken project has been a big success, and the money received from selling the birds has been used to plant five acres of bananas. Jonathan enjoyed spending time bonding in-person with the Ugandan team--Alexa, John, and Paul and their families. The widows were a blessing to Jonathan as they shared with him how God has used HCCA to provide them with loans to start businesses, and he had the opportunity to pray with many of them. You can look forward to hearing the stories of some of these special ladies in upcoming issues of the newsletter.

So what's next?

Nothing lasts forever. Especially vehicles. James, the farm manager, is in need of a boda boda to get himself around, and the team is in need of a vehicle for transportation to and from the farm. Let's help close the gap on these financial needs this spring. Even your small donation can make a big difference in Africa. Thank you for your continued support!

-- Jonathan Unverzagt (and Hope)
Executive Director, HCCA

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- Give to the gift of an education _____
- Give to the gift of a micro loan _____
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- Give to the general fund so we can meet the most pressing needs _____



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